

### 14.08c Ruth Rests (Ruth 3)

✓ “Check” it out; opinion, inference, supposed conversation, or fact one can verify follows  
[. . .] indicates a remark to the teacher that usually should not be read. It also indicates answers to questions.

#### Visuals and Tools:

- (optional) “Ruth” Flash-a-Cards published by Abeka
- Pictures and other visuals found at the end of this lesson. Please give credit to the sources of pictures.
- Check “Activities” and “Handwork” found below for additional materials.

**Bible Time Tips and Terms to Teach:** Vocabulary words are enlarged for flashcards at the end of this lesson. Print, cut out, and glue to card stock, or just print on colorful cardstock.

- *kinsman*: a relative
- *redeemer*: one who buys back or pays a price
- *to winnow*: to thresh or separate the grain from the chaff

#### Scripture: (ESV)

Ruth 3:1 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? 2 Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. 3 Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.” 5 And she replied, “All that you say I will do.”

6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. 7 And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. 8 At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! 9 He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.” 10 And he said, “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. 11 And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. 12 And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. 13 Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.”

14 So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, “Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.” 15 And he said, “Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out.” So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. 16 And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, “How did you fare, my daughter?” Then she told her all that the man had done for her, 17 saying, “These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, ‘You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.’” 18 She replied, “Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.”

#### Introduction/Review:

What had Elimelech and Naomi done with their land when leaving Bethlehem? They had sold it. A redeemer could buy it back. The Old Testament book of Leviticus had special rules for redeeming—buying back—land. God had said it was important to keep the land in a family.

Jesus is called the Redeemer. Why? Because He paid for the sins of those who would believe on him. Ruth’s story pictures Him.

## Story:

Ruth gleaned in Boaz's field for barley ✓(March and April) and wheat (April through June) for about four months. She brought the grain home to Naomi. There was enough grain to feed them and ✓perhaps enough to sell.

### *"I seek rest for you"*

One day Naomi said to Ruth, "Shall I seek rest for you? You know Boaz is a relative, a kinsman, with a right to redeem—buy back—our land. He is winnowing barley tonight on the threshing floor. You go wash yourself, anoint yourself by putting lotion or oil on your body, and then put on your ✓best clothes [John Gill] or a cloak [ESV]. Go to the threshing floor, but don't let anyone see you. Pay attention to where Boaz lies down after supper. Later, you go to the place where he is lying, uncover his feet, and lie down there by his feet. He will tell you what to do."

Ruth answered, "I will do all that you tell me." And she did.

### *"I will redeem"*

That night Boaz lay down at the end of the pile of barley. ✓Perhaps this was the barley that had just been threshed. Ruth, when everyone had fallen asleep, went to Boaz, uncovered his feet, and lay down at his feet. At midnight Boaz sensed something was strange. He awoke and was afraid. Seeing Ruth, he asked, "Who are you?"

"I am Ruth, your servant." Then she basically asked him to marry her by saying, "Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer." By saying this she meant that Boaz had the right to redeem Naomi's land, and marrying Ruth was one of the rules involved with the redemption.

Boaz answered her proposal. "Blessings on you, my daughter, because you have showed more kindness now than even before because you aren't concerned about marrying a young man, rich or poor. Everyone knows you are virtuous. Yes, I am qualified to redeem the land and to marry you, but there is a closer kinsman. In the morning I will ask him if he wants to redeem. If he does, okay. If he doesn't, I will redeem the land. Now, stay here for a while."

### *"We will wait"*

Ruth stayed until just before dawn. Before she left the threshing floor, Boaz said, "Bring the veil you wear and hold it." When she held it, he poured into it six measures ✓(24 cups—about 1½ gallons) of grain to give to Naomi. He said, "I don't want you to go to your mother-in-law empty-handed."

Ruth went home, where Naomi was waiting and eager to hear what had happened. When Naomi took the grain and heard about all that had transpired, she told Ruth, "You stay home today until we find out what happens, for the man will not rest until he finishes this business."

What will happen? Will the nearer kinsman accept the deal to redeem the land?

## Lessons from this lesson:

- We see Jesus:  
Jesus is called the Redeemer. Why? Because He paid for the sins of those who would believe on him. He bought us back from the slave market of sin.  
Jesus is our Rest (Hebrews 4:9).
- Follow the advice of your elders.

