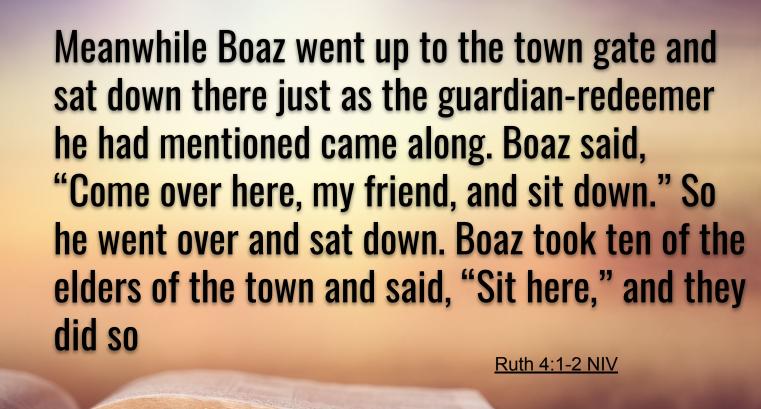
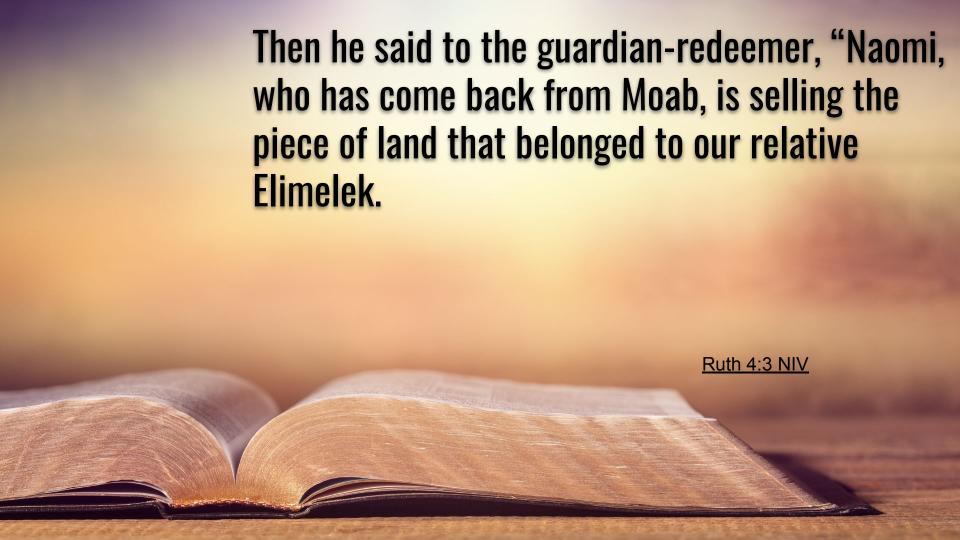


