



- 2025 -

Great  
Canadian  
*Bible Study*

The Power of Two Plus One  
*THE STORY OF RUTH AND NAOMI*

WRITTEN BY LINDA ELLSWORTH

# About the Author

This study was written by Linda Ellsworth  
for Canadian Baptist Women's  
2025 Great Canadian Bible Study.

Linda has been heavily involved in Christian  
Camping for her career and is currently the  
Member Care Coordinator for Christian Camping  
International Canada. She has also been writing  
articles and Bible studies for CBWOQ's  
magazines, Link & Visitor and Live.

Linda and her husband, Doug,  
live in Powassan, Ontario.

This material is not copyrighted and is meant to  
be copied and used for the purposes intended.



# -a note to the leaders

## SETTING THE SCENE

- **TABLES (PREFERABLY ROUND) WITH 6-8 WOMEN PER TABLE.**
- **PROVIDE TEA, COFFEE, AND SNACKS!**
- **FEEL FREE TO USE THE POWER POINT (PROVIDED),  
STUDY GUIDE AND TAKE HOME HANDOUTS.**
- **ENCOURAGE ROUND-TABLE  
DISCUSSION FOR EACH \*ASK,  
REACT, APPLY\***
- **FOR A BRIEFER STUDY, PARTS 1  
AND 4 MAY BE OMITTED\***





# Introduction-

*Welcome and Prayer*

Introduction to the Theme -  
The Power of Two Plus One,  
Building Each Other Up  
Through Mentoring





# Part 1.

*A True-to Life  
Ruth and Naomi Story*

Tell the story of  
Patti Chapman,  
Karen Kearns,  
and  
Rocky Ridge Ranch



# Patti's

## STORY

Growing up in my church in Willowdale I always had a passion for the Lord's work, so it made sense that the Lord brought me to Bruce, as widower with four children, and Rocky Ridge Ranch. We were married on January 16, 1987. In September 2018 we learned that Bruce needed a triple bypass. There were several complications over the next year and a half and in May 2020 the Lord called him home. I had assured Bruce that I would do everything in my power and with the Lord's guidance to ensure the Ranch continued. Karen, his only daughter, stepped up to the plate to help, listen, comfort – and so did our son-in-law(love), Dan. He took on the mantle of the Ranch ministry. Then in February 2022 the Lord called Dan home. It was my turn to be there for Karen. Widowhood is indescribable and although our journeys are different, they are much the same. Karen has taken on the title of Director, and I am her support. We listen to each other and work together to make sure the Lord is first at RRR. Tears flow when they need to, and hugs are always at the ready.

