A woman's hand is shown in a close-up, reaching out towards a field of yellow wildflowers. The background is a soft, golden sunset or sunrise, with a warm, hazy glow and some bokeh light effects. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

Ruth

A Story of Redemption

**No matter how bad things
may get in your life, keep
the faith, for God will be
faithful to His promises.**



Ruth 1:6

Seat Bibles page 152 or 191

⁶Then she (Naomi) arose with her daughters-in-law 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. ⁷So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ...

⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰And they said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.”

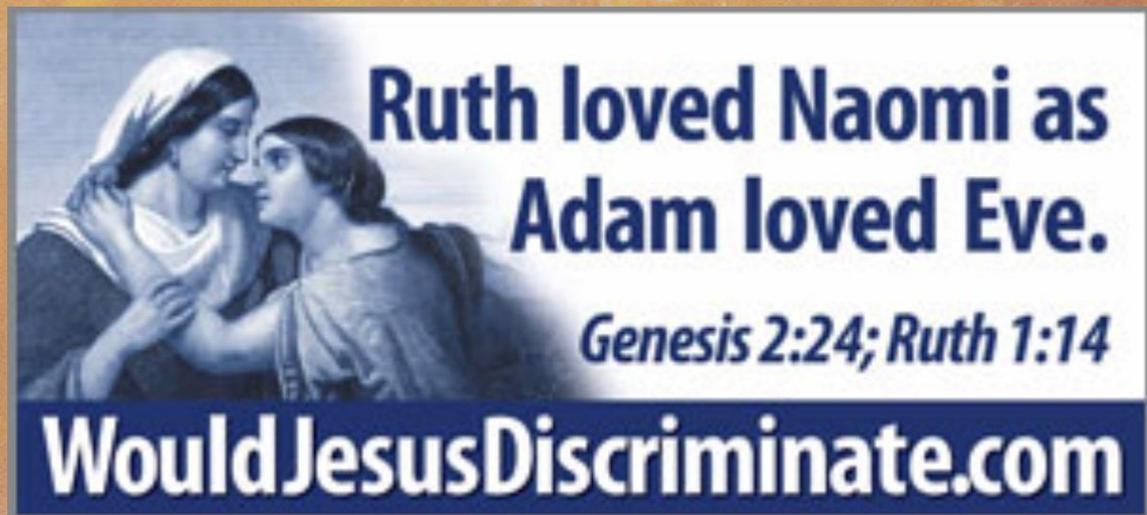
¹¹But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?

¹²Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.”

14Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. **15**And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ...

**¹⁶But 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.
¹⁷Where 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.” ¹⁸And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.**

“The same Hebrew word that is used in Genesis 2:24 to describe how Adam felt about Eve (and how spouses are supposed to feel toward each other) is used in Ruth 1:14 to describe how Ruth felt about Naomi. Her feelings are celebrated, not condemned...The fact that these words were spoken by one woman to another tells us a lot about how God feels about same-sex relationships.”



Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken of Man.”

Genesis 2:23

Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken of Man.”

Genesis 2:23

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast (cling to) his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and not ashamed.

Genesis 2:24-25

**During this time of reflection,
please consider this question:**

**Whether life is easy or hard
for you right now, are you
walking in faith with God?**