Main Point Whether or not you're at your best, remember you're blessed

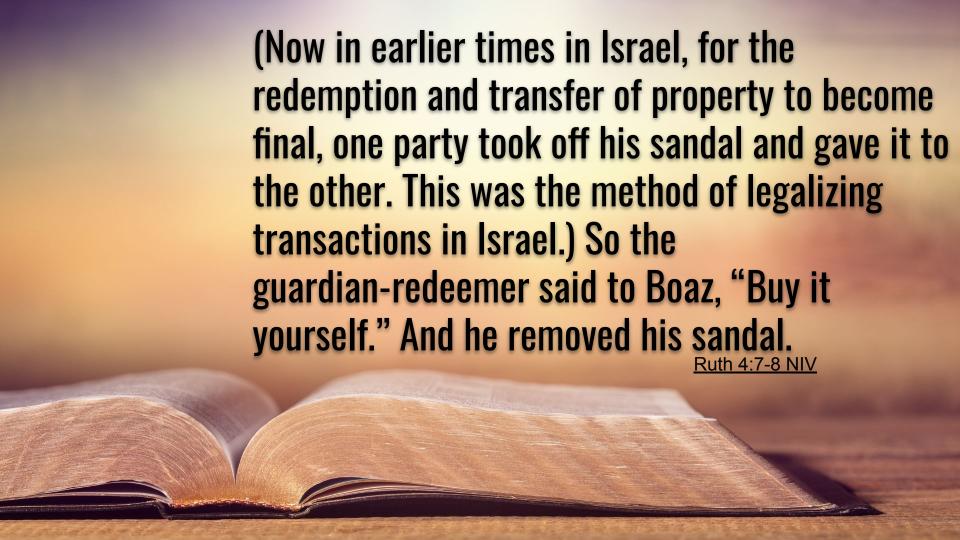


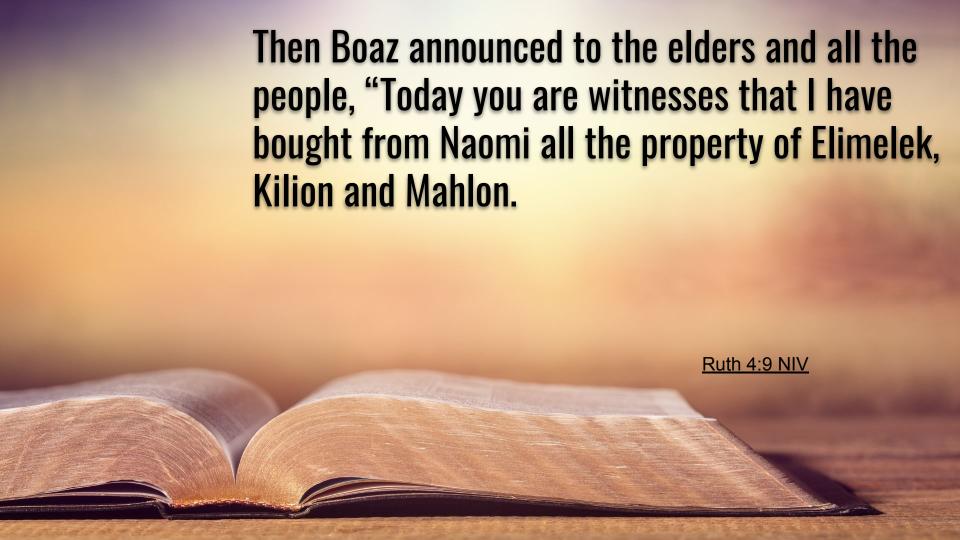


I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line." "I will redeem it," he said. Ruth 4:3 NIV

Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property." At this, the guardian-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it."

Ruth 4:5-6 NIV





I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses!"

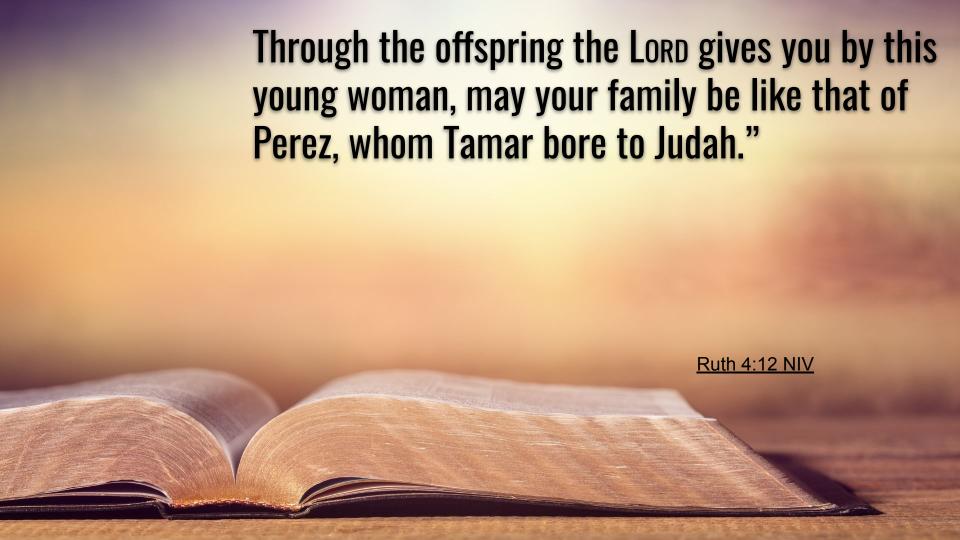


Then the elders and all the people at the gate said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.



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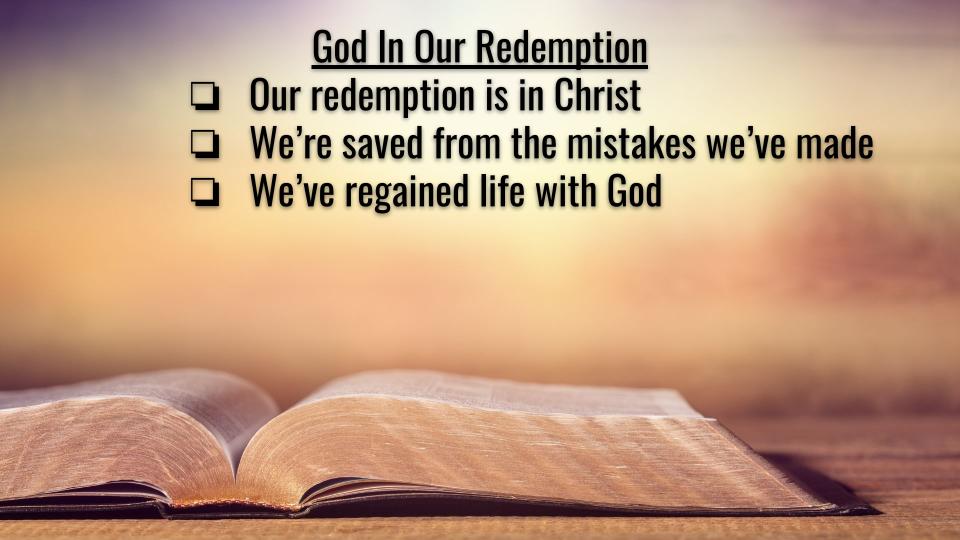
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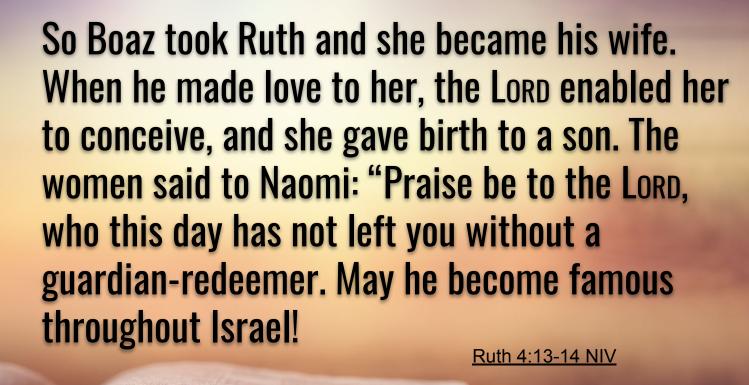
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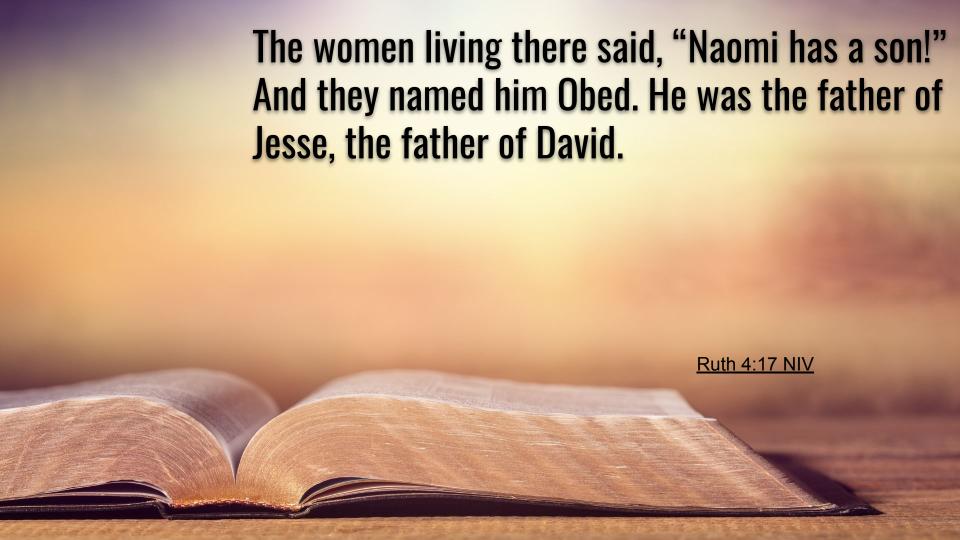


