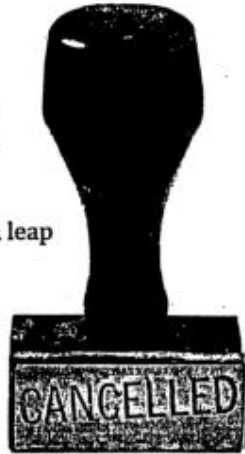


## Ruth 3 What a plan of Redemption

1. In Chapter 3, Naomi seems to take heart from Ruth's boldness in Ch.2 by now coming up with an amazingly audacious plan herself. Do you have examples of a friend or family member whose own boldness inspires you to be bold?
2. What is the security and well-being to which Naomi refers in v.1?
3. Read vv.1-5 Do you know what is a Kinsman Redeemer?  
It seems to be a family member who has the right to become responsible for another family member's mess, usually debts, and who chooses at his own cost to pay them off, so providing freedom within the household of the redeemer, and a renewed line of inheritance. It is a notion which is particular to the Old Testament people of Israel, who were all called into the family of God and were all given an inheritance in the promised land. It grows in significance through the Book of Isaiah where the Lord God tenderly proclaims himself the family redeemer (*go-el*) for the people of Israel, who were to be taken away from their land, not least because of their sins against the Lord.  
Had you ever wondered why the word debts is used in the Lord's Prayer?  
How is Jesus a kinsman redeemer like this?  
Does this help you understand redemption better?
4. If your teenage daughter said that she had read Ruth 3 and was grateful to know God's advice on how to get a man, and was going to try it herself tomorrow, what points might you make in response?
5. Should Ruth have waited until the extra day of February in a leap year to do this?
6. Read 3:6-14. What do the events reveal about Boaz's character?
7. When Boaz wakes up and realises why his feet are cold, he makes sure the Lord's name is quickly into the conversation. Why is this a good idea?
8. Why do you think he does not wish anyone to know that Ruth has visited him at the threshing floor?



10. What is the fly in the ointment as Naomi's plan unfolds?
11. In vv.12-13, do you get the impression that Boaz has already thought about this issue, and so knows what to say when awoken suddenly in the middle of the night? How much do you think through future possibilities and the way you might be faithful to God?
12. How are the people in this chapter showing a very responsible attitude to marriage under God? Naomi? Ruth? Boaz?
13. Do you believe in arranged marriages? If you are married, were you helped to get together? Do you know people who are good matchmakers?

### PRAY

- Pray for a better understanding of redemption and how God's purposes are for people's redemption
- Thank God that there is a redeemer, who is the precious lamb of God
- Pray for a responsible approach to marriage in our society (like Ruth and Boaz in theirs), a better understanding of what it is and what it is for
- Pray for wisdom for people of the faith, to know when to be audacious
- Pray for the faith and obedience to commit your cause and your desires to the Lord as both Ruth and Boaz did, even when they might have not felt like doing so