

LIFE OF NAOMI

29/04/19

Oluwafunke

Good evening everyone

Let us pray

Our heavenly father as we go into today's review we pray you will teach us and bless us in Jesus name

Our character of the week is Naomi

The story of Ruth is incomplete without this woman called Naomi, her impact in the life of Ruth cannot be overemphasize

The story of Naomi is found in the book of Ruth chapter 1 to 4

Naomi was the wife of Elimelech who is from Bethlehem, Judah. They had two sons who are Mahlon and Chilion, they are Ephrathites

Naomi and her family left Bethlehem during a time of famine in their land, they moved to Moab. Later on Elimelech died, her two sons married moabites women named Orpah and Ruth, they all lived in Moab for about ten years after which Naomi lost her two sons

Naomi decided to move back to Bethlehem after she heard her people had been blessed, her daughters-in-law decided to follow her back but they insisted they would follow her, after much persuasion Orpah kissed her mother inlaw good bye but Ruth won't oblige she followed her still.

She followed her to Bethlehem, when they got to Bethlehem everyone was excited to see her and the women called her Naomi but she told them not to call her by that name which means 'Pleasantness' rather they should call her 'mara' which means bitterness because she believed the Almighty has dealt bitterly with her.

Well she didn't see it was for a better plan, she couldn't see the bigger picture then. If you're going through any situation believe that God knows the plans he has towards you according to Jeremiah 29:11

Naomi began to live in Bethlehem, she allowed Ruth to work and after the day she asked about where she worked. This implies that Naomi wasn't a selfish woman but a woman that cared deeply for Ruth.

She also seeked security for Ruth and told her what to do in order to get Boaz. She gave her specific instructions which helped Ruth in securing a good home.

This can be found in Ruth 3

Hence, Naomi was a woman of knowledge and insight because the advise she gave Ruth produced result and she knew the result before time and that was what got Ruth an excellent home and made her fall in the lineage that produced Christ. According to God's plan.

Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you? Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative? In fact, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Therefore wash yourself and anoint yourself, put on your best garment and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. Then it shall be, when he lies down, that you shall notice the place where he lies; and you shall go in, uncover his feet, and lie down; and he will tell you what you should do." When she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "Is that you, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her. Then she said, "Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out; for the man will not rest until he has concluded the matter this day."

Ruth 3:1-4, 16, 18 NKJV

<http://bible.com/114/rut.3.1-18.NKJV>

We have come to the end of the review

Let us pray

Oh Lord God almighty we thank you for tonight's review, we pray that your word will dwell richly in our hearts and they shall produce result in our lives. We pray that you will help us to keep our hope in you in every of our life's situation because they are all to bring you glory at the end of it all in Jesus name I pray.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NAOMI

30/04/19

Victoria

Heavenly father, we are grateful for this day, we thank you for all that you do in and through us. And right in this moment, we ask that your Revelations become our meditations in Jesus name

So we are still on the study of a character in the Bible. A woman who goes by the name Naomi

So we may be a little too familiar with the precise story of the woman named Ruth but just beside her was the story of a much older woman who happened to be her mother-in-law

Naomi had left with her husband and two sons to Moab because of a famine but she returned without

She had asked her two daughters-in-law to return to their people but they not only refused, they wept.

Ruth1:9 &10

The Lord grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept. And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people.

Ruth 1:9 ¶ 10 KJV

<https://bible.com/bible/1/rut.1.9-10.KJV>

Maybe they felt a sense of obligation towards Naomi as their husbands' mother, so they refused but they wept

This gives so much insight to the life of Naomi

In the long run, Orpah (the other daughter-in-law) took her mother-in-law's permission as freedom's call but Ruth was unmoving

Why???

Why would a young Moabitess(an unbeliever) cling to a woman who was a believer???

She didn't only choose to go with Naomi, she made deep commitments.

And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.

Ruth 1:16 ¶ 17 KJV

<https://bible.com/bible/1/rut.1.16-17.KJV>

Naomi's life was an exemplary one and Ruth was unwilling to let go of the miraculous change that she was encountering as she lived closely with this woman who loved the Lord

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 KJV

<https://bible.com/bible/1/mat.5.16.KJV>

Naomi's life made a disciple of Ruth

Naomi had lost her family and she grieved.

She blamed God too

I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

Ruth 1:21 KJV

<https://bible.com/bible/1/rut.1.21.KJV>

But God wasn't done with her

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord : and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.