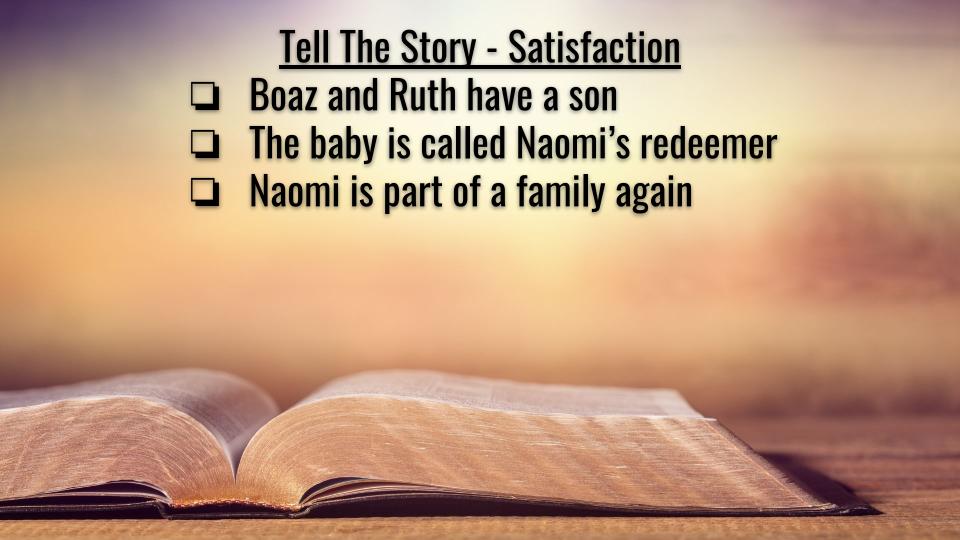




He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him.







