

new   
dimensions  
church  
THERE'S SO MUCH MORE

**Consecration Devotional**

**January 2021**



## Foreword from Pastor John

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2021.

Thank you for joining the New Dimensions Church family in our New Year's consecration as we start the year off together. My prayer is that this experience will focus us on the call of Jesus Christ on our lives. If we maintain this focus, the experience will yield complete healing, wholeness and restoration to our minds, bodies and spirits, In the Name of Jesus!

I believe God has called us to this time of consecration to align ourselves with God's Will, here at New Dimensions Church. We are praying that God give us His wisdom and understanding as we grow closer to God in 2021. The Lord faithfully guided the New Dimensions Church family through a Covid filled 2020 and thanks be to God He has covered New - D members. The Lord has been so faithful. As we continue to move forward on our ministry journey, we will continue to lean and depend on God for His protection, wisdom and understanding. I am encouraging the saints to use this time to join with the New Dimensions family as we consecrate TOGETHER!

I would encourage each of you to consecrate over the weeks of January 4<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> in your own way. I am encouraging you to set time apart for God, however you see fit. While we are consecrating corporately, your approach is individual, as only you know your normal life practices in determining sacrifices to God.

As a ministry, we will be fasting from January 4<sup>th</sup> through January 17<sup>th</sup>, from 6am – 6pm. Feel free to adjust the times and style of fast as you see fit (i.e Daniel fast, normal fast, partial fast, absolute fast, etc.) **Please be mindful of the requirements for your medicines and follow them accordingly.** Remember, consecration is more than going without food, it's a mindset and lifestyle. Please use wisdom in your approach to fasting and let me know if you have any questions.

During this time of consecration please join us for corporate prayer on the following days and times:

- Monday – Saturday 6:00am – 6:15am on our conference line. (712) 775.7270 pin: 899998#
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:30pm – 8:00pm on our Zoom Conference line. (Meeting ID: 5725967781 Passcode: 104010 or telephone: (415) 762.9988)

Detailed below is a description of Consecration and its significance in the life of the believer. The corporate devotion for the next fourteen days is found on the following pages.

I love you all and appreciate you all. Through this time of consecration, we will recognize God is in Control...Strategies for Perseverance... and Focus on God's Faithfulness...I look forward to seeing what God is going to do for the New Dimensions Church.

Pastor John Savoy, New Dimensions Church

## Introduction

As we embark on this New Year, our hope and trust are that this devotional will deepen our knowledge of God's word through readings of the book of Ruth. The devotional will pull out concepts addressed in the lesson texts that we deal with in our present-day lives. The focus during this time will be to seek God and devise strategies for daily implementing more righteous thinking, speaking, and behavior. It is my hope that we will see ourselves through this time of consecration and endeavor in personal course correction in alignment with God's word.

I pulled this devotional together to guide us in our corporate time of consecration. The devotional encourages journaling, which was one of the strategies that I strongly endorse. During this time, I hope the devotional blesses you as we begin a new year together. The devotional is focused on Ruth and her focus on God as she navigated the issues of life. Through this time of reflection, my hope is that we identify areas where we can demonstrate more focus on God as we travel the highs and lows of life.

This time of consecration is intended to inspire us to seek God through Bible Study and Prayer. I want us to be more thankful for what the Lord has already done in our lives. Additionally, I want us all to seek the Lord for help and advice in your circumstances. On each of the consecration days, I am asking that you complete the following sections:

1. Thankfulness – Daily write Ten things for which you are thankful.
2. Need – Write what advice or help you need from God.
3. Pray & Read – Pray as you read God's word that it speaks to you and transforms you into His image.
4. Believe – Write what you believe God has promised you through this scripture in alignment with the need you listed. (i.e. "According to the Word of God, I believe...")
5. Speak – Speak your belief statement audibly. (Rom. 10:17)
6. Live – go through the day looking for opportunities to live your belief statement. (Jam. 1:22-25)

Through this time, I hope we all strive to recognize the importance of having Jesus in our lives and why we need a close walk with Him. If Christ is truly necessary in our lives, then we must have a desire to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. (Philippians 3:10, NIV)

## Goals

1. To provide the saints of New Dimensions Church with topics and scriptures which will enhance their knowledge of Jesus Christ during this time of consecration and the rest of the year.
2. To encourage study of the word of God through the book of Ruth.
3. To inspire the reading of God's word and the study of such for a deeper understanding of the word of God.
4. To equip the New Dimensions saints using this devotional with Biblical truths that will enable them to live victorious Godly lives.