Psalms 37:23-24 KJV

<https://bible.com/bible/1/psa.37.23-24.KJV>

And she testified of this truth

Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "Why, God bless that man! God hasn't quite walked out on us after all! He still loves us, in bad times as well as good!" Naomi went on, "That man, Ruth, is one of our circle of covenant redeemers, a close relative of ours!"

Ruth 2:20 MSG

<https://bible.com/bible/97/rut.2.20.MSG>

Lastly, Naomi was a discerning leader who had an understanding of the role of her "follower" -Ruth.

She directed Ruth through a path that plugged her into the lineage of Christ, our Messiah.

While there might not be so much to the character or deeds of Naomi, there is the part that her life ministered to a young woman.

Does your life portray Jesus?

We have come to the end of this review

Dear Jesus, we ask this day that you help us to live as we ought to. And teach us to observe your ways. Inscribe on the pages of your heart your laws and help us to observe them that our lives be testimony of your grace in Jesus name.

MISTAKES OF NAOMI

01/05/19

Oreoluwa

Our father we thank you for today, we bless you for how far you've helped us in this study

Blessed be your holy name

We ask that you help us to see you clearer today in Jesus name

Amen

So, we're supposed to review the mistakes of Naomi today

And as we've been taught earlier in the week,

Naomi is a goodly godly woman

So ehm, checking through the book of Ruth, I really couldn't see any mistake like that

There might be, but it wasn't recorded and I believe the Bible is COMPLETE!

Everything we need is there!!

However, I found something

3-1-2 One day her mother-in-law Naomi said to Ruth, "My dear daughter, isn't it about time I arranged a good home for you so you can have a happy life? And isn't Boaz our close relative, the one with whose young women you've been working? Maybe it's time to make our move. Tonight is the night of Boaz's barley harvest at the threshing floor.

3-4 "Take a bath. Put on some perfume. Get all dressed up and go to the threshing floor. But don't let him know you're there until the party is well under way and he's had plenty of food and drink. When you see him slipping off to sleep, watch where he lies down and then go there. Lie at his feet to let him know that you are available to him for marriage. Then wait and see what he says. He'll tell you what to do."

5 Ruth said, "If you say so, I'll do it, just as you've told me."

I misunderstood this passage to be that Naomi asked Ruth to go seduce Boaz

But after some further study, I realized that it wasn't actually this

It was a permitted act in their custom to show Boaz that she's available for marriage

(I find this funny though) but I'm convinced that Naomi didn't ask Ruth to seduce Boaz

So since I'm unable to find a mistake in Naomi's life,

It brings us to a conclusion that we can also be perfect

The quote that says "no one is above a mistake"

As good as it is, I'm sure we know that it's not biblical

Scripture says he that is from above is above all

INCLUDING MISTAKES!!!!

John 3:31

[31] He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

If we carefully follow the Lord, I'm sure we will be perfect

If it is impossible to attain perfection, it won't be in the Bible

God cannot whine us

Looking up to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith!!

Some times, we know that what we want to do is not good oo

But we will hide under the umbrella of nobody is above mistake!

Heaven is watching you on 3d camera

God help us all in Jesus name

Amen!!

IMPACTS OF NAOMI

02/05/19

Debbiegold

I'll be discussing briefly on how our personality of the week- Naomi affected her environment

1 I trust that our hearts will receive the word with grace in Jesus name.

I believe many of us have read the simplified version of Ruth's story either from lineage of grace or others.

The simplified story took us back to memory and they tried paint a picture of how the whole thing started.

How Naomi was left with no choice but to follow her husband to a strange land. How she had to forgo everything she had built out of her life to a strange land.

But despite this, we see Naomi holding the fort. She maintained her stance. She didn't lose her personality even though she was in a strange land.

She did not allow the culture of her new environment make her forget her knowledge of God. She was actually doing this so well not knowing that Ruth was observing her and when it was time for to leave she had impacted the lady so much that Ruth was more than convinced that Naomi has what she needed for sustenance in Life.

She couldn't affect the whole Moab for the Lord. In fact she couldn't affect the two women she encountered

but at least one caught the light and she did not that that little was a generation for the king of glory.

Just a little reminder to us all that your environment shouldn't be a determinant of who you are. You should make the environment conform to what you carry not you conforming to it. Let's stop having identity crisis. Why should it be difficult for people to identify you as a son of the kingdom.