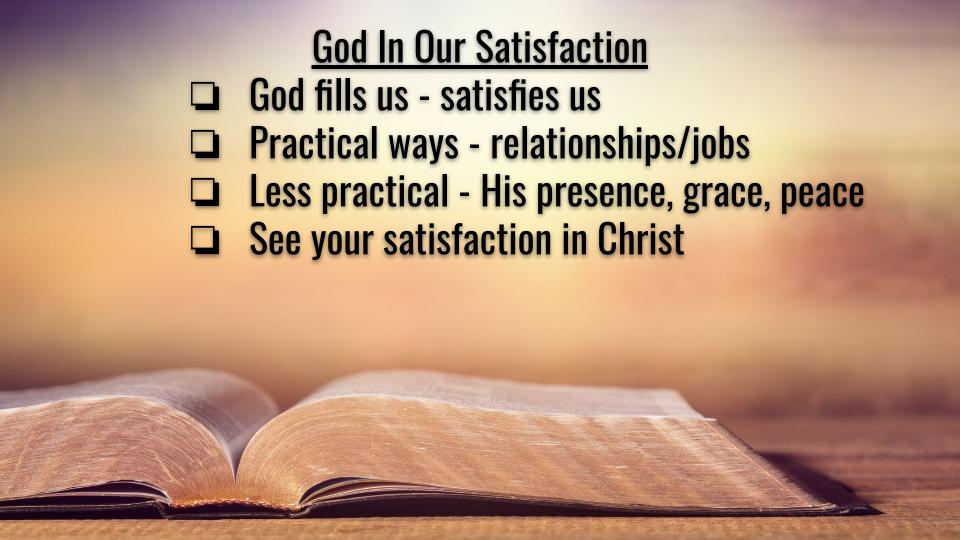




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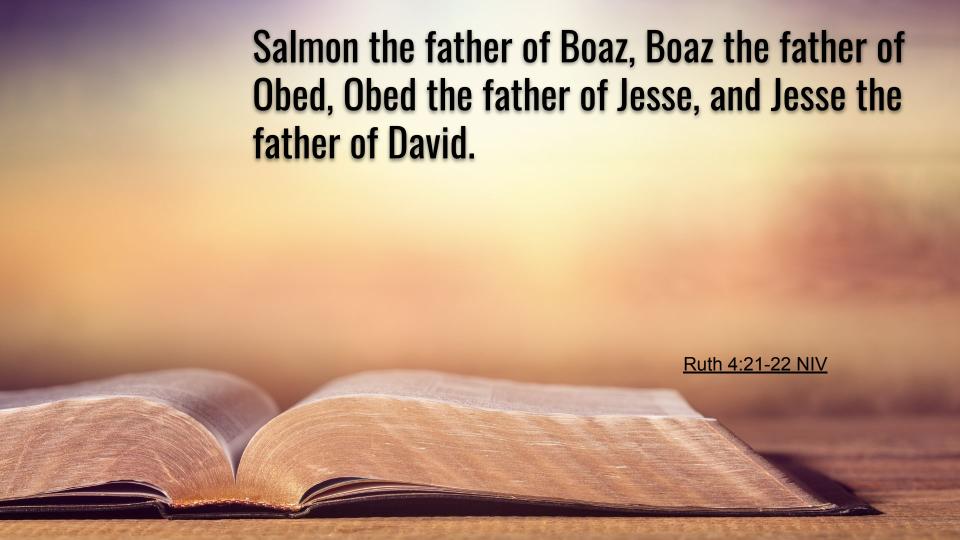




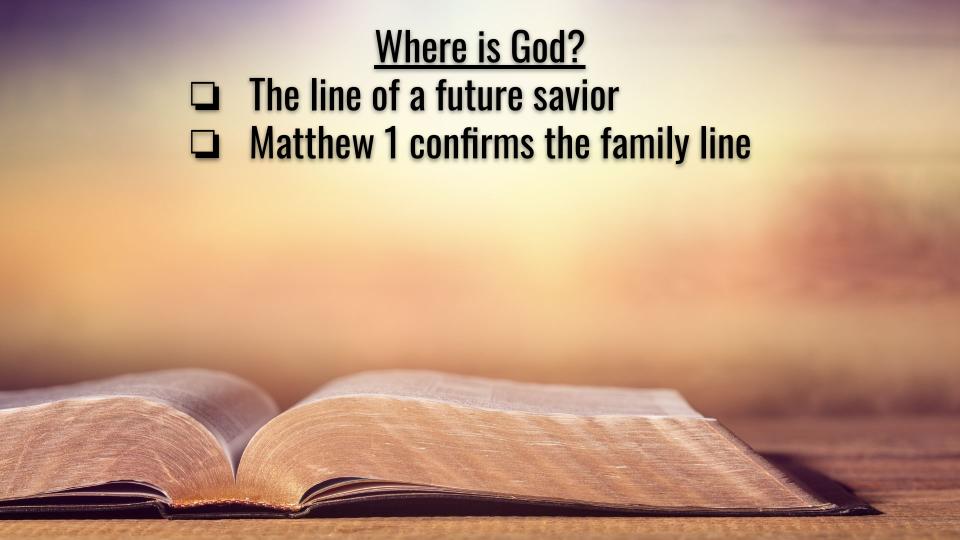


This, then, is the family line of Perez:Perez was the father of Hezron,Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon



