

A MOTHER IN ISRAEL

Mothers in Israel, arise! You can make a difference that no one else can.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Back in Bible days, a heroic woman was often referred to as a “Mother in Israel.” When we recall some ‘Mothers in Israel’ from the Bible, Rachel and Rebecca immediately come to mind. But what about Rahab?
- ❖ Rahab was a business owner in Jericho who operated in the personal services industry. We don’t read about her being a mother in Jericho. But we do read about her making a choice toward the God of Israel.
- ❖ Because Rahab believed in the God of Israel, she hid two Hebrew spies who came to check out Jericho. As a result of her saving the lives of those spies, Israel agreed to save her whole family.
- ❖ Resulting from that, her family became part of the nation of Israel. Rahab married Salmon, a man of the tribe of Judah, and soon became a Mother in Israel. She and Salmon had a baby boy, Boaz.
- ❖ As Boaz became a young man and then an adult, he came to understand the whole context of his mother’s life and the magnitude her choices that resulted in her becoming a Mother in Israel.
- ❖ Is it any wonder Boaz took a while getting married, especially when he could not immediately find a woman of his mother’s calibre?
- ❖ But then Boaz heard a rumour that turned out to be true: that his relative Naomi, who had left the region of Bethlehem years before, had come back home.
- ❖ Naomi and her family had left Israel during a time of famine and moved away to the land of Moab. But it was in Moab that more tragedy struck: Naomi’s husband died; her two sons died.
- ❖ Her sons had married Moabite women, and those daughters in law were now widows. One went back home to her family but the other, Ruth, refused to leave Naomi’s side. She had come to believe in Naomi’s God Jehovah, the God of Israel.
- ❖ And when Naomi counseled Ruth to just go back home, Ruth’s responded by saying, “Where you go, I’ll go. Where you stay, I’ll stay. Your people will be my people. And your God, my God” (Ruth 1:16-17).
- ❖ With that, Ruth put her entire past life behind and stepped into a completely uncertain future with Naomi as they set a course from Moab to Bethlehem.
- ❖ When Boaz heard that story, he knew he had found a woman with a heart like Rahab’s. And when Ruth showed up in his very own field to harvest grain, and Boaz saw her, it was game over.

KEY SCRIPTURE: Judges 5:7

- ❖ The only question was how to make it happen. And to make it happen, it took a mother.
- ❖ The mother, Naomi, called the shots and Boaz and Ruth were married. And not long after that, young Ruth became a Mother in Israel. “Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab. Boaz begot Obed by Ruth. Obed begot Jesse. And Jesse begot David the king” (Matthew 1:5-6). And from David the king, twenty-eight generations later, came Jesus the Christ.
- ❖ Mothers in Israel, you can be the cause of something that has never yet been, by doing something that has always been available to do: trusting God (which includes choosing God’s way of handling a situation you face) and being bold.
- ❖ We’ve discussed two Mothers in Israel thus far, but let’s meet another one who had a different kind of impact than Rahab and Ruth.
- ❖ Judges 5:7 describes the effect Deborah had on the people around her. Village life had ceased, but Deborah put her effort into changing all that.
- ❖ We don’t know exactly all the things she did, but we know Deborah arose. She did not accept the notion of being powerless; she did something. There is no record of Deborah ever having children. Yet she arose as a Mother in Israel.
- ❖ Women of Faith, does that sound like the type of person you want to be?
- ❖ Then, Mothers in Israel, listen to the voice of God within you. Hear and see and feel the thing God has called you to do. Sometimes you are the only one who can make the difference *you* can make in another person’s life.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. List and discuss attributes that made Rahab, Naomi, Ruth, and Deborah “Mothers in Israel.”
2. In your life, who has been a “Mother(s) in Israel” to you? Did they display any of the attributes you found to be in Naomi et al.? Which ones and to what extent did this impact your life?

PRAYER TIME

Lord, thank You for the “Mothers in Israel” surrounding me. Keep them and bless them!




Start-up: What is the most memorable gift you have received from your mother or a mother figure?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

 (Reminds me/Confirms)  (New idea)  (Think about)

 (Do this)  (Speaks to my heart)  (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE
WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: Foreign missionaries: anointing to preach the gospel, anointing to lead and empower national workers, family unity, personal protection.

Prayer Meetings: Monday and Wednesday @ 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89831915909>

Phone access: 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LIFE GROUP MEETINGS

In-person Life Group meetings have resumed!
Where: Prayer room
When: Every Wednesday following prayer service on the main floor
Contact: Sis. Anmarie Geddes

ONTARIO YOUTH CONVENTION

is fast approaching!

Where: Oshawa, Ontario

When: May 20-22, 2022

For more information on registration and accommodations, please visit ontarioyouth.com or contact Sis. Tope at tf@faithsanctuary.com.



FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Rebroadcast @ 3:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

MAY 8, 2022

Faith **SANCTUARY**

Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2022 ~ The 3 "R's" ~ 2022

Restore • Refresh • Renew

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

*"...Entreat me not to leave you,
Or to turn back from following
after you; For wherever you go, I
will go; And wherever you lodge,
I will lodge; Your people shall be
my people, And your God,
my God."
Ruth 1:16*

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