

COURTSHIP QUALITIES **IN MARRIAGE** **Ruth 2-4**

Courtship qualities should not disappear when the person courted has become your marriage partner.

I. BE SINCERE (2:1-17)

- This involves being unpretentious and unselfish

A. RUTH WAS SINCERELY GENUINE

1. She was genuinely diligent (2, 7)
2. She was genuinely humble (10)
3. She was genuinely devoted (11)
4. She was genuinely thankful (13)

B. BOAZ WAS SINCERELY GENEROUS

1. He gave Ruth opportunity (8-9a)
2. He gave Ruth protection (9b)
3. He gave Ruth water (9c)
4. He gave Ruth a blessing (12)
5. He gave Ruth a lunch (14)
6. He gave Ruth bounty (15-17)
7. He gave Ruth dignity

II. BE SUPPORTIVE (3:1-15)

- This involves sensitivity to each other's needs

A. THE SITUATION (1-9)

1. Naomi's Matchmaking (1-4)
2. Ruth's Compliance (5-7)
3. The couple's encounter (8-9)
 - a. Boaz panics (8-9a)
 - b. Ruth proposes! (9b)

Over please >

B. THE SUPPORT (11-17)

1. He considers himself fortunate (10-11)
 - Because Ruth is respectful and righteous
2. He demonstrates integrity (12-13)
3. He protects her dignity (14)
4. He gives her grain (15)

C. THE SUMMARY

1. The Lesson: She was concerned about a need and he was committed to meeting that need
2. The Application:
 - a. For husbands: What does your wife need?
 - Your provision, your time, your ear, your devotion
 - b. For wives: What does your husband need?
 - Your attention, your attractiveness, your respect

III. **BE STIRRED** (3:16-4:10)

- This involves an appropriate passion

A. RUTH IS ANXIOUS (3:16-18)

1. Telling All (16-17)
 - About his deeds and thoughtfulness
2. Impatiently Waiting (18)

B. BOAZ IS ASSERTIVE (4:1-10)

1. Making arrangements (1-5)
2. Sealing the deal (6-8)
3. Announcing his intentions (9-10)

C. OUR APPLICATION

1. For the fire to flame brightly the embers must be stirred!
2. Are you willing to do all that it takes to keep your relationship red hot?
3. Be passionate not passive about your marriage.

CONCLUSION:

Remember that those qualities that brought you together will keep you together.

Remember your dating days and repeat those same attitudes and actions throughout your marriage.