

# Sermon Reflections

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## *Faith-Filled Action (Part 1)* Ruth 3:1 - 4:22

**Summary:** God's sovereignty moves us to faith-filled action, not apathy.

### ***Active Faith in a Sovereign God***

#### **1. Take Faith-filled Initiative (3:1-5)**

- God masterfully wove Ruth's circumstances together so that she 'happened to' come to the field belonging to Boaz (2:3). Ephesians 2:10 indicates that God also prepares "good works" for us beforehand. What kind of confidence does this provide? What are some ways we can better look for these good works?
- What are some examples in your life where you have seen God's sovereign hand orchestrating events in such a way that it was clear He was preparing good works for you?
- What are some examples where you have either succeeded or failed in taking initiative while seeking to act in line with God's sovereignty?
- How does trust in a sovereign God compel you to live differently than non-believers?

#### **2. Show Praise-Worthy Faithfulness (3:6-12)**

- Why did Ruth ask Boaz to spread his wings (see Ruth 2:12)? Why was this significant?
- Boaz indicated that he would happily accept it if the "nearer" redeemer chose to redeem Ruth instead of him (3:13). Yet he also seemed excited about the prospect of marrying and redeeming Ruth. Boaz trusted God's sovereign plan regardless of the outcome. What are some ways we can be confident and content with how God fulfills His plan in our life?

#### **3. Exercise Hopeful Patience (3:13-18)**

- Sometimes things are out of our control while we wait. What should our attitude be when waiting on God? What should we do while we wait?
- What are some examples in your life of times you have needed to be patient while waiting for God to work in other people or circumstances outside of your control?

#### **4. Take Faith-filled Action (4:1-6)**

- When Boaz saw an attractive opportunity that fell well within the bounds of God's law, he took immediate action. What are some ways we can imitate Boaz in being more decisive about opportunities presented to us by God? How can you take more faithful actions in your role as an employee, student, family member, or other member of society?