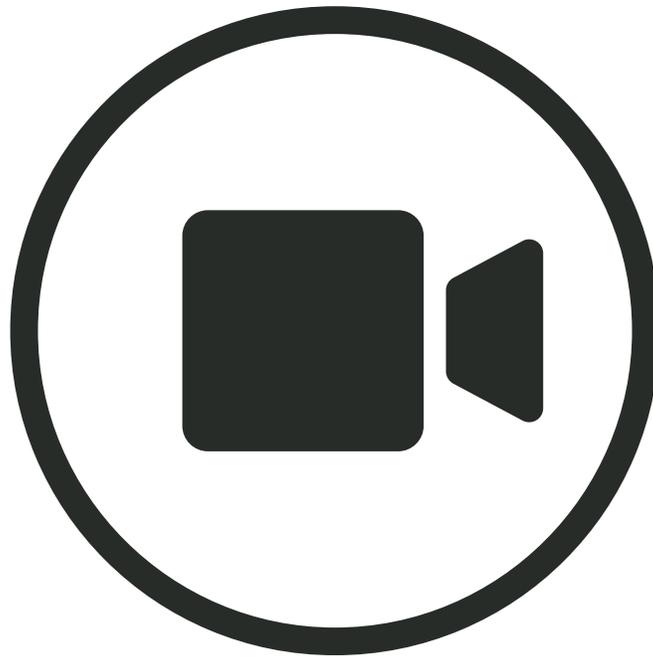


# Kareri's

## STORY

The Lord called our family to serve at the ranch when I was 12. Later I met the love of my life, Dan, and we were married December 19, 1981. Just before our 40th wedding anniversary Dan found out that he had pancreatic cancer. We said the Lord brought us to this he will take us through it. The Lord called him home February 28, 2022. This widow journey came upon me so quickly. Each day can be a challenge and often there are questions but I am thankful for the strength the Lord provides. The Lord has a plan which I often don't understand. I think of the "Footprints" poem where at one point there is only one set of footprints in the sand... the Lord hasn't left but is carrying us. I am thankful for beautiful years of service together, and am daily asking the Lord for strength and grace. Patti has been a shoulder to lean on and hugs when needed. My daily verse is Proverbs 3:5,6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding in all thy ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct thy paths."





*Video - "I'm With You"*  
*Nicole Nordeman*

(Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHZZyNGvOVY>)  
Permission obtained: Provided to YouTube by Universal Music Group; I'm With You (Ruth & Naomi), Nichole Nordeman , Amy Grant, Bernie Herms;

Music Inspired By The Story © 2011 EMI Christian Music Group, Inc., Word Entertainment LLC, Provident Label Group; Creative Commons CCBY-SA4.0



*The Big Question:*  
**What is Mentoring?**

DISCUSS

Mentor—noun:

1. A wise and trusted counselor or teacher.
2. An influential senior sponsor or supporter.

[www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)

# Part 2.



## *The Story of Naomi, Ruth, and God— the Model of Mentorship*

**Read:** Ruth 1:1-5

**The Background -- God's Preparation for Mentoring**

### **ASK:**

1. What was Naomi's background, and how did God prepare her to mentor Ruth?
2. What was Ruth's background?  
How did God bring about her connection with Naomi?
3. Literally how far did God have to take Naomi to introduce Ruth into her family?

### **REACT:**

Discuss and share how, in the past, God has re-arranged your circumstances to align with His will.  
Share the impact on you—on your family.

### **APPLY:**

Are you in a situation at present where God might be "setting you apart" for a role in His Divine plan?  
Share with your group and discuss how you might respond.

# Part 2 cont'd



## *The Story of Naomi, Ruth, and God— the Model of Mentorship*

Read: Ruth 1: 6-22

The Great Shake-up and Split-up -- God's Positioning for Mentoring

### **ASK:**

4. In this poignant scene, describe the indicators of Naomi's past mentoring.
5. In Ruth's beautiful speech to Naomi (1:16-18), we see 3 key indicators of Naomi's mentoring influence: Naomi herself, her people, her God. What was the significance of each in the life of Ruth coming from Moab?

### **REACT:**

With whom do you identify at this point in the story? Why?

### **APPLY:**

How do those around me view my character, my faith, my concern for them?

# Part 2 cont'd



## *The Story of Naomi, Ruth, and God— the Model of Mentorship*

**Read:** Ruth 2:1-3

**Ruth's Care and Concern --God's Plan for Mentoring**

### **ASK:**

6. How does God set the stage for the love story about to unfold?
7. Likely due to Naomi's age, Ruth asks permission to glean in the local barley harvest and ends up ("as it happened") in the fields owned by Boaz, a wealthy relative of Naomi's husband Elimelech. Why is this significant?

### **REACT:**

"Gleaning" (picking up the leftovers) was a tiresome, back-breaking task in the hot sun, yet Ruth willingly offered to do so to meet their needs. What was your immediate response to Ruth's gesture?

### **APPLY:**

What, where, and how can I work for Jesus to bless others?

# Part 3.



## *The Introduction of Boaz— Kinsman Redeemer*

Read: Ruth 2:4-13

Boaz's Impression (Love at First Sight?) --God's Provision

### **ASK:**

8. Why did Boaz take immediate notice of Ruth, set up a safety net, and ensure sufficient grain for their survival?
9. Boaz's response to Ruth (vs. 11) is both beautiful and significant, especially the last part (12). Why?

### **REACT:**

Do you sense a comparison between Boaz's recognition of and kindness to foreigner Ruth, and God's response to us—to you? Discuss.

### **APPLY:**

In what ways am I sharing my faith, my time, my possessions with others?



