



# Ruth's Open Door - Part 1: Choosing God's Way

by John Himmelberger

## Intro

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Sometimes the doorway to destiny looks more like loss than opportunity. Ruth's journey began with grief, but it became a bold choice to follow a new God into a new land with an uncertain future. This teaching explores how faith and obedience, especially when the path is unclear, can position us for God's best. Ruth didn't just choose Naomi, she chose covenant, courage, and the God of Israel. What door is God asking you to walk through?

## My Intention and Assumptions

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I hope that your relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is strengthened through this teaching. My assumption is that you have read or are reading all 66 books of the Bible for context. This is meant to be 'salt' and make you thirsty. You're welcome.

## About the Author

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John Himmelberger is a teacher, pastor, and lifelong learner. With decades of experience walking with Jesus and leading others into transformational truth, John brings a grounded yet radical perspective rooted in Scripture, personal growth, and kingdom living.

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# **Ruth's Open Door – Part 1: Choosing Gods Way**

## **Introduction: Ruth's Open Door**

Have you ever faced an opportunity that didn't look like one at all?

Sometimes, open doors don't come with flashing lights or clear signs; they can look like hard choices, uncertainty, or even loss. Ruth's story is a perfect example.

When her world fell apart; losing her husband and facing an unclear future; Ruth had a choice. She could stay in the familiar comfort of Moab or step through a door that led to a foreign land, a new faith, and an uncertain future. What seemed like a hard and even risky decision turned out to be the beginning of something greater than she could have imagined: her place in the lineage of Jesus Christ.

Today, we'll look at Ruth's journey through this open door. It's a story of loyalty, faith, humility, and God's incredible ability to use our obedience in the ordinary to accomplish the extraordinary. What can we learn from her story? Let's find out.

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## **Ruth's Open Door**

### **1. The Door of Loyalty and Sacrifice**

- After the death of her husband, Ruth faced a pivotal decision: stay in Moab with her family and culture or follow her mother-in-law, Naomi, to a foreign land (Judah).

## Ruth's Open Door – Part 1: Choosing Gods Way

- Ruth chose the harder path, declaring:  
*“Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay.  
Your people will be my people, and your God my God.”*  
(Ruth 1:16, AMP)
- This decision reflects her loyalty to Naomi and her faith in the God of Israel, even though it meant stepping into uncertainty.

### Modern Parallel:

Choosing God's path often means stepping out of our comfort zones; whether that's leaving a toxic environment, taking a job that aligns with your values but seems risky, or standing by someone in their time of need. Like Ruth, obedience in these moments can lead to profound blessings.

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## 2. The Door of Humility and Hard Work

- In Bethlehem, Ruth didn't wait for provision to find her; she stepped into action by gleaning in the fields to provide for herself and Naomi.
- Her humility and hard work positioned her to meet Boaz, a man of influence and integrity, who would become her kinsman-redeemer.

### Modern Parallel:

## **Ruth's Open Door – Part 1: Choosing Gods Way**

Sometimes, God's open doors look like mundane tasks or difficult seasons that don't immediately feel like opportunities. Showing up, being faithful, and doing the work in front of us often positions us for greater things.

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### **3. The Door of Redemption**

- Through Boaz's kindness and Ruth's boldness, she walked through the door to redemption; not just for her immediate situation but for her lineage.
- Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David and a direct ancestor of Jesus Christ, securing her place in God's redemