

THE STORY

Sermon Outline
November 20, 2016
Pastor Bryan Myers

Faith of a Foreign Women

Ruth 1-4 Chapter 9

Chapter 1: *From Bad to* _____

Ruth 1:1, 3, 5 - In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

Chapter 2: *Light at the End of the* _____

Ruth 2:20 - "The Lord bless him!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. "He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead." She added, "That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers."

Chapter 3: *An* _____ *He Couldn't Refuse*

Ruth 3:8-9 - In the middle of the night something startled the man; he turned—and there was a woman lying at his feet! "Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she said. "Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family."

Chapter 4: *All's Well That* _____ *Well*

Ruth 4:16-17 - Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Important Observations:

Life rarely goes according to _____.

Psalm 69:1-2 - Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me.

If you don't define your _____ they will define you.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 - We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Defining our experiences doesn't mean we ignore our _____.

Ruth 1:20-21 - "Don't call me Naomi," she told them. "Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The Lord has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me."

*You define your experiences by _____
your expectations beforehand and by _____
your explanations afterward.*

2 Corinthians 1:8-9 - We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

"In some ways suffering ceases to be suffering at the moment it finds a meaning." — Viktor E. Frankl

Everything's going to be okay in the end, so if it's not okay, _____.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.