## *Coffee Break*

INTRODUCING  
THE 2025 CBW PROJECT  
- 15 MIN -

# Project Highlight

Please join with women across Canada by taking an offering toward the following project:

## **Kenya-ACC&S Health and Mentorship**

This project focuses on the psychological, spiritual, social and emotional aspects of being a growing young person in African culture. A big part of that mentoring includes sex education. Due to the lack of sex education at home, many young girls and boys fail to understand what is happening to them as they grow from childhood to adulthood. In some cultures, the topic of sex is taboo. Lack of accurate knowledge leads to unexpected pregnancy and raises the school dropout rate. Being taught about body changes helps girls and boys understand themselves. It also teaches them about respect for one another, which will hopefully help curb future domestic violence issues. Through this project, CBM's partner, the Africa Christian Church and Schools wants to mentor young school-aged girls and boys by providing sex education and kits with needed items for those who cannot afford them. Kits will contain underwear, sanitary towels (girls), and other items. A team of pastors will be mentoring the adolescents. They will accompany the girls and boys and provide them with the kits as well as counselling on other related issues.

Please send your offering to the treasurer of your women's organization and specify that it is to go toward the Great Canadian Bible Study project.

Thank you for making a difference in these young people's lives!

# Part 3 cont'd



## *The Introduction of Boaz— Kinsman Redeemer*

Read: Ruth 2:14-23

Ruth's Obedience--Jehovah Jireh, My Provider

### **ASK:**

10. How does God provide for Ruth and Naomi through Boaz?

### **REACT:**

Discuss the significance of Naomi's statement in verse 22 and its outcome in verse 23?

### **APPLY:**

Have I been tempted to "glean in any other field" than the one God has chosen for me? What were the results?

# Part 3 cont'd



## *The Introduction of Boaz— Kinsman Redeemer*

### Read: Ruth 3 The Kinsman-Redeemer

#### ASK:

12. Outline Naomi's plan and Ruth's immediate response...what are your questions regarding Naomi's "mentorship" at this point? Discuss God's continuous work through Naomi.

13. How does Boaz fit into the Kinsman-Redeemer role spoken of in Leviticus 25 and 27?

**READ:** Deuteronomy 25:5-10 which

"records a ceremony known as Chalitzah, which is performed for a man who refuses to fulfill his obligation of Levirate marriage. When Ruth went to Boaz, lay at his feet during the night, and uncovered his feet (3:4, 7), it is believed that she was reminding him of his responsibility as a kinsman-redeemer to fulfill his obligation to marry her. The uncovering of his feet is believed to be an allusion to the Chalitzah ceremony."

-Mark Robinson. Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry Inc. Feb./Mar. 1993.

By this act, Ruth is not only proposing the protection (marriage, children, purchasing back of Elimelech's former lands) of the Kinsman-Redeemer, she is assuring the care of Naomi, who has cared for her. This is the fulfillment of Boaz's prayer in 2:12.

14. Winnow out the wisdom of Naomi's statement in Verse 18.

## **REACT:**

Think of the times God has used a wise mentor in your life who has said: "Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out..." OR He has whispered this statement in your heart through the Holy Spirit. How did you react?

## **APPLY:**

Think of situations in which you have been mentored. What type of mentoring worked best in your situation? Why?

# Part 4

## *The End of the Story*



### **Read: Ruth 4** **The COST, The PLEDGE, The PROMISE**

This beautiful story of redemption goes from wealth to poverty, to widowhood, to obedience and commitment, to redemption and fulfillment, to "adoption" into the lineage of Christ.

Imagine what might have happened had Naomi not mentored Ruth...if Ruth had not loved and cared for Naomi, respecting her mother-in-law's wisdom!

### **Further Application**

(this may be considered during the Bible Study, or as a take-home challenge)

- Which type of mentor am I? (See Handout)
- Who can I mentor? Who is God bringing across your path? He is the orchestrator of relationship.
- How do I get started? Pray, watch, obey, love, share

# Conclusion

*Personal Meditation:*  
"Who Has Mentored Me... Who is God  
Leading Me to Mentor?"



*Prayer time at tables*



*Video* "I WILL CARRY YOU" - ELLIE HOLCOMB



*Leader:* PRAYER OF CHALLENGE AND COMMITMENT