**God’s Providence Interfaces with Human Decisions**

Whole Bible Series

Sermon 8: Ruth

McDonald Bible Methodist

Pastor Joey Ratcliff

March 1, 2020

**SERMON NOTES**

***Question: How does God work through the decisions of people in Ruth’s story to bring about His will?***

**Chapter 1: Naomi Moves to Moab and Then Back to Bethlehem**

* + Human Decision: Naomi returns, and Ruth is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to her
	+ God’s Providence: Moabitess Ruth becomes a part of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter 2: Ruth Gathers in Boaz’s Field**

* Human Decision: Boaz provides for the . Ruth gathers food.
* God’s Providence: Boaz and Ruth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter 3: Ruth “Proposes” to Boaz**

* Human Decision: Ruth takes a risk; Boaz her character.
* God’s Providence: Boaz and Ruth agree to marry… \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter 4: Naomi’s line redeemed / Boaz and Ruth Marry**

* Human Decision: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fulfills role of “kinsman redeemer”
* God’s Providence: King David’s great-grandparents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Principles of God’s Interaction with our Decisions**

1. God brings about events without \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ individuals’ decisions
2. God often uses His people’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ choices to accomplish His will
3. God works in alignment with people who actively \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with His will
4. God is working an even bigger plan than we can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Answers: faithful,** Israel, **poor,** meet, **sees,** almost, **Boaz,** marry, **forcing,** right, **cooperate,** see

**Questions for Small Groups or Individual Study**

Principle 1: God is able to accomplish His will while allowing us to make real decisions. Does this represent a high view of God’s sovereignty or a low view? Discuss.

Principle 2: God can overcome people’s wrong decisions, but His people making right decisions is a major way He works in the world. When is a time when God has used your right choice to accomplish His will?

Principle 3: Naomi saw God at work and instructed Ruth accordingly. What are some examples of how we could see God working, and actively cooperate with His will?

Principle 4: There is a bigger picture that only God can see. What was the bigger picture in the book of Ruth? What are some ultimate purposes that God is working in the world right now? How might your life affect those ultimate purposes?