You don't know who has been waiting for your light. Imagine if Naomi had conformed to the god of the moabites, Ruth would have probably been lost forever and she'll miss the opportunity of having the kingship lineage in her loins. We are on earth to preserve generations. Like Esther, we were made for a time as this. Let's not get distracted with the noise of the market place. We put our focus on our assignment for the kingdom. We shine our light effortlessly for all to see.

Also, I want to remind us that we cannot get a positive impact on everyone around. Even Jesus with his perfection couldn't attain it. But he stuck with those ones he's been able to get and he poured in so much of himself into them.

There is something called the Pareto principle. It states that 80% of result is gotten from a 20% input.

This was the kind of principle Jesus used to reach the world. He was passively teaching a whole multitude but he was actively teaching the 12 and then he had his inner circle still who saw his glory. This set of people were enough to drive the message of salvation down to the ends of the earth.

Same thing applied to Naomi. Most likely she would have tried to extend the love of God to other young ladies around. Even to Orpah. But she focused more on Ruth when she discovered her zeal and that was more than enough to preserve a generation for the Lord.

Don't get distracted when those young guys you are trying to encourage in the way of the Lord are showing you skills. Do what you have to do but also observe those who are following keenly and pour every available resource to get them rooted and trust me they will help gain the others.

His word is blessed in our hearts in Jesus' name

LESSONS FROM NAOMI

03-05-19

Tiwatitope

Good day ladies!

Can we please have our review now

Anyone home

Thank you

Almighty father of light, we bless you for your unpretentious love toward us

We ask that by your spirit you speak to us, impact us and also mould us according to your will

In Jesus machines name we pray!

Amen!

We continue with our study on the character for the week - *Naomi*

Today shall be looking at the Lessons learnt from *Lady Naomi*

Life had not gone like Naomi had planned it. Yet in this situation God had richly blessed Naomi with Ruth.

Through it all,

God, in His mercy, providentially preserved Naomi.

God providentially guided Naomi back to her homeland and people.

Converted a heathen (Ruth) and used her to save Naomi physically and spiritually. (Ruth 1:16-17)

Provisions and hope for both women from God as He guided Ruth to Boaz's field.

Naomi stepped outside of self-pity and sought to secure Ruth's future.

She gave Ruth specific instructions how to act with Boaz. (Ruth 3:1-5, 18)

*_Now to the Lessons!*_

One

Don't isolate yourself from the people of God during the good or bad times of life.

Maybe Naomi should have returned home earlier to the family of God after her husband died.

“For let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together”

(Hebrews 10:24- 25).

Two

Keep your faith in God’s promises.

Rehearse and remember that **the Lord will never leave you or forsake you**

(Hebrews 13:5).

Three

Walk close beside hurting people and stand with them until they win.

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, **comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.**

(I Thessalonians 5: 14).

Four

Always cry out to God in time of distress.

Naomi cries out to the Lord in her distress. She isn't running to people to try to help her make sense of what is going on in her life.

She's not calling her BFF to complain.

She knows that help comes from the Lord and so even in her frustration, **Naomi goes to God first** .

Five

Always appear before God in a plain manner

Naomi is honest before the Lord. This woman of God has lost so much. However, as she talks to God, she doesn't act like she has it all together. She is honest about her feelings and pours them out before the Lord, hoping that He can make some sense of them.

She wasn't acting in self righteous, she was as plain as possible

Six

Always remain strong in all matters of life including the uncertain ones

Naomi's faith remains strong in the face of uncertainty.

"She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?""- Ruth 1:20-21 [ESV]

In the short passage above, Naomi refers to the Lord as "the Almighty" two different times.

Once, as she begins to talk to the Lord, and again as she closes her prayer.

Naomi's faith in the Lord stayed strong, because she knows that the Lord is the one who allowed these horrible things to take place in her life.

Even as Naomi's circumstances overwhelmed her, she continued to have faith in the Lord Almighty!!

****She kept her eyes focused on Him!!***

Little did Naomi know, that the Lord is about to pour out His gracious mercy and plan of redemption for her life.

Conclusively,

In our own lives, we need to remember these lessons from *Naomi*

God does not allow hard times to come so that we fail. God allows our circumstances to overwhelm us, so that we will sit back and watch Him be God!!

God will never receive glory, if we are constantly trying to fix our own problems.

"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Psalm 46:10 [ESV]_

This brings us to the end of the review

Shall we say a word of prayer

We bless you gracious Father for your awesome presence, we ask that this word will cause a positive change in our lives

In Jesus matchless name I pray

Amen !