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## God's Promises in Ruth

The book of Ruth in the Bible contains several promises from God, primarily related to the lineage of King David and ultimately, the birth of Jesus Christ. Some of the key promises from God in the book of Ruth include:

1. Blessings for those who remain loyal to God: In Ruth 1:16-17, Ruth pledges her loyalty to Naomi and to Naomi's God, saying, "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." This act of faithfulness and devotion is blessed by God.
2. Redemption and restoration: In Ruth 4:9-10, Boaz redeems Ruth and Naomi's property and marries Ruth, thereby providing for and restoring their family line. This serves as a metaphor for God's redemptive work in the lives of His people, bringing restoration and new life where there was once loss and despair.
3. Inclusion of all nations: Ruth, a Moabite, is included in the lineage of King David and ultimately, Jesus Christ. This serves as a reminder that God's plan of redemption is for all nations and peoples, not just the Israelites.
4. Provision and protection: Throughout the book of Ruth, God provides for and protects Ruth and Naomi, even in the midst of difficult circumstances such as famine, poverty, and widowhood. This serves as a reminder that God is faithful to His promises and cares for His people in tangible ways.
5. Fruitfulness and prosperity: In Ruth 4:11-12, the elders bless Boaz and Ruth, saying, "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. Through the offspring the Lord gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah." This blessing speaks of fruitfulness and prosperity for Boaz and Ruth, and is fulfilled through the birth of their son Obed, who becomes the grandfather of King David.
6. Faithfulness and steadfast love: The book of Ruth as a whole is a testimony to God's faithfulness and steadfast love. Despite the hardships and challenges faced

by Ruth and Naomi, God remains faithful to His promises and provides for them in unexpected ways. This serves as a reminder that God's love for His people is unwavering, even in the midst of difficult circumstances.

7. Hope and a future: The story of Ruth and Boaz is ultimately a story of hope and a future. Through their union, God brings about the birth of King David and, ultimately, the birth of Jesus Christ. This serves as a reminder that God has a plan and a purpose for each of our lives, and that He can use even our most difficult circumstances to bring about His good and perfect will.