

# Be a Changemaker: Be Selfless!

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

In the Book of Ruth, we encounter three individuals – Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz – who made a significant impact through their selflessness one life at a time. Chapter 1 introduces us to Elimelech and his wife Naomi, who fled the famine in Israel to seek refuge in Moab with their two sons. The sons married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth. Tragically, Naomi became a widow, losing both her sons and finding herself with no means of support except for her daughters-in-law. When Naomi heard that the Lord had provided food for His people in Israel, she made the decision to return home.

## THE PERSEVERANCE OF NAOMI

As Naomi prepared to go back to Judah, she advised her daughters-in-law to return to their own families (v.8). Naomi's concern was for Ruth and Orpah to find new husbands and security in their homeland (v.9). Like us, Naomi struggled when faced with challenging circumstances, even though she knew God is good and loving. She offered a practical solution to their dire situation, suggesting that they return to their former gods (v.15). Naomi felt the weight of God's hand upon her and perceived her situation as more hopeless than that of the two younger women (vv.12-13). Naomi, being human, provided a human-centered solution to their predicament. Nevertheless, she still believed in God and returned to Him. Despite her imperfect approach, God used her to draw Ruth to faith in Him. It is a reminder that God works through flawed individuals.

## THE SACRIFICE OF RUTH

Selflessness is not easy—it requires effort. We witness Ruth's response to Naomi (Ruth 1:16-17), where she vowed to remain by Naomi's side no matter what. This exemplifies loyalty and sacrifice, as Ruth knew that upon returning to Israel, she would likely face the challenges of being a foreigner and the unlikelihood of marrying again. Ruth also chose Naomi's God, Yahweh, to be her own.

Upon returning to Israel, Ruth took up gleaning in the harvest fields, and God's care for her becomes evident (Ruth 2:2-3). She found herself gleaning in a field owned by one of Naomi's relatives, and although God's

name is not explicitly mentioned, His guiding hand is unmistakable. Boaz, the field's owner, took notice of Ruth (Ruth 2:4-7) and showed her kindness without any expectation of reciprocation. He referred to her as "my daughter," indicating a significant age difference, and ensured her protection while working alongside his servants (Ruth 2:8-10). When Ruth questioned Boaz's kindness, he affirmed that her selfless actions on behalf of Naomi were well-known. Ruth's decision to follow Yahweh by accompanying Naomi led her to experience God's providence in Boaz's field, which in turn instilled hope in Naomi.

## THE GRACE OF BOAZ

Naomi instructed Ruth on how to approach Boaz as a "kinsman-redeemer" (Ruth 3:1-4), and Ruth obediently followed her instructions (vv. 5-13). Ruth implored Boaz to rescue her, and he acknowledged her great kindness in doing so. Boaz revealed that there was a closer relative who could redeem Ruth but promised that if the other man declined, he would fulfill the role (Ruth 3:12-13, Leviticus 25:25). Essentially, he assured Ruth that he had it covered and would follow God's way.

Boaz exhibited nobility, grace, and generosity. He engaged in conversation with the closer relative, but when the relative declined to redeem Ruth, he became her kinsman-redeemer, and Ruth became his wife (Ruth 4:1-10). Boaz displayed kindness not only to Ruth but also to his workers, aligning his actions with the Lord's instructions on caring for the poor. He demonstrated great compassion and generosity without expecting anything in return. Boaz redeemed Elimelech's legacy at his own expense, choosing not to take shortcuts but instead following God's ways.

The story reaches a happy ending: Ruth became truly valuable not only to Naomi but also to Israel as the ancestor of King David and, ultimately, Jesus (Ruth 4:13-22, Matthew 1:5-6a). God is our true Redeemer, and through Jesus, we find redemption.

## LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge.

RUTH 2:12

## DISCUSS THIS MESSAGE

What difficulties have you faced in loving selflessly?  
How did you persevere through those?

What specific things do you think you can commit to doing sacrificially in order to fulfill your duty in a person's life? (ex. family, friends, disciples/disciplers)?

What selfless actions can you do to someone to point him/her to Jesus this week?

DOWNLOAD THIS CHRONICLE ONLINE!

[ccf.org.ph/chronicle/](http://ccf.org.ph/chronicle/)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S 4WS EVERY MONDAY!

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](http://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)

## Don't forget the most important thing this summer!

Is it putting on sunscreen? An umbrella? No, it's knowing more and learning about Jesus!

See you at the Welcome Center, 2nd floor lobby!

## STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

### WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

#### God's Ultimate Purpose for Your Life with Jean Geronimo

May 25, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

### BIG MINISTRY

SINGLES

#### Him, Her, and God: Fulfilling God's Unique Design for Men and Women

with Mike and Yvette Yap

June 2, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE

  B1GMinistry

 beonewithgod

### NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

#### Changemakers: Be God's Agents for Change

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12

 for ages 7-12

## SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

SATURDAYS, 5:00 PM  
MULTI-PURPOSE HALL

ALSO STREAMING LIVE AT



Christ's Commission Fellowship



B1G Ministry



Elevate Main



## JOIN US ON SUNDAYS

AT CCF CENTER

10:00 AM (English)

3:00 PM (Filipino)

ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM



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## ON TV AND RADIO

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](https://ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

### Join GLC's Training Cycle 2 this June 2023!

#### GLC Level 1 — Face-to-Face

starts June 11, Sunday, 1:00 PM

Book 1: One by One, Room 2A

Book 3: The Holy Spirit, Room 3A

#### GLC Level 1 — Zoom Cycle 2

starts June 14, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 1: One by One

Book 3: The Holy Spirit

#### GLC Level 2 — Face to Face

starts June 11, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 4A

Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups

#### GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle 1

starts June 15, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups

#### GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle 1

starts June 15, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Module 1: The Multiplier

Go to [bit.ly/GLCTraining2023](https://bit.ly/GLCTraining2023) to register

## JOIN AND PARTICIPATE

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

### Premarital Counseling Class Online Class

OPEN TO SINGLE AND ENGAGED COUPLES

May 25 - July 25

Enrolment is open until May 22 **only**

Visit [go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnlineFAQs](https://go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnlineFAQs) for details

Register at [go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnline2023](https://go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnline2023)



LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

## God brought you here for His purpose.

### 1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments — Deuteronomy 7:9*

### 2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23*

### 3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6*

### 4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

### 5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*