

6-4:1-12 (Ruth's Redemption Blessed)

I. Introduction.

- A. Did any of you happily and quickly negotiate your partner's bills when dating or when married? If appropriate, please share.
- B. Anyone know of anyone with legal challenges to getting married?
- C. Anyone have a good story regarding witnesses, participants, or an engagement party?

II. Scripture.

- A. **Ruth 4:1-5**—"1Then went Boaz up to the gate, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boaz spake came by; unto whom he said, 'Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here.' And he turned aside, and sat down. 2And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, 'Sit ye down here.' And they sat down. 3And he said unto the kinsman, 'Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's: 4And I thought to advertise thee, saying, 'Buy it before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it: but if thou wilt not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee.'" And he said, 'I will redeem it.' 5Then said Boaz, 'What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy it also of Ruth the Moabite, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.'"
 - B. **Ruth 4:6-8**—"6And the kinsman said, 'I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.' 7Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbor: and this was a testimony in Israel. 8Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, 'Buy it for thee.' So, he drew off his shoe."
 - C. **Ruth 4:9-12**—"9And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, 'Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that

was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi. ¹⁰Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.' ¹¹And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said, 'We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem: ¹²And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the LORD shall give thee of this young woman.'"

III. Application.

- A. How can you testify of God's gracious goodness, and get others to witness the redemption of you and others?

- B. In what ways can you help negotiate those in need out of trouble?

- C. How can you provide more prayerful blessings of encouragement to those enduring painful circumstances?