5. The reader should be equipped, strengthened, fortified to show the love of Jesus and lead others to Jesus!

### Consecration Guidance

The word *consecration* isn't a commonly used word, but even so, we might have an existing concept about what it means. In religion, the word *consecration* has been used in relation to the official ordaining of a person to be a preacher, a priest, or a missionary. This use implies consecration is for a special category of people.

But the consecration revealed in the New Testament is for **every** believer in Christ. It's not something only for knowledgeable Christians or spiritually mature ones. In fact, as we'll see, we cannot subjectively know the life of Christ in us or reach spiritual maturity without consecrating ourselves to the Lord. This is because consecration is the **basis** for every spiritual experience.

So what is consecration? Consecration is our giving ourselves to the Lord to become "a living sacrifice," as Paul says in

**Romans 12:1**: "I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service."

In the Old Testament, a sacrifice was something set apart for God by being put on the altar. When people offered that thing to God, it no longer belonged to the one offering it. It belonged to God, for His use and His satisfaction.

Today, when we consecrate ourselves to the Lord, we become a living sacrifice. We give up our own claims on ourselves and put ourselves completely in His hands. Previously, our life was for our use and our satisfaction; now it is for His.

When we present ourselves to the Lord as a living sacrifice, we're simply saying, "Lord Jesus, I am for You. I'm no longer for myself, the world, or anything else. I am for Your use and Your satisfaction."

## Overview of Ruth

**Theme:** The book provides a glimpse into the lives of ordinary, though godly, people during the turbulent period of the judges. It shows an oasis of faithfulness in an age marked by idolatry and unfaithfulness. One of the most inspiring messages of the book is that a person that displays selfless compassion will be rewarded in the end.

Ruth, whose name means *friend/pleasant*, serves as one of the Old Testament heroines and demonstrates the inclusion of Gentiles in Jesus' salvation plan. The book demonstrates that Gentiles could believe in the true God. The book also covers a partial lineage of David and Jesus Christ. This lineage demonstrates Gentile blood in the blood line of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In the book Boaz serves as the Kinsman-Redeemer demonstrating a type of Christ in three particular ways:

1. Boaz was a blood relative of Jesus Christ
2. Boaz had the price to purchase the forfeited inheritance
3. Boaz was willing to redeem

Finally, the book is an example of the sovereignty of God in a caring for His people.

The book is comprised of 4 chapters. The book is broken down into four sections:

1. Ruth remains loyal to Naomi (Ruth 1)
2. Ruth Gleans in Boaz's field (Ruth 2)
3. Ruth follows Naomi's plan (Ruth 3)
4. Ruth and Boaz are married (Ruth 4)

The main characters of the book are the following:

- Elimelech – Naomi's husband
- Naomi – Elimelech's wife; mother-in-law to Ruth & Orpah
- Mahlon – Son of Elimelech and Naomi and husband of Ruth
- Kilion – Son of Elimelech and Naomi and husband of Orpah
- Ruth – Moabite daughter in law of Naomi
- Orpah – Moabite daughter in law of Naomi
- Boaz – Kinsman Redeemer serving as a type of Christ

There is a lot we can learn in the study of Ruth, join me as we Grow in God's Word, together...

## Consecration - Day 1 When Plans Don't Go As Expected

**Thankfulness:**

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

**Need:**

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**Pray & Read:**

[Ruth 1:1-5](#)

**Thought:**

The book of Ruth in the first five verses starts with a lot going on. Little of which is probably planned. In the first five verses of the book, we find out there is a famine in the land, Elimelech decides to move his wife and two sons to the country of Moab. After moving to Moab, Elimelech dies and leaves Naomi with her two sons. Her two sons select wives of Moab and after about ten years both sons die.

Naomi is now left in Moab without her husband or two sons. This couldn't have been what she expected when she left the famine in Bethlehem in Judah for better days/times.

What do you do when plans don't go as expected?

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 2

### Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

**Thankfulness:**

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

**Need:**

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**Pray & Read:**

[Ruth 1:6-18](#)

**Thought:**

Naomi is faced with a tough decision. As a woman with no husband or sons in a foreign country, her options are bleak. When Naomi heard the famine is over in Bethlehem in Judah, she decides to go back home. It's about a 50-mile journey from Bethlehem and a dangerous journey to do alone as a female. She starts the journey with Ruth and Orpah, but then reason kicks in and she attempts to send them back to their mothers. Naomi tries to reason with them on the poor chances of them gaining husbands through her lineage. Now Ruth and Orpah have a decision to make. Orpah decides to go back home to her family, while Ruth decides and commits to follow Naomi. Ruth's commitment broke ties with her nation and her religion.

