

Ruth 3:1-12 & 16-18
International Bible Lesson Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for women like Ruth who chose to care for their family with dedication to You, their family, and much hard work. She gave up her homelife in Moab, but she chose a much better life when she chose to become faithful to You and Your people. Please give us the courage and strength to take right and loving actions when we see others in need. Please give us the wisdom to understand how best to help others in ways that will give them faith or strengthen their faith in You, in ways that will help them seek to love and serve others in Your Name.

Lord Jesus, please help us remember that in Your perfect timing You will work good in our lives no matter what has happened to us in the past. Indeed, You blessed Ruth beyond all her expectations after You led her to Bethlehem and she worked so hard to care for her mother-in-law and herself as they struggled to overcome poverty. We have many instances in the Bible where You have demonstrated Your steadfast love and faithfulness to Your people, especially to all who trusted in You. Please help us remember that Your hand is upon our lives and we can rely completely on Your lovingkindness. Please help us to meet the needs of those who depend on us and who cannot care for themselves, especially if they are members of our own families. By our example and by our trying to live according to the truth of the Scriptures, we pray that what we say and do will lead some to faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, even as You used Naomi to lead Ruth to saving faith in You. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Please Note: I first learned about “Praying Through the Bible” from Edith Schaeffer, the wife of Francis Schaeffer. You might like to close your class with the above prayer as a way of beginning to teach your class how they too can pray through the Bible. First, you might like to teach your class how to pray through the *International Bible Lessons* each week. [Perhaps some of them would learn how to pray through portions of the Bible during their daily Bible reading and quiet time.] Second, a week in advance, perhaps some of your students would like to write their own “Prayer Through the Bible” using the *International Bible Lesson* scripture text and read their prayer at the close of class. Third, eventually, your students will be able to pray through the Bible without needing to write their prayer in advance before they pray at the end of class. If you would like to learn more about prayer from Edith Schaeffer, read [*How God Teaches Us to Pray: Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer*](#), Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

International Bible Lesson Prayers are available at InternationalBibleLessons.org
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