

Mother’s Day often turns our hearts toward the deep influence of mothers, and the book of Ruth reminds us that some of the most beautiful family bonds are formed not only by birth, but by covenant love. The relationship between Ruth and her mother-in-law Naomi is one of the warmest pictures of devotion found in Scripture. What began in sorrow and loss became a testimony of faithfulness so profound that, by the end of the story, the women of Bethlehem declared that Ruth was “better to you than seven sons.” In a culture where sons represented security, honor, and legacy, this was extraordinary praise. Through Ruth and Naomi, God shows us the loving-kindness, loyalty, and sacrificial care that radiates from His own heart.

In the first chapter, Ruth’s love for Naomi shines brightly against the darkness of grief. Naomi urged her daughters-in-law to remain in Moab and rebuild their lives, but Ruth refused to leave her side. Her words still echo through the centuries: “Where you go, I will go... your people are my people, and your God is my God.” Ruth’s commitment was not rooted in convenience, but in covenant love. She chose faithfulness over comfort, and devotion over self-interest. Christian mothers reflect that same spirit. They remain steadfast through exhausting seasons, carry burdens quietly, and pour themselves into the lives of others with sacrificial love that mirrors the compassion of God Himself.

By the second chapter, Ruth’s faithfulness had become visible to everyone around her. Boaz had heard how she cared for Naomi, how she left her homeland, and how she humbly labored in the fields to provide for them both. Ruth did not merely speak loving words, she lived them out day after day. And in the third chapter, we see Naomi’s own loving concern for Ruth. Rather than clinging selfishly to Ruth for her own comfort, Naomi sought Ruth’s future happiness and security. Their relationship became a beautiful picture of mutual care, encouragement, and trust. This is part of the beauty of godly motherhood: it reflects the self-giving nature of God, seeking what blesses and strengthens others rather than what serves self.

Finally, in the fourth chapter, God pours out blessing upon both women. Naomi, once bitter and empty, now holds a grandson in her arms. Ruth, the foreign widow who stepped out in faith, becomes part of the lineage of King David, and ultimately of Jesus Christ Himself. What began in famine and sorrow ends in redemption and joy. Mother’s Day is a fitting time to thank God for women whose loving-kindness, faithfulness, sacrifice, and compassion reveal His own character to the world. Whether by birth, adoption, mentorship, or spiritual influence, godly women help nurture faith, preserve families, and point hearts toward the Lord.

Prayerfully consider the following this week: How have I seen God’s loving-kindness reflected through the faithful care of my mother or mother figure in my life? In what ways can I show greater loyalty, compassion, and sacrificial love to the people God has placed in my care? How does the relationship between Ruth and Naomi challenge our culture’s view of family, commitment, and selflessness?

Weekly Memory Verse:

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

Ruth 2:12

Weekly Affirmation:

**LORD, LET ME REFLECT
YOUR FAITHFULNESS**

MAY 2026 GROWTH GOALS

- Read the Book of Ruth
- Watch the Bible Project video on Ruth (available on the website).
- Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- Consider a fast of any duration (8-24 hours). Replace your meal with prayer and Bible reading (see Daniel with questions).