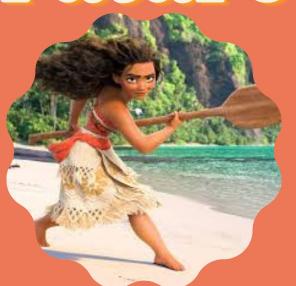




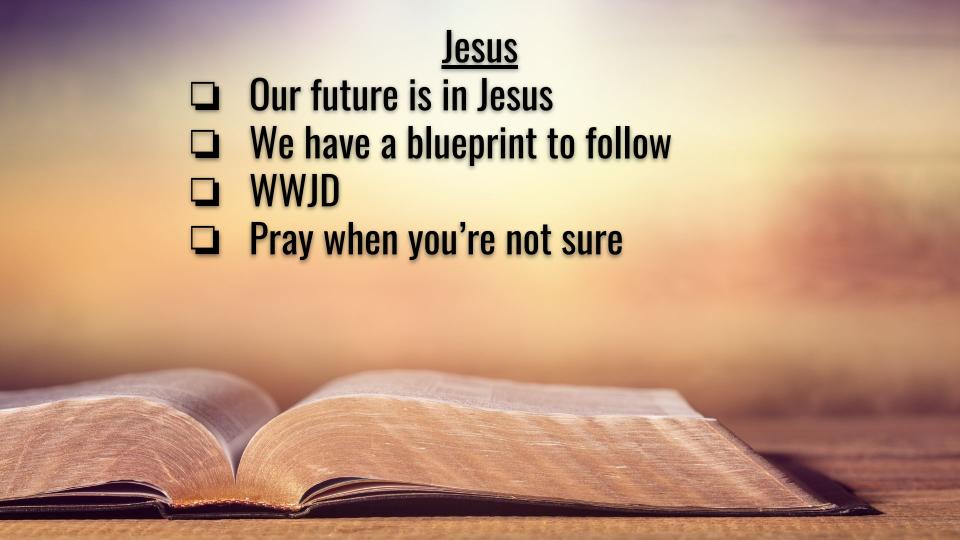


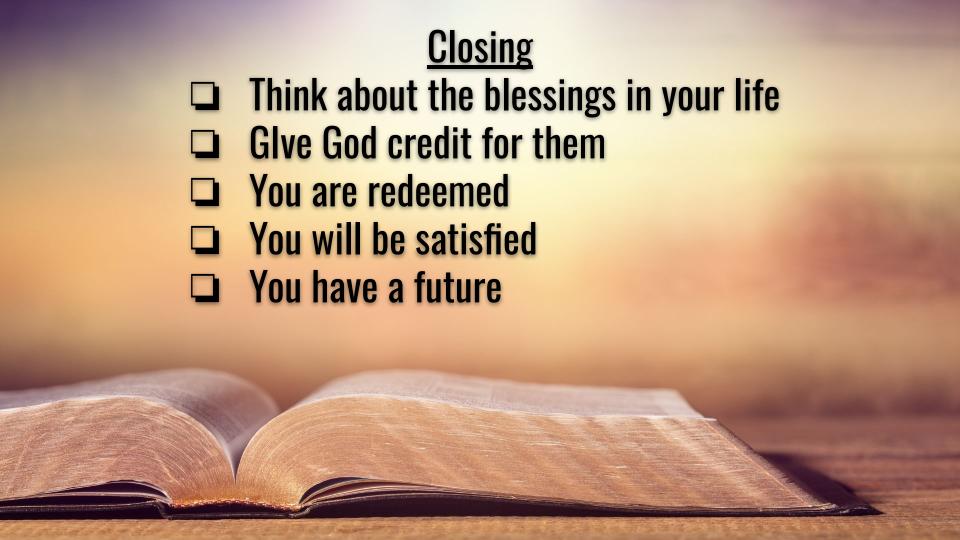


Given a Future









Audio file Ruth 4 Blessings Audio.mp3

Transcript

But stories end, right? Books and movies and shows end whether they, as Kyle said, run out of budget or they just actually wrap it up. These things all end, and today we will end the story of Ruth. We have been in four weeks in the book of Ruth. Today we are going to end it with Chapter 4. I'm going to spoil it before we even do it because the Bible has been around for a long. This time it's a Julie ending. This is a happy ending. Alright, we're going to get a nice happy ending here. It's one I think it's got kind of a nice bow tie on it. Remember we talked about throughout this series. Ruth has a really nice story arc to it as a book of the Bible, so we're going to talk about it today. Let's recap. If you haven't been with us or you just need a refresher, let's recap. And get us to where we are quickly starts with a woman named nay. Tell me. She and her family, her husband and two sons have to leave the land of Judah and they go to nearby Moab due to a famine. Once they get there, Naomi's husband, man named Elimelech, dies. Her two sons marry Moabite women. So they married women from the land they went to. Well, then, Naomi's two sons die. So we are left with Naomi and her two daughters. In law, women's women named Orpa and Ruth. Naomi decides she's gonna head back to Judah. The famine has ended. There's food there again. Orpa goes back to be with her family or stays in Moab. Ruth goes with Naomi, back to Judah. So Ruth and Naomi are in Judah, and in Chapter 2, Ruth says, hey, we, we need some food. We need to be provided for. So she goes out to glean in the fields. Thing again is the process of basically picking up the grain that had fallen down or was left during the harvest. So poor people and foreigners were allowed to do this. Now it just so happened that Ruth went and gleaned in the field of a man named Boaz. Boaz, as luck would have it, or God would have it in our case. Boaz was a man that's in the same family line of Naomi, so he could be what's called a kinsman, Redeemer or guardian Redeemer, meaning he has some rights to be able to help out this family and redeem this family. So then in Chapter 3, Naomi concocts a plan. We talked about plans last week for Ruth to go and basically Proposition Boaz to fulfill his role as the Redeemer. Boaz thankfully responds well, he says. I'd love to do it, but there's another man closer in the family line than I am and that brings us to. So Boaz is going to have his chat with this man. Going to see how it all wraps. Apps up alright, and each week we've looked at where is God in the story of Ruth and Naomi in this book because God's not mentioned a whole lot. But he's there and then we have looked at where God is in our lives in that part of our chapter we've done relationships, opportunities and plans and today is blessings. And sometimes we tend to look at the blessings in our lives when things are really good. Like wow, I'm just blessed or hashtag blessed by all this great stuff. But what I want you to think about is this. Whether or not you're at your best, you are blessed. We are blessed by God no matter what's going on in our lives, and we're going to see three ways that God shows his blessings here today. So let's dive in. We have our longest section. First, we're going to read through all of Chapter 4, but we will break it down. So we're going to start with four, one through 12. It will be right up here behind me. Also it is bookmarked in the Bibles on your tables. Let's read Ruth 4 verses. One through 12 it says this. Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat down there, just as the Guardian Redeemer he had mentioned came along. Boaz said come over here, my friend, and sit down. So we went over and sat down. Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said sit