How do you make tough decisions? What do you do when the options look bleak?

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 3 Poor Old Me

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 1:19-22](#)

### Thought:

Naomi returns back to Bethlehem with Ruth and the people start talking. What's new, people will talk! The question is how will you handle it? Returning home in a lower state than when she left was probably humbling for Naomi. Naomi chooses to go into a self-pity state where she declares she now wants to be known as Mara (meaning bitter). From pleasant to bitter, that's a bit extreme. She extends it to say she feels the Lord has brought her back empty, afflicted and misfortunate.

Ella Fitzgerald sings a song titled "Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall." According to [II Timothy 3:12](#) those living godly in Christ Jesus will experience similar. 2021 will be no different. During this year people will get sick, some will die, misunderstandings will arise, and plans will fail. The question for each of us, how will you handle it? And how long will you struggle with it, before you release it to God?

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 4 I Have To Try

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 2:1-3](#)

### Thought:

In today's reading we are introduced to a relative of Elimelech who was prominent and in good standing, by the name of Boaz. During this time, the men were primarily in the fields harvesting the wheat as reapers. Per the Levitical law, the reapers were supposed to leave some barley behind for the poor (generally in the corners of the fields.) This process was referred to as gleaning, when the poor came behind the reapers to collect the barely. Ruth, in a foreign land and not knowing anyone, decides to go gleaning for grain for her and Naomi. As the favor of God would have it, Naomi finds herself gleaning in a field that happens to belong to Boaz.

Ruth puts herself in an avenue to be blessed, verses sitting back waiting for something to happen. You might be frustrated over a situation, but ask yourself, what have you tried? Or are you still waddling in your despair? Led by the Spirit, I have to try!

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 5 God Honors Effort

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 2:4-7](#)

### Thought:

A message of this passage demonstrates that our diligent work and effort for God will be recognized by the Master. God aligns the divine observation of Ruth's diligent work ethic by the foreman and Boaz. The discussion between Boaz and the foreman further reveal the persistence and diligence of Ruth to work.

Ruth working through a tough situation with diligence, effort and grace is a great example for us. Just like Joseph using his gifts in the prison made a way for him later in his spiritual journey [Proverbs 18:16](#).

What is your effort, when things are not going the way you intend?

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 6 God's Favor

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 2:8-13](#)

### Thought:

In this passage Boaz protects Ruth. Boaz begins to show Ruth favor based on her behavior. Boaz has done his homework on Ruth and seen that she has exhibited great qualities (i.e. hard working, loving, kind, faithful and courageous) The consistency of her character was manifest while working, with family, at home, everywhere. People observe your behavior and your attitude. God will place people in your life to show you favor, because he cares and we do not have to manipulate, scheme, or lie to get favorable results.

Do you trust God enough to demonstrate Godly character, while you await His favor for your circumstance?

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 7 God Provides

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 2:14-16](#)

### Thought:

The passage reveals how Boaz continues to provide for Ruth above and beyond where her status would generally permit. Boaz provides food for her. When Ruth attempts to return to her gleaning duties, Boaz further provides for her by instructing the reapers to leave some stalks from the sheaves for Ruth.

No matter how devastating our present situation may be, our hope is in God. His resources are infinite. We must believe that he can work in the life of any person whether that person sits in the seat of authority or a stranger in a foreign land. Trust that God will provide.

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 8 Kindness

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 2:17-23](#)

### Thought:

This passage of scripture captures Ruth reporting out to Naomi of her gleaning experience. When Naomi recognized that after Ruth had threshed her barely, she had collected enough to feed them for about 10 days. Naomi begins to question where Ruth has been working and praises the man who took notice of Naomi. Ruth conveys to Naomi all of the kind gestures of protection and provision by Boaz. Naomi in a motherly way confirms for Ruth that she should remain close to Boaz's servant girls for her safety and for the provision of barley.

Ruth showed great kindness to Naomi. In turn, Boaz showed kindness to Ruth. A despised Moabite woman with no money. God showed his kindness to Ruth, Naomi and Boaz by bringing them together for his purposes.

