



## DAILY ENCOURAGEMENTS

Carstairs-Bancroft United Church

December 21, 2023



Photo: Our Daily Bread

# GOD IS MORE THAN ENOUGH

*The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed.*

Ruth 4:17

### READ Ruth 4:9-17

Ellen was on a tight budget, so she was glad to receive a Christmas bonus. That would have been enough, but when she deposited the money, she received another surprise. The teller said that as a Christmas present the bank had deposited her January mortgage payment into her checking account. Now she and Trey could pay other bills and bless someone else with a Christmas surprise!

God has a way of blessing us beyond what we expect. Naomi was bitter and broken by the death of her husband and sons (Ruth 1:20–21). Her desperate situation was rescued by Boaz, a relative who married her daughter-in-law Ruth and provided a home for her and Naomi (4:10).

That might have been all Naomi could hope for. But then God blessed Ruth and Boaz with a son. Now Naomi had a grandson to "renew [her] life and sustain [her] in [her] old age" (v. 15). That would have been enough. As the women of Bethlehem put it, "Naomi has a son!" (v. 17). Then little Obed grew—and became "the father of Jesse, the father of David" (v. 17). Naomi's family belonged to Israel's royal line, the most important dynasty in history! That would have been enough. David, however, became the ancestor of . . . Jesus.

If we believe in Christ, we're in a similar position to Naomi. We had nothing until He redeemed us. Now we're fully accepted by our Father, who blesses us to bless others. That's so much more than enough.

By **Mike Wittmer**

### PRAY & REFLECT

**Jesus, You're more than enough for me. Amen**

When has God blessed you beyond what you imagined? How has He shown you that He's more than enough?

### SCRIPTURE INSIGHT

The story of Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz takes place during the period of the judges (Ruth 1:1). Though we don't know which judge presided during the days of Ruth, the contrast between the events of the book of Judges and the story of Naomi and Ruth's redemption is striking. During a time when "everyone did as they saw fit" (Judges 21:25) and "did evil in the eyes of the Lord" (a phrase used seven times in Judges; see 2:11; 3:7,12; 4:1; 6:1; 10:6; 13:1), Boaz looked out for the good of another - a foreigner. In a setting of selfishness lies a story of compassion and grace. – By **J.R. Hudberg**

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