here and they did so. Then he said to the Guardian, Redeemer Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling a piece of land that belonged to our relative, Elimelech. I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest. That you buy it in the presence of these, seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people, if you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not tell me so I will know for no one has the right to do it except you, then I am next in line. I will redeem it, he said. Then Boaz said on the day you buy the land from Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property. At this, the Guardian Redeemer said that I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it now, in earlier times in Israel, for the redemption. And transfer of property to become final one party took off his sandal and gave it to the other. This was the method of legalizing transactions in Israel. Apparently the handshake wasn't around yet, so the Guardian Redeemer said to Boaz by yourself and he removed his sandal. Then Boaz announced to the elders of all the. People today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi, all the property of Elimelech, Killian and Mahone. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite Malans widow. As my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses. Then the elders and all the people at the gate said we are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel. Well, may you have standing in ephrath and be famous in Bethlehem through the offspring the Lord gives you by this young woman. May your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah. All right, what is happening? Kind of a long section. Here's what's going on. So Boaz goes to the city gate. This is kind of the center of city life at this time, so people were coming and going. Now Boaz knows this. Other Guardian Redeemer is going to come by. All right. And he knows who he is. We don't know how well they know each other, but he's going to come by. He also assembles the elders. This is important. The elders would have kind of handled judicial functions back in the day. So these guys are there to kind of make it legal. They weren't going before a judge, but with all the elders there, this would have made it kind of a legal function. So the man shows up. And boys kind of greets him and says here's what's. Why not? And he says. I suggest you buy it or it's up. For you to. Buy the the family has the first rights to any land. When somebody passed away, we've talked before land and property in terms of inheritance was huge in this time. This kept family names going. So this man has the opportunity first. So at first he's like. Yeah, I'll do it. This sounds great. I'm going to add some land to my estate then Boaz says. When you do this, you will also acquire Ruth, which is the widow. Of the man that had died. And this is probably to make sure that this man and Ruth have an air, have a son, and then have an heir to keep the family name going again. Family name. Really important here. At which the man says I cannot do this, not to said he won't, or he doesn't want to. He now says he can't because it's probably looking at a double financial burden. He's gonna buy the land, then he's gonna provide for Ruth. They're gonna have an air that acquires that land. It's not necessarily going into this man's estate, so he's like, I can't do it. Maybe he wasn't wealthy enough. That type of thing she's like, I can't. You go ahead and do it, which is kind of where we've wanted this story to get to right. We've wanted Boaz to be able to do this. Boy is a good guy. Good dude. He can redeem Ruth, so he says. Alright, I'm going to. Do it. Then we got the whole sandal thing again. This is just confirming the sale, basically. Yep, this happened. It used to be where, like, there be the transfer of a sandal to a person who is acquiring land and transaction. Again, this is like our handshake. It's a done deal. So then Boaz announces. He's like I have this land and he announces it to all the elders. This is before a lot of written records or stored up records. So by announcing it, if I announce this to all of you, then it would be like you all know this is legal. And it happened if we didn't

have somewhere we could write it down and keep it. So he's making sure people know this happened. He's also like, all right, I'm going to acquire and Mary. Ruth, again keeping the family name intact. So he's getting the land he's going to marry Ruth. The witnesses affirm this transaction. Think of it like they're banging the gavel, saying Yep, done deal, this is great. We wish you well. We wish your life well. All is well. They don't really mention God. So where is he? The redemption, the blessing of redemption. This whole section is redemption, the Kinsman Redeemer, the Guardian Redeemer. He redeems the land, he redeems Ruth. He redeems the family. He'll he's bringing them back. The land is saved. Ruth is safe. Naomi's going to be saved. They're going to be cared for, provided for have a family. They are brought back. Think about things that we felt like have maybe gone and we bring back. I'm going to show you an example. We're gonna have a little. Fun, Sam. Go ahead. OK, what we have here, these pictures here on the left, the top one there. That is my dad's high school ten nis team from back whenever he was in high school. The one below it is my high school tennis team. Now I am being the wonderful son that I was would see this picture in our hallway and I would walk by it all the time and I'd make fun of my dad. Be like, hey, look at those thick glasses in your Shorty short tennis shorts. Those are not going to be cool ever again. Well, guess. Thick glasses. And shorter shorts are back. So my dad wins the baggy shorts and baggy shirts that we all wore in my day are not back yet, which is sad to. Give it right. They're coming back. It'll be back, I'm sure. Will points later if you can figure out which one my dad might be up there. Then another style that is not yet back with Jeff in college. So we've discussed the many. Move modes of my hair. I guess I'm over here with my brother. This is circa 2007 at a Brewer game and I had the full blown mop top, a soul patch, hemp necklace and baggy cargo shorts. And my dad's like, you are going to look at that one day and think that's terrible and it's gonna be gone someday. Jeremiah's going to grow up and see that picture my seven-year. Old and say, Dad what? Were you doing? He hasn't done it yet, but he will. That style has not yet been redeemed, right? That's not back yet. Sam, help me out. Not that you know of. Yeah, but his hair. Is better than mine was. It's not moppy. You don't have a soul. You should have a. Soul patch though. Style can get redeemed right? Style gets brought back. It can be saved. It goes kind of in cycles. We are redeemed by God, not our style. I don't know that God cares if we dress like that, but we're redeemed by God, Ephesians 17 and the first part of verse 8 says in him. In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished. On us, our redemption is in Christ. God sent his son to die and redeem. Our sins, redemption, meaning being saved or the action of saving the action of regaining possession of something we are saved and brought back from the mistakes we've made. They aren't held against us and take that in for a second. The mistakes we've made, the ways we have screwed up. God doesn't hold against us when we come to him and repent. He doesn't hold that against us. It's redeemed. It's brought back. Does he like it when we mess up or sin against him? Is he happy about it? Of course not. But he still saved us from it. He brought us back from it. We've also regained life in Christ. We're given another chance and another and another. There's a song I listen to around this week. Every year, as we approach Good Friday and Easter called second chances by the band Rent Collective and it's all about the cross and how we're given countless second chances. I can mess up and I'm given another. Chance and I can do it again tomorrow and I'm giving it another chance because of our redemption in Christ, we've regained life with God's unending relationship with God and never ending grace and love from God. God gave us that God redeemed us and he brought us back. So that first blessing is redemption. Let's keep going and Ruth, and take a look at another one. It's going to. Be Ruth 4. 13 through 17 says this. So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to his son, the women said. And Naomi's

