

‘A Biblical Snapshot of a Godly Mother: Naomi’ Ruth 1:1-10

Introduction

This morning let's take a look at a biblical snapshot, a picture of a godly mother. And she was a very good mother-in-law. Her name was Naomi as portrayed for us in the book of Ruth.

I. A godly mother is loving. 1:8, 14,15

Here we see her beautiful concern for her two daughters-in-law. She wanted what was _____ for them. She advised them not to take this long, dangerous journey with her but return to their own parents. She knew that if they went with her, they'd have at least 3 big strikes against them.

II. A godly mother has a living faith in God. 1:8,9

A. Naomi expresses her trust in the God of Israel, even though she was living in a land that worshipped idols. Living in that land, she did not let herself be drawn away, she remained strong in character and she stayed true to God. Cling to your faith like Ruth clung to Naomi.

B. Notice Ruth, the foreigner, came to know the God of Israel most likely by the faith of Naomi. Naomi must have lived an honest and good life that made Ruth who grew up worshipping many idols, to give up those idols and to serve the living and true God of Naomi.

III. A godly mother is humble. 1:19-21

Naomi had left Israel as a younger gal but now she was returning home empty, poor, and old. She faced her situation honestly, didn't try to _____ anything, yet her confidence was still in God. In the spiritual life, remember that an affliction or trial handled properly does us good.

Something that really helps the gracious person in these times is to learn to see the hand of God in it, as Naomi did. Someday, when this life is over or nearly over, when we look back at the tapestry of our lives, we will see that the dark threads were as needful as the bright threads.

IV. A godly mother is wise. 3:1-4

Naomi, in wanting to provide for her daughter-in-law, knowing the local customs, told Ruth what she should do. There was nothing inappropriate about this. Basically, it was a request for marriage.

V. A godly mother is patient. 3:18

Naomi knew when to act and when to wait, knowing other forces had now been set in motion and they must wait to see what happens. We all know how important patience is in families.

VI. A godly mother is blessed. 4:13-17

Ruth and Boaz get married and she gives birth to a son. This son went on to become the grandfather of King David and a direct ancestor of Jesus, part of the Messianic line! What an honor!

Just as Boaz fulfilled the role of a kinsman redeemer to Naomi and Ruth, so too Jesus is our kinsman redeemer to redeem us from our sin and from what would have been a ghastly future.

The story of Ruth, Naomi and Boaz is a great picture of the _____.

Conclusion: On this Mother's day, let's honor mothers and honor God for the idea of motherhood. I hope you will do something nice for your mother, either for her or in her memory.

We're to be thankful for their hard work, their wise words and their countless hours of taking care of us. How precious is a mother's loving care and wise guidance. *illus. 3 year old Len*