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YouTube Prayer Link

Marry a wife and buy a house first, so that she can gain fame

Ruth

Chapter 4

4:9 And Boaz said unto the elders and to all the people, Thou shalt testify to-day, that I have bought out of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and to Chelion and to Mahlen.

4:10 And he took Ruth the daughter of Moab, the wife of Mahlon, as his wife, that his name might be preserved in the estate of the dead man, that his name might not be destroyed in his own people and his own country. You can witness it today.

The phrase "marry a wife before buying a house so that you can make a name for yourself" reflects the traditional belief that establishing one's career and financial foundation before marriage will help build one's reputation and strengthen one's family. This view has existed in society for many years, reflecting the pursuit of family stability and social status.

First of all, buying a home represents a sense of economic stability and responsibility. Owning one's own home not only provides the basic need to live, but also symbolizes one's financial independence and responsible attitude. When a person ensures that he or she has enough financial foundation to take care of the family's living expenses before getting married, it not only helps to reduce the

financial pressure on both spouses, but also lays a solid foundation for future family life.

Secondly, buying a home is also closely related to social status and fame. Owning your own home is often seen as a symbol of social status and a sign of personal achievement and success. This positive image helps to build a good social reputation and makes people more competitive in the workplace and in social situations. A solid economic foundation and social status help to maintain the dignity of the family and also provide a better environment for the growth of the next generation.

However, it is important to note that this notion is not the only correct way to live. Modern society pays more attention to the fit of personal values, common ideas and feelings. Every couple's situation is different, some may choose to pursue a career before getting married, while others may choose to develop a career together. It is important that couples support each other to face life's challenges together and build a family environment that is understanding, respectful, and collaborative.

There are several passages in the Bible that refer to the treatment of wives, the most well-known of which is probably Ephesians 5:22-33. This part of the text is interpreted as expounding the principles of the Christian family. Here are the main takeaways from Ephesians 5:22-33:

22 A wife should submit to her husband as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, and he is the perfect Savior of the church.

24 As the church submits to Christ, so wives must submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Let your husbands love their wives, just as Christ loved the church, and gave himself up for it.

26 And thou shalt wash the church with water by the word, and sanctify it,

27 To offer yourself a glorious church, free from spotlight, wrinkles, or the like, but holy and without blemish.

28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies, and to love their wives is to love themselves.

29 No man has hated his own body, but has always taken care of it, as Christ did unto the church.

30 For we are members of his body.

31 For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and be united to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery, but I speak of Christ and of the church.

33 But every one of you ought to love his wife, as he loved himself, and let her honor her husband. "

This passage emphasizes that wives should be obedient to their husbands, and husbands should love their wives as Christ loved the church. This is seen as a mutual relationship of love and obedience, emphasizing unity and mutual care between husband and wife. At the same time, it is also mentioned that a husband should give himself to his wife and love her as his own body.

However, when interpreting this passage, it is necessary to consider the context of culture, history, and personal beliefs, as well as respect for the equality and dignity of both parties in marriage. Different denominations and faith groups may have different understandings and emphasis. When interpreting the Bible, it is often advisable to have a discussion with a pastor, theologian, or church leader for a more complete understanding.

We pray

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for bringing a moment of love and commitment to this couple. We pray before You for blessings and guidance for this couple. May Your love be deeply ingrained between them, making them a support and comfort to one another.

Give them wisdom so that they can understand and respect each other's needs. May they seek your help in times of difficulty and share gratitude in joy. Give them the firm faith to build a strong family together.

Lord, let this love not only be an emotional exchange, but also a practical contribution in life. Give them tolerance and understanding, and let them build a loving and warm environment for each other. May Your grace manifest in their lives so that their marriage becomes not only a blessing for themselves but also a witness to those around them.

Thank You for Your love and grace. We ask in Jesus' name, amen.

Ruth

C Ru. 4:1 Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat there.

When the kinsman-redeemer he had mentioned came along,

Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he

went over and sat down.

Ru. 4:2 Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, “Sit here,” and they did so.

Ru. 4:3 Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech.

Ru. 4:4 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.

Ru. 4:5 Then Boaz said, “On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth the Moabitess, you acquire the dead man’s widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property.”

Ru. 4:6 At this, the kinsman-redeemer said, “Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it.”

Ru. 4:7 (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

legalising transactions in Israel.)

Ru. 4:8 So the kinsman-redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it yourself.” And he removed his sandal.

Ru. 4:9 Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon.

Ru. 4:10 I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, 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 the town records. Today you are witnesses!” Ru. 4:11 Then the elders and all those 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 house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.

Ru. 4:12 Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.”

Ru. 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

Ru. 4:14 The women said to Naomi: “Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!

Ru. 4:15 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.”

Ru. 4:16 Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him.

Ru. 4:17 The women living there said, “Naomi has a son.” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Ru. 4:18 This, then, is the family line of Perez: Perez was the father of Hezron,

Ru. 4:19 Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab,

Ru. 4:20 Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon,

Ru. 4:21 Salmon the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed, 628

Ru. 4:22 Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David

The Book of Ruth, Chapter 4, tells the story of Boaz's redemption of Ruth and the restoration of Naomi's family.

