

Scriptural Background: Ruth 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. 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!" Ruth 4:13-14

Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth returned to their homeland of Israel as destitute widows in need of a kinsman-redeemer, a relative to act on their behalf to save them from their hopeless state. Boaz, the kind and compassionate distant relative, saw their need and rescued these women from their trouble. Ruth and Boaz would go on to have a son, Obed, grandfather of King David, the forefather of Jesus Christ. Likewise, we need a kinsman-redeemer to rescue us from our sinful nature (Rom 3:23). As foreshadowed by Boaz' actions, Jesus, our true Redeemer, stepped forward to pay our ransom with His own life and to redeem all who trust in His name from our hopeless state of sinful humanity (Matt 20:28). As redeemed people, we are "heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ." (Rom. 8:17)

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, what amazing love and compassion You have for us that You willingly gave Your life as a ransom to pay for our sins. May we recognize our desperate need for You, our Redeemer, to rescue us from our sinful existence and be eternally grateful that You have included us as heirs in the family of God. In Your Name, Amen.

~This devotional was written by Kendra Angle, Antrim's Children's Ministry Director.