GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST Gulf Shores, AL

"Faith of a Foreign Woman"

Wednesday Evening Adult Class by Ray Reynolds (October 15, 2013)

<u>Introduction</u>: A young man applied to several colleges, including Baylor University. A short time later a letter came from Baylor with these two words in it: "You're accepted." Those are powerful words. Then came two T-shirts in the mail that had these words imprinted on them: "I know where I'm coming. I know where I'm going." A few days later the father also got a letter...with the cost of going to the university. The point is that being accepted and knowing where you are going comes at a high price. In **The Story** we discover a woman who found that she was accepted, knew where she was going, and it cost a high price. It is the story of Ruth the Moabitess. Let's study **The Story** together....

Discussion:

I. Opening Observations About the Story of Ruth

- A. Do NOT forget the time.
- B. Do NOT forget the place.
- C. Do NOT forget the conditions.

II. Significant Events in the Story

- A. The significance of the famine.
- B. The significance of the family.
- C. The significance of the frustration.
- D. The significance of the farewell.

III. God's Blessings on Every Page

- A. God blesses Ruth.
- B. God blesses Boaz.
- C. God blesses Naomi.
- D. God blesses Israel.
- E. God blesses ALL nations.

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IV. God's Love on Every Page

Love Endures All Things

Ruth 1:1-5, I Corinthians 13:7

Love Does Not Fail

Ruth 1:6-14, I Corinthians 13:8

Love Bears All Things

Ruth 1:14-18, I Corinthians 13:7

Love Suffers Long

Ruth 1:19-22, I Corinthians 13:4

Love Does Not Seek Its Own

Ruth 2:1-4, I Corinthians 13:5

Love Is Not Provoked

Ruth 2:5-9, I Corinthians 13:5

Love Is Kind

Ruth 2:10-17, I Corinthians 13:4

Love Thinks No Evil

Ruth 2:18-22, I Corinthians 13:5

Love Believes All Things

Ruth 3:1-7, I Corinthians 13:7

Love Does Not Rejoice In Iniquity

Ruth 3:8-13, I Corinthians 13:6

Love Does Not Behave Rudely

Ruth 3:14-15, I Corinthians 13:5

Love Does Not Parade Itself

Ruth 3:16-18, I Corinthians 13:4

Love Does Not Envy

Ruth 4:1-4, I Corinthians 13:4

Love Is Not Puffed Up

Ruth 4:5-8, I Corinthians 13:4

Love Rejoices In The Truth

Ruth 4:9-12, I Corinthians 13:6

Love Hopes All Things

Ruth 4:13-22, I Corinthians 13:7

<u>Conclusion</u>: What an amazing story! How can we become a modern day Boaz? What are the "Boaz" stories in our congregation? Is there a "Ruth" among us? I am confident that we could share dozens of stories of how God reached out to us when we were lonely, outcast, overlooked or felt like there was no hope. How can we be like Jesus to our friends, schools, businesses and city? Are you ready to turn your life over to God? Are you ready to surrender to the will of God?