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 9 Wise Counsel

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 3:1-5](#)

### Thought:

Naomi demonstrates motherly concern in this portion of the scripture. Naomi expresses concern for Ruth to get married as without a husband the future was bleak for her and Naomi. Naomi recognizes that Boaz may serve as the kinsman redeemer by marrying Ruth himself or he can appoint someone to marry Ruth. Naomi instructs Ruth in how to present herself to Boaz so that he recognizes that Ruth honors him as the kinsman-redeemer. Laying at the feet of Boaz was not considered a romantic act, but it was business.

Ruth was fortunate to have Naomi in her life for wise counsel. We too should strive to keep Godly wise counsel in our lives. When the challenges of life arise, having an impartial sounding board is an invaluable resource. Be willing to adhere to the counsel of those that are wiser and more experienced. ([Psalm 1](#))

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 10 Relationship Matters

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 3:6-9](#)

### Thought:

Ruth executes the instructions of Naomi precisely. The scenario plays out exactly as Naomi forecasted. Boaz awakes and realizes someone is at his feet. Boaz asks who it is? Ruth responds that it is her and has the opportunity to suggest that he is her kinsman-redeemer. No doubt Boaz realizes who Ruth is based on his conversations and prior encounters and some form of relationship has begun to be developed. Ruth is also blessed by following Naomi's guidance.

We tend to think of blessings in terms of prosperity rather than the high-quality relationships God makes possible for us. No matter what our economic situation, we can love and respect the people God has brought into our lives. By doing this, we give and received blessings. **Love is the greatest blessing!**

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 11

### Godly Integrity

#### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

#### Need:

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#### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 3:10-18](#)

#### Thought:

This passage covers a conversation between Boaz and Ruth over the role of the Kinsman-Redeemer in Ruth's life. Boaz accepts that he is in the family lineage but recognizes that there is someone ahead of him and assures Ruth that he will address the issue. Despite how impressed he is with Ruth; Boaz is a man of good standing and follows the order of the land. Boaz continues to cover Ruth and does just as Naomi suggests and instructs her in what to do. Boaz does not want Ruth to have a bad name and guides her in where and how to leave. Boaz wants to be a blessing to Naomi and Ruth and sent her back home with about 22 days' worth of barley. As Ruth returns home, she conveys all that has occurred to Naomi. Ruth and Naomi have confidence in Boaz's words as he is a man of integrity.

A reputation for integrity is developed one act at a time.

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 12 Kinsman-Redeemer

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 4:1-12](#)

### Thought:

The passage speaks to the negotiation that Boaz conducted with his family member over the role of the kinsman-redeemer for Elimelech's remaining family. Boaz was shrewd but made it clear that the role of kinsman-redeemer held all of the responsibility and all honor would go to Elimelech's family name. The act speaks to the integrity of Boaz and his sincere love for Ruth. Boaz conducts the business of purchasing the land and claims Ruth as his wife as the rightful heir passes the responsibility to Boaz.

Just as Boaz showed his kindness by buying back land to guarantee Ruth and Naomi's inheritance, so Christ showed his kindness by dying for us to guarantee our eternal life. God's kindness should motivate us to love and honor him.

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 13 Now I Fit In?

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 4:13-17](#)

### Thought:

In this passage Boaz officially takes Ruth as his wife. Ruth bares a son (Obed) and now the women of the town are talking to Naomi again. (i.e. just as they did in Chapter 1) The women of the town now see Naomi with status that a kinsman-redeemer has assumed responsibility for her and now that she is the grandmother of a son. Society now sees Naomi/Ruth with hope and blessing upon their family.

It's amazing that once your circumstances change that sometimes people change their perspective of you. People can be temperamental, keep your ears and eyes on Jesus!

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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## Consecration - Day 14 All In the Family

### Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

### Need:

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### Pray & Read:

[Ruth 4:18-22](#)

### Thought:

The ending section of the book covers the bloodline of Judah from Perez through Boaz to David. Genealogies are important in scripture for the following

1. The Bible shows plenty of genealogies demonstrating that God cares about history.
2. The Bible genealogies show that God interacts with real people.
3. The Bible genealogies show that God can use imperfect people for God's purpose.
4. The Bible genealogies show that God cares about families.
5. The Bible genealogy of Jesus means God had humanity in mind.

Ruth demonstrates that a Moabite (Gentile) played a part in fulfilling generations that would eventually produce our Savior, Jesus Christ. The Lord had all of humanity in mind when He sent his son to die on the cross. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of the family.

**Believe:** ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

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**Speak:** (Speak your belief statement.)

**Live:** (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

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