

A woman wearing a dark hijab is shown in profile, looking down, standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The background is a bright, hazy sunset or sunrise, creating a warm, golden glow. The word "Rutba" is written in a white, cursive script across the center of the image.

Rutba

Every day, you and I face a choice.
Will I choose to live life God's way?

Or will I insist on my own
independence and control, deciding
for myself what is wise and best,
right and wrong for me?

“For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

(Matthew 7:13-14)

How do we walk Jesus' narrow path that leads to life?

- The way forward will be murky so stay in step with God.

“Remain in me, and I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing...”

(John 15:4-5)

“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love... My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” (John 15:8-9, 12)

How do we walk Jesus' narrow path that leads to life?

- Know who you are, whose you are,
and what your purpose is.

What will walking this road require?

- It will require 1) extraordinary loyalty to God, 2) valor, and 3) a heroic commitment to God's way of doing things.

*“If any of you wants to be my follower,
you must give up your own way, take
up your cross daily, and follow me.”*

(Luke 9:23; NLT)

What does Ruth have to teach us
about living life God's way?



ACT 5

“The Threshing Floor After Dark”

*Ruth 2:20 -
3:18*

Ruth 2:19-20

19 ... "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." 20 And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."

Ruth 2:21-22

21 And Ruth the Moabite said, “Besides, he said to me, ‘You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.’” 22 And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, “It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted.”

Ruth 2:23

23 So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

A kinsman redeemer is a family member who has the means and responsibility to help a member of the extended family (clan) recover from a loss.

Ruth 3:1-2

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.

Ruth 3:3-5

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.”

Ruth 3:6-7

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.

Ruth 3:8-9

8 At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! 9 He said, "Who are you?"

Ruth 3:9

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.”

“The Lord repay you for what you have done and a full reward be given to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge”

(Ruth 2:12)

Ruth 3:10-11

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."

Ruth 3:12-13

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.”

Ruth 3:14-15

14 So Ruth 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.

Ruth 3:16-17

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.'"

Ruth 3:18

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.”



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