praise be to the Lord who this day has not left you without a guardian Redeemer may he become famous. Throughout Israel, he'll renew your life and sustain you in your old age for your daught er-inlaw, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons has given him birth. Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. The women living there. Ned Naomi has a son and they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David will stop there. So Boaz and Ruth? Mary. So he's able to do this, they marry. They have a son. The son is God's gift. It says the Lord enabled Ruth to conceive, so the women of the town they come and they congratulate Naomi. They bless her and the baby. They refer to this baby in essence, as Naomi's Redeemer. This baby is giving. Life is the restorer of life. To Naomi. The child as the child gets older will probably. Help care for Naomi. And then they talk about how much Ruth has given Naomi how much Ruth loves Naomi. They say more than seven sons could have ever done. This is a. Massive tribute to Ruth. They talked about awesome women in the Bible. Ruth is right up there for what she did with Naomi. It made Naomi feel like part of a family again. She's going to become the primary caretaker for this child. It's not like an adoption in a legal sense, but it's more she's got this love and commitment to the. Child and think about the flip. This is from chapter one. We saw her in chapter one being angry and upset when all these women that are here with their now saw her come back. From Moab in chapter one. Like is this Naomi? And she says I don't want to be Naomi. I want to be Mara because I'm bitter. I'm upset. With God well, now look at her. Now they're back. Blessing her, telling her how happy they are for she's now filled. A child is here and they name him Obed, which means servant. So where is God? God has filled Naomi. God is in the satisfaction that he brings to Naomi again. She comes back from Moab. She describes as being empty, right? She had no family, no provision, no hope. She felt like God's love, God's grace. God's blessings were not for her. She would bless Ruth. But she didn't feel like God was going to bless her. Now she's come back around. She has what she's always wanted. God has satisfied her, has filled her with a son. Someone to care for her, someone to carry on that family name because she had lost everybody else. Her family's legacy. She is satisfied. We all want to be satisfied with. Things right? Sometimes we buy products that say satisfaction guaranteed, right? And assurance that we're going to be happy or satisfied with the product. That you'll get your money back. There are these guarantees up there, right? You'll see these 100% guarantee your satisfaction guarantees. Sometimes it's like you'll get this for a period of time, and if you're not happy, return it. I saw one for a mattress. That said, try your mattress for 365 days. If you're not satisfied, all your money back, no springs attached, right? How clever was that? Because the mattress. Strings it's springs. It's a mattress. It's not funny when you have to explain it, but. There you go. Right. Now we got some participation. It's an assurance so that you'll be happy that you're satisfied with it, right? We all want that now with these things. These are low risk because if you don't like it, it doesn't live up to expectation. You just. Return it. Well, God satisfies us. It's a little different than with these products and these satisfactions, little bit different than this. Psalm 107, eight and nine says let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good thing. The satisfaction we get from God is different than these products. It's not just being happy with them, all right. It's more about being filled and satisfied in that sense. Think about when you're super hungry and you eat that really good meal and you just feel satisfied. God do es that, he feels. Us like that? Think about if you've had that Naomi moment where time in your life where you just felt empty. How has God filled? Do you feel like God has filled you or satisfied you in some way? Now it might be in a practical way. Maybe you were lonely and he put a relationship in your life. Maybe you lost a job or an opportunity, and he presented you with another one. It could seem a little less practical. Maybe he satisfied you and filled you with just his presence or his grace, or his peace. These

