

## **Celebrating Lovingkindness in Community**

1. **Ruth Shares Her Blessings with Naomi (18-19).**

2. **They Ask God to Bless Boaz (20).**

3. **Ruth Continues to Share in Community (21-23).**

Conclusion: Ruth's response to abundant blessing through God and His people is celebration. She hurries home to share God's favor with Naomi. Naomi joins her in rejoicing and leads her in blessing Boaz as the instrument of God's blessings. Together they continue to follow the Lord through the harvest season in joyful submission to God's provision. Let us join them in delighting in Messiah's lovingkindness with joyful praise!

## Luke 19:30-40

[Jesus] sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” <sup>32</sup> So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” <sup>35</sup> And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup> As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup> And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” <sup>40</sup> He answered, “*I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.*”

## Deuteronomy 25:5-10 (see also Leviticus 25:25)

<sup>5</sup> “If brothers dwell together, and *one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband’s brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her.* <sup>6</sup> And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And if the man does not wish to take his brother’s wife, then his brother’s wife shall go up *to the gate to the elders* and say, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to perpetuate his brother’s name in Israel; he will not perform the duty of a husband’s brother to me.’ <sup>8</sup> Then the elders of his city shall call him and speak to him, and if he persists, saying, ‘I do not wish to take her,’ <sup>9</sup> then his brother’s wife shall go up to him in the presence of the elders and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face. And she shall answer and say, ‘So shall it be done to the man who does not build up his brother’s house.’ <sup>10</sup> And the name of his house shall be called in Israel, ‘The house of him who had his sandal pulled off.’

## Matthew 22:23-33 (see also Mark 12:18-27; Luke 20:27-40)

<sup>23</sup> The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question, <sup>24</sup> saying, “Teacher, Moses said, ‘*If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.*’” <sup>25</sup> Now there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother. <sup>26</sup> So too the second and third, down to the seventh. <sup>27</sup> After them all, the woman died. <sup>28</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be? For they all had her.” <sup>29</sup> But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. <sup>30</sup> For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup> And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: <sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.” <sup>33</sup> And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.