



**Dreaming of a New Direction
(When Tragedy Strikes)**

Date: August 9, 2020

Annual Sermon Review:

Big Question For the Year: How do you dream again?

1. January: Dream With a Strategy (What is your broad plan?)
2. February: Dream With Maturity
3. March: Dream With a Plan (What are your specific details?)
4. April: Dream With Confidence
5. May: Dream With Financial Clarity
6. June: Dream Without Racism
7. July: Dream Without Blind Spots
8. August: Dream About a New Direction

Text: Mark 2:22; Ruth 1:3-5 (NKJV)

Big Point: Ruth models a person who puts new wine in new wine skins,

Mark 2:22 “And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins.”

I. Look at Her Approach to Loss

Ruth shows us how to approach loss, change and financial ruin with courage

A. She endured it (Ruth 1:3-5)

- 3 Then Elimelech, **Naomi’s husband, died;** and she was left, and her two sons. 4 Now they took **wives of the women of Moab:** the name of the one was **Orpah**, and the name of the other **Ruth**. And they dwelt there about ten years. 5 **Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died;** so the woman survived her two sons and her husband.

B. She did not allow loss to stop her from living

Question: How have you handled times of loss?

II. Look at Her Approach to Change

A. She embraced change (Ruth 1:11-12)

- 11 But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Are there still sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands? 12 Turn back, my daughters, go—for I am too old to have a husband.

B. She stayed in relationship with the right people (v16-18)

- 16 But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And **wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God.** 17 **Where you die, I will die,** And there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me." 18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her.

III. Look at Her Approach to Work

A. She was self-motivated (Ruth 2:2-7)

- 2 So Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Please let me go to the field, and glean heads of grain after him in whose sight I may find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

B. She was noticed because of her diligence and integrity

- 3 Then she left, and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers. And she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. 4 Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said to the reapers, "The Lord be with you!" And they answered him, "The Lord bless you!" 5 Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, "**Whose young woman is this?**" 6 So the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered and said, "**It is the young Moabite woman who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab.** 7 And she said, 'Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.' So she came and has continued from morning until now, though she rested a little in the house."

C. She was favored because of her diligence and faithfulness to Naomi (Ruth 2:8-16)

- 8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "You will listen, my daughter, will you not? Do not go to glean in another field, nor go from here, but stay close by my young women. 9 Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Have I not commanded the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn." 10 So she fell on her face, bowed down to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?"
- 11 And Boaz answered and said to her, "**It has been fully reported to me, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know before.**
- 12 **The Lord repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.**" 13 Then she said, "Let me find favor in your sight, my lord; for you have comforted me, and have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants."
- 14 Now Boaz said to her at mealtime, "**Come here, and eat of the bread, and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.**" So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed parched grain to her; and she ate and was satisfied, and kept some back.



- 15 And when she rose up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. 16 Also let grain from the bundles fall purposely for her; leave it that she may glean, and do not rebuke her.”

Closing Question: How well are you handling the sudden changes we are facing in this season?

Next Time: Set the Right Alarms