can all satisfy us if we let them. God's peace is 1 for me. I can easily feel empty when I'm all stressed out or in my head and have a lot going on. This happens, but I have to remind myself to just stop. And ask God for his peace, and let that take over me. One of my favorite verses in the Bible and the Gospel of John where he says peace. I leave with you my peace. I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Don't let your. Hearts be troubled or. Afraid God's peace can fill us. God's peace, His grace, his love can satisfy us. But we have to be willing to see it and embrace it and take it in because it's not satisfying us in the same way those satisfaction guarantees you on products. But God will absolutely fill us and satisfy us, and that satisfaction in God is a blessing. So satisfaction is that second. Let's finish up the chapter here of Ruth Ruth 418 through 22 says this. It's a genealogy of David. This, then, is the family line of Perez. Perez was the father of Hezron Hezron, the father of Ram, Ram, the father of Humanidad Humanidad, the father of Nashawn, now shown the father of Salman salmon, the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of. Gave it bookends of the genealogy. How many of you would like a movie to end with the genealogy, right? But there's a reason we don't actually know why they did it this way. I think part of it could be family was a. Huge theme in. The book of Ruth. They talk about family line a lot, so they're going to end it with the. Genealogy it shows. That this family line runs through David David is known as a man after God's Own Heart. We see a lot of God's heart throughout this book. God's heart and his provision. So I think that's kind of why maybe we see it. It also confirms. Arms earlier in this chapter, the people, when they wish boy as well. So will your family be like that of Perez? So it's just confirming all this. It's bringing it back together. But where is God in this genealogy? Right, those are. Just there for. For fun. I think it's important. Because as we look at this genealogy. We can see a bigger progression and the fact that it gets to Jesus. It's a future save. Here we can look at Matthew chapter one which starts all the way back at Creation. It runs through Obed, who's just been born, gets to David and eventually to Jesus. We know that so God's in the future, salvation of his people just by showing this genealogy, he is setting up. The future? As a parent, I think about setting up a future for my kids, right? We set up for for other people. I think about setting up for my kids and I have a daughter. I'm a I have a son and a daughter. We'll talk about my. Daughter here she is 100%. Daddy's little Princess. We all know that. And she also loves princesses. She's gotten very into princesses. OK, you can kind of throw this up. We have some Disney princesses up here. She knows some of it more than the others, but the fact is, with all these princesses in their Disney movies, they have had a future. Set up for them. Now, what makes a good story here? They don't particularly want those futures, and they fight to do their own thing, right? Jasmine is supposed to marry a Prince. She runs off into the city and basically gets arrested. Merida from Brave has suitors that come that she's supposed to marry. She goes out into the forest and finds help in a witch, and then Moana, who's the leader of the village, decides. I don't want to do this. I'm gonna go travel the ocean now. They're all given a path. I don't blame these tough princesses for trying to carve out their own path. I actually kind of love it. I have full expectation that my daughter will be 1 to carve out her own path, given her personality at age 3 already. But they're given a path. We're given a path in Jesus and this is kind of what happens with the genealogy. There is a path to someone that is going to save and that's Jesus. Our blessing here is Jesus. Now in the book we see the family line that leads to Jesus in the book of Ruth, Jesus hadn't yet come, so they're still looking. Forward for us Jesus has come. He did redeem us. We talked about that in this first section. He's redeemed us. We're going to talk more about that on Good Friday. But also with Jesus, I can't help but think about the model or the blueprint that he is for us to follow in our daily lives and how much of a blessing it is to have that model or that blueprint to follow as I was writing this section, I was actually sitting at my kitchen table and the kids were in the living room,

both on iPads doing something. And Jeremiah was watching a Minecraft video. He watches YouTube Kids Minecraft video. I still for the life of me don't understand Minecraft, but he loves it and he's watching it. And these videos teach him about it, and they give him ideas or what he could do with it, or how to play the game and all this other kind of stuff. When we read the Bible and we follow the teachings in the life of Jesus, that's like our YouTube video, right? It gives us something to follow and emulate. He watches these videos as a guide. We have it in the Bible. Sam's laughing at me, which means I made a good point that he likes and he's going to remember that. Don't you think back for a second? Who remembers the era of the WWJD bracelets? Right. A lot of hands go up right now. Every had varying thoughts on these, but it was supposed to remind you. In whatever circumstance, what would Jesus do? That was the point of the bracelets has actually not a bad concept, because what would Jesus do in a given situation in a given conversation? What would he do? How could we act like him? We have the example. We have teachings in the Bible that you might think, well, a situation. Come up in the Bible. Jesus didn't really teach about it, so I don't have to follow it, right? Want how many times we can read in the Bible with the fact that Jesus just went away to pray? So that's what we do and we're not sure. We pray, we go talk to God. Jesus withdrew and went away to pray and we didn't know what it was about. For all we know, he's going to be like God, just give me some patience with Peter because he's acting a fool again or something we don't know. But he went. And he prayed. So we can always go and pray. Following Jesus is his blessing because it can take some of the guesswork out. Like man, what do I do here? What might Jesus do? How has Jesus taught me to act? How can I use Jesus's life as an example for my own life? This is huge and this is important. Having Jesus to follow is a massive blessing for us. So this week in particular, I want you to think about the blessings in your life, big or small, just. Look at them. Give God credit for them. See him in those blessings and I would encourage you to think about these three ways that God showed his blessings here in this chapter. Remember that you are redeemed, that you're saved, that you're cleaned up, and God doesn't hold your mistakes against you.

Thank you.

And remember that you'll be satisfied and filled now it's in God's way. It's not all the time and the ways we would think about it. But God will fill you and satisfy you. And then remember that you have a future. It may not be the future we thought we'd have. May not be the future. The world would tell you you're going to have, but we have. The future with and in Jesus, he's our savior. He's come and his life is there as an example for us to follow. So remember, whether or not you feel like you're at your best, you're on. Top of the. World or whether or not things are tough and it's hard and you want to just kind of go pull the covers over your head. We are blessed no matter what. In God. Let's pray. Gotta thank you for today. God, I thank you. For this whole. Book of Ruth God and just how we see you throughout it and how you you just your presence is over everything. God, I thank you for your blessings for those of redemption and satisfaction. And of your son. God, I pray that we would all think about those blessings this week and remember how we have them in you and God that no matter what's going on this week, as we get ready for Good Friday and for Easter and and work and everything that's coming. God, that we would just remember you remember that you redeemed us, remember that you will satisfy and fill us. Remember that we have you to follow God. We thank you for that your name.