



## Praying Through

## Ruth 1-4

**“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray...I will heal their land.”**

**2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)**

**“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.”**

**James 5:16 (NLT)**

“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places...Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers...” Ephesians 6:10-12, 18 (NLT)

### Two words to hold on to when it comes to prayer:

1. **Passion**
2. **Persistence**

### How to win the battle through prayer:

#### 1. **Stay connected.**

“In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab...Naomi’s husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. They married Moabite women, Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years...(the sons) also died.” Ruth 1:1-5 (NIV)

“But Ruth replied, ‘Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.’” Ruth 1:16 (NIV)

“We should meet together and never give up.” Hebrews 10:25

## 2. **Do what God is doing.**

“When she heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.”

Ruth 1:6 (NIV)

“The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them!”

Proverbs 18:15 (LB)

“Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their heart on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs...” Psalm 84:5-6 (NIV)

## 3. **Stick to solid core values.**

● **Work Ethic** “She went into the field and has worked steadily...” Ruth 2:7 (NIV)

● **Good name** (Boaz) “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband...” Ruth 2:11a (NIV)

● **Sexual purity** “When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Ruth approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down.” Ruth 3:7 (NIV)

“Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t get discouraged and give up.” Galatians 6:9 (LB)

“May the Lord repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”

Ruth 2:12 (NIV)

## 4. **See God’s providence.**

“As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz...” Ruth 2:3 (NIV)

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with his hand.”

Psalm 37:23-24 (NKJ)

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 (NIV)

