

TURNING SETBACKS INTO COMEBACKS
The World's Greatest Comeback Stories

COMING BACK FROM PERSONAL LOSS

Ruth 1-4

◀ FOUR STAGES OF RUTH'S RECOVERY ▶

1. TEARS: _____ with our _____.

▶ Recognize our feelings of ABANDONMENT.

Ruth 1:3,5 Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died...both Mahlon and Kilion also died and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

▶ Recognize our feelings of ANXIETY.

Ruth 1:15-18 "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people...Go back with her." But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you...where you go, I will go"...When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

▶ Recognize our feelings of ANGER.

Ruth 1:20,21 Don't call me Naomi...Call me Mara because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty...The Lord has afflicted me, the Almighty has brought misfortune on me.

2. TOIL: _____ ourselves to _____.

▶ Let God show us new PURPOSE.

Ruth 2:2,3a Ruth said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain...So she went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters.

▶ Let God show us new PEOPLE.

Ruth 2:3b As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.

▶ Let God show us new PROVISION.

Ruth 2:12,17 May you be richly rewarded by the Lord...under whose wings you have come to take refuge...So Ruth threshed the barley she had gathered and it amounted to about an ephah (3/5 bushel). She carried it back to town and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered.

▶ Let God show us new POSSIBILITIES.

Ruth 2:20b That man is our close relative. He is one of our kinsman-redeemers.

3. TRUST: _____ an attitude of _____.

▶ Be open to the COUNSEL of family.

Ruth 3:5 "I will do whatever you say;" Ruth answered. So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do.

▶ Be open to the COMFORT of friends.

Ruth 3:11 Now...don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask.

▶ Be open to the CHOICES of the Father.

Ruth 3:12,13 It is true that I am near of kin, but there is a kinsman-redeemer nearer than I. Stay here for the night and in the morning if he wants to redeem, good, let him redeem. If he is not willing, as surely as the Lord lives, I will do it.

4. TRIUMPH: _____ new _____.

▶ Discover HEALING for our past.

Ruth 4:9,10 Boaz announced, "Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon...in order to maintain his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family.

▶ Discover HELP for our present.

Ruth 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her and the Lord enabled her to conceive. She gave birth to a son.

▶ Discover HOPE for our future.

Ruth 4:14,15,17 Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer...He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age...Then Naomi took the child in her lap...and they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Have I experienced a personal loss? How will I respond?

Isaiah 43:19

I am about to do something new. I have already begun! Do you see it?

VIDEO: Haven't Seen It Yet (Lyric) – Danny Gokey (Landon's Videos)

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