Boaz goes to the gate of the town, where the elders of the community gathered, and calls the closer relative who has the first right to redeem Ruth. Boaz presents the case to him, telling him that he has the right to redeem the property of Elimelech and take Ruth as his wife. However, the relative declines the offer because it would jeopardize his own inheritance, allowing Boaz to take Ruth as his wife.

Boaz publicly declares his intention to redeem Ruth and marry her. The elders and people of the community witness the transaction and bless the couple. Boaz and Ruth have a son named Obed, who becomes the grandfather of King David.

In this chapter, we see themes of redemption, family, and faithfulness. The story of Boaz's redemption of Ruth and his willingness to marry her demonstrates his faithfulness to God and his desire to preserve Naomi's family line. The importance of community is highlighted by the public transaction at the gate of the town. The birth of Obed, the ancestor of David, foreshadows the ultimate redemption that God will provide through Jesus Christ, who will also come from David's line.

Here are some important verses from Ruth chapter 4:

- Ruth 4:4-6: "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. 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."
- Ruth 4:9-10: "Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, 'Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelek, Kilion and Mahlon. 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!'"
- Ruth 4:13-14: "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 a son. The women said to Naomi: 'Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!'"

These verses show the resolution of the story, with Boaz fulfilling his role as a kinsman-redeemer by redeeming the land and taking Ruth as his wife to carry on the family line of Elimelek. The birth of their son emphasizes the theme of redemption and highlights God's provision for Ruth and Naomi. The women's words of praise acknowledge Boaz as a guardian-redeemer and anticipate his continued legacy.

Ruth chapter 4 brings the beautiful story of Ruth and Naomi to its resolution, highlighting themes of redemption, restoration, and God's faithfulness.

In this chapter, Boaz takes decisive action to secure both Ruth's future and the preservation of Naomi's family lineage. Boaz gathers ten elders of the city as witnesses and approaches the closer relative who had the first right to redeem Ruth. Boaz presents the opportunity to him, but when he realizes that acquiring Ruth would endanger his own inheritance, he relinquishes his right, allowing Boaz to take on the role of the kinsman-redeemer.

Boaz then publicly declares his intention to redeem Ruth, marry her, and redeem the property that belonged to Naomi's family. The people of the city witness and bless the union, acknowledging that Ruth's character and faithfulness are worthy of praise. Boaz and Ruth marry, and they have a son named Obed.

This chapter of Ruth offers several reflections for us. Firstly, it highlights the concept of redemption. Boaz's role as the kinsman-redeemer is fulfilled as he willingly steps forward to redeem Ruth and secure her future. This redemption mirrors God's desire to redeem and restore His people, providing hope and a future for those who trust in Him.

Secondly, the chapter emphasizes the theme of restoration. Through Ruth and Boaz's union, the family lineage of Naomi is preserved, and their descendants become part of the lineage leading to King David and ultimately Jesus Christ. This highlights God's ability to restore what was broken, turning despair into joy and bringing about His redemptive purposes.

Furthermore, Ruth chapter 4 underscores the faithfulness of God. Throughout the story, we see God's providence at work, orchestrating events and leading Ruth and Naomi to a place of blessing. God's faithfulness is evident in Boaz's willingness to fulfill his role as the kinsman-redeemer, the support and blessing of the witnesses and people of the city, and the birth of Obed, who becomes an ancestor of Jesus.

Lastly, the chapter celebrates the virtue of character and the faithfulness of Ruth. The witnesses and the people of the city acknowledge Ruth's noble character, recognizing her faithfulness, devotion, and the blessing she brings to Boaz and Naomi's family. It serves as a reminder that God honors those who walk in integrity and live out their faith with perseverance.

Overall, Ruth chapter 4 teaches us about redemption, restoration, God's faithfulness, and the importance of character. It brings the story of Ruth and Naomi to a beautiful conclusion, showcasing the power of God's redemptive plan in the lives of His people. The chapter also serves as a reminder of God's ability to restore what is broken and His faithfulness to fulfill His promises.

Notes:

While the Book of Ruth is relatively short and straightforward, there are still some questions that remain unanswered or debated among scholars and readers. Some of these difficult questions include:

1. Who is the author of the Book of Ruth?
2. What is the historical context of the story? When did it take place?
3. Why did Naomi encourage Ruth and Orpah to return to Moab?
4. Was Ruth's decision to stay with Naomi purely out of loyalty and love, or were there other factors at play?

5. Why did Boaz wait until the morning to address the issue of redeeming Ruth's family line, rather than taking action immediately?
 6. What was the significance of the "shoe exchange" in Ruth 4:7-8?
 7. What is the meaning of the genealogy at the end of the book, tracing the lineage from Perez to King David?
 8. Why was the story of Ruth included in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)?
- While some of these questions have possible answers or interpretations, others remain a mystery or subject of debate among scholars and readers.

Chapter 4