## Activities:

- Play dough: lady's long coat; veil; feet; wings

- Beat out and blow chaff from grain.
- With older students discuss this proposal of marriage compared to some that one hears about today.
- Review questions: (Game: Cut the letters R E D E E M S out of felt, or print and cut out the letters found below. For each correct answer, a student places a letter in a pocket chart or on a flannel board. If two teams compete, prepare two sets of letters.
  1. When Naomi said she wanted to give Ruth rest, what did she mean? [She wanted her to get married.]
  2. What were two instructions among the many Naomi gave Ruth? [“Wash yourself, anoint yourself, put on your cloak, go to the threshing floor, do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies, go and uncover his feet, lie down; he will tell you what to do.”]
  3. What did Ruth say when Boaz awoke and found her at his feet? [“I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.”]
  4. Fill in the blanks. Boaz said Ruth was a “worthy woman” because she did not go after \_\_\_\_\_. [Young men; rich or poor.]
  5. What was the “snag” in Naomi’s plan that threatened to make it not work out? [There was a closer kinsman who should have first choice in the matter.]
  6. What did Boaz give Ruth to take back to Naomi? [Six measures of barley.]
  7. What advice did Naomi give to Ruth after Ruth’s meeting with Boaz? [To stay at home and wait to see how it all turned out.]

**Memory Verse[s]:**

- Luke 1:68: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people.

**Handwork:**

- Color by number the picture found below.

kinsman

redeemer

to winnow





R

E

D

E

E

M

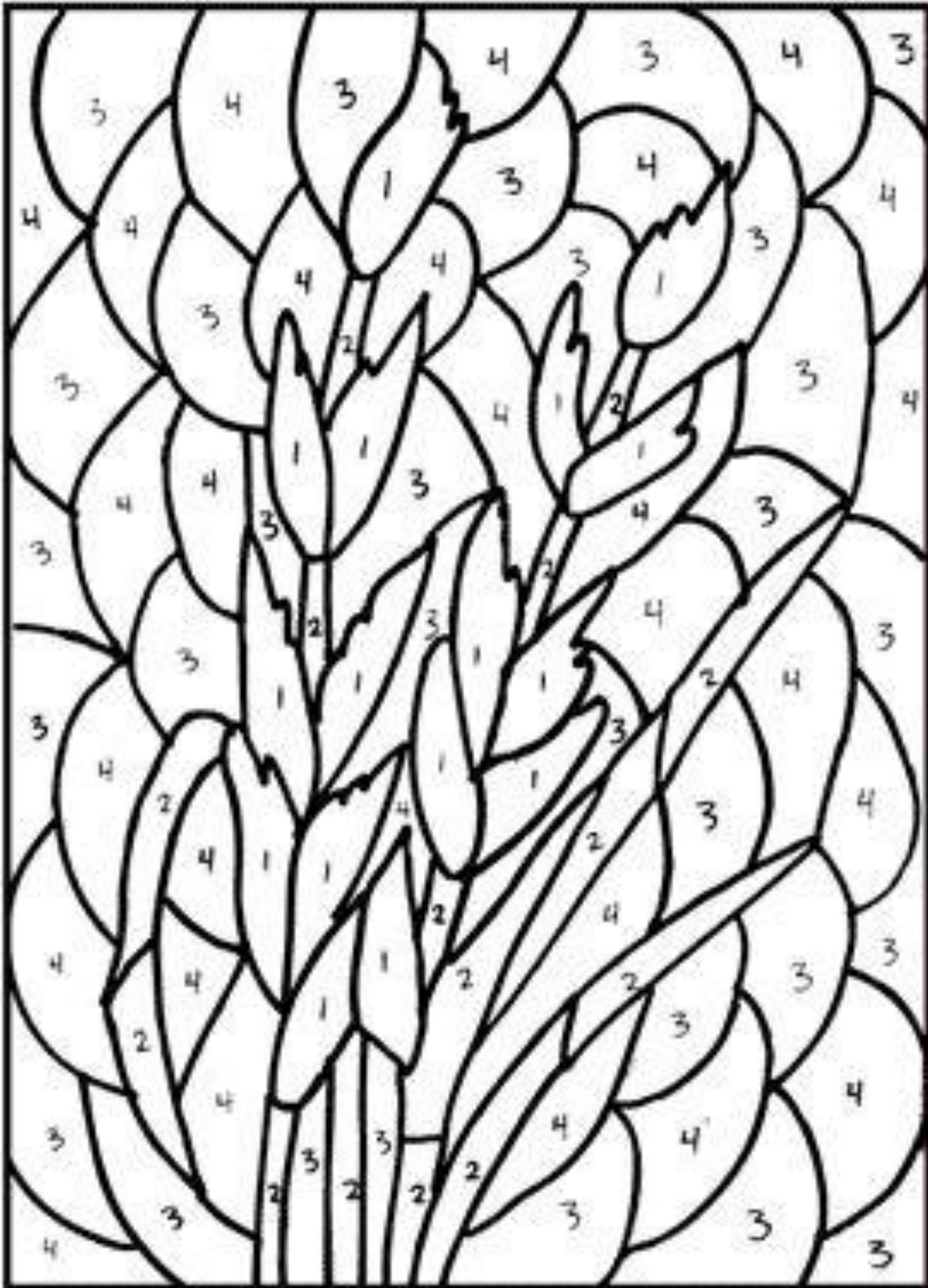
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## What Color is the Wheat?

Color in the image by coloring: 1. Yellow 2. Orange 3. Purple 4. Blue



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