

**GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION**

- Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- Believe Jesus is the Christ (John 3:16)
- Repent from sins (Luke 13:3)
- Confess faith in Jesus (Romans 10:9-10)
- Be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Live worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1)

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS**

**List:**

**New:** **Sandy Driver** (Bill’s sister) has been diagnosed with cancer. Remember the **Fox** and **Collins** family after the passing of Marjory Woolery.

**Our members:** Arlena Poynter, Jeff Howerton, Paul Atkisson, Rhonda Boyd

**Others:** Mamie Dart, Casey Sparrow, Hope Vinogradov, Jan Hogen, Barabara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Vina Krassow, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Gail Stein, Sandy Childress, Susie Burton, Lavon Speer, Jacob Profit, Valarie and Barry Boyd, Leroy Weatherholt, Tony Tyree, Wilma Lawson, Janett Brundige’s mother and stepfather, Diane Whitehead, Arlene Young

<b><u>WEEKLY READING</u></b>		<b><u>LEADERSHIP</u></b>		<b><u>SERVICES</u></b>
<b>Mon</b>	Numbers 8-11, Colossians 1	<b><u>ELDERS</u></b>	<b><u>DEACONS</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday</u></b>
<b>Tue</b>	Numbers 12-14, Colossians 2, Psalm 28	Garry Banks	Troy Antle	Bible Study: 9:45 AM
<b>Wed</b>	Numbers 15-18, Colossians 3, Psalm 113	David Collins	Richard Brundige	Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM
<b>Thu</b>	Numbers 19-21, Colossians 4	John Thompson	Matt Thompson	<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>
<b>Fri</b>	Numbers 22-25, Luke 1		Adam Litmer	Bible Study: 7:30 PM
		<b><u>EVANGELIST</u></b>	Bill Morelan	<b><u>1st Fri. of Month</u></b>
		Adam Litmer	Jim Parsons	Singing: 7:30 PM
			Pat Seabolt	<b><u>3rd Fri. of Month</u></b>
			Adam Daniels	Bible Study: 7:00 PM
			Jamie Powell	(Finished for the time being)

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Ruth: A Woman Who Made Right Choices**

*“To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exalt over me.”*  
Psalm 25:1-2

Who knows how many choices anyone’s life consists of? The number is enormous for each of us. Choices range from the most mundane to the most momentous and life altering. Choices also range from those requiring virtually no aforethought to those requiring a great deal of study and the weighing of alternatives, even to the point of experiencing much distress and agony when the choice is only between unpleasant outcomes. For a few people, however, choosing the right thing just seems to come naturally. Ruth was such a person.

Ruth was a Moabite woman. The Moabites descended from the union between Lot and one of his daughters following the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Although often enemies, there must also have been peaceful times between the two nations, because during a famine that occurred when the judges ruled the land, an Israelite man took his wife, Naomi, and their two sons to wait out the famine in the land of Moab. The man subsequently died leaving Naomi with the two sons, who married Moabite women, one of whom was Ruth. Near the end of the ten years they lived in Moab, the two sons died and Naomi determined to return to Israel, having heard that God was providing food again.

As Naomi began the journey home, she urged her two daughters-in-law to return to their Moabite families. It is obvious that Naomi cared very deeply for them as she desired the Lord to deal kindly with them and she hoped they would find rest. At first Ruth and Orpah said, *“No, we will return with you to your people.”* With some additional urging

Orpah left, but Ruth clung to Naomi. Once again, Naomi urged Ruth to go back to her own people.

It is at this point in the story that Ruth declares her choices, in one of the most beautiful passages one can find in the scriptures. She says, in chapter 1, verses 16-17, *“Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.”*

Ruth chose to remain with Naomi. Naomi had become her family and so she would not return to her own mother’s house. Naomi’s home would be her home, wherever that happened to be, even in a land that might not welcome her. Why was this the right choice? It was the right choice because she cared more for Naomi’s needs than her own. *“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.”* (Philippians 2:3)

Ruth also chose Naomi’s people over her own people. She decided she would not live as a Moabite in an Israelite land, but that she would become an Israelite. Such a decision was a forward-looking decision enabling her to leave her past and fully assimilate without regret. Turmoil and animosity likely would have prevailed between Ruth and those around her had she not chosen them to be her people.

Finally, Ruth chose Naomi’s God to be her God. She left idolatry to worship the one true God. Were those three choices the right ones? Listen to Boaz’s answer to Ruth’s question, *“Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?” But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”* (Ruth 2:10-12)

Never hesitate to choose to do what is right in the sight of God, for there is a reward waiting. The Elders

## Brief outlines for thought and study

### Psalm 10

- Unmet expectation causes doubt
- Physical prosperity of the wicked causes doubt
- The blasphemy of the wicked causes doubt
- Incorrect estimations of true prosperity causes doubt

**An eternal perspective cures all doubt!**

### What God has joined together

- Husband and wife (Matthew 19:6)
- Faith and obedience (Hebrews 5:8-9; James 2:14-26)
- Baptism and salvation (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21)
- Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:1:22-23)
- Labor and reward (Revelation 22:14)

### The determination of true devotion (Joshua 24:15)

Devotion to self—*“as for me”*

Devotion to family—*“and for my house”*

Devotion to God—*“we will serve the Lord”*

**Sermons:** The Parable of the Sower 2  
The Parable of the Weeds

**Reading:** (AM) Psalm 24  
(PM) Psalm 25

**The Blog:** This week’s blog posts will direct our attention to the psalms. May you find them useful in your study.