**EN(COURAGE)MENT** INA **CHANGED WORLD #2:** NEW BEGINNINGS

#### EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS

#### Text: Book of Ruth

## **EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** 1. We Need to Own Most of Our Painful New Beginnings

(1:1-7)

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>1:1</sup>In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>2</sup> The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

## EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>3</sup> But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was

left with her two sons.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>4</sup> These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years,

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>5</sup> and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>6</sup> Then she arose with her daughters-inlaw to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>7</sup> So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-inlaw, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** 2. Committed Bitterness to God or **Committed Boldness** for God? (The Latter Always Encourages Others!) (1:15-21)

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>15</sup> And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>18</sup> And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>19</sup>So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?"

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>20</sup> She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>21</sup> I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** 3. Hard Work, Diligent Effort, and Great Attitude Are Godly and Biblical (2:1-7)

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>2:1</sup>Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>2</sup> And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>3</sup>So she set out 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 clan of Elimelech.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>4</sup> And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they answered, "The LORD bless you."

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>5</sup> Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?"

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>6</sup> And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>7</sup> She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."

# **EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** 4. True Living for Christ = **Claiming the Romans 8:28**

Principle (4:9-13, 17)

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** 4:9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>10</sup> Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day."

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>11</sup> Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem,

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>12</sup> and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman."

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>13</sup>So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A **CHANGED WORLD #2: NEW BEGINNINGS** <sup>17</sup> And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him **Obed.** He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

