

East Side Church

Life Notes

Christmas Grace: Ruth Pastor Kerry B. Robinson

Matthew 1:5b & Ruth

Grace Marker #1: The grace of Christmas calls us to loyalty and obedience to God when we are in desperate times.

But Ruth said, "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." And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more. –Ruth 1:16-18 (ESV)

Grace Marker #2: The grace of Christmas requires us to leave behind what we know and walk into the new place God has prepared for us.

So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest. –Ruth 1:22 (ESV)

Grace Marker #3: The grace of Christmas prepares a protector and a redeemer in the Bethlehem of our life.

So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the Lord, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of redeemers." –Ruth 2:19b-20 (ESV)

Grace Marker #4: The grace of Christmas provides a restorer who nourishes our soul and gives hope for our future.

So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." –Ruth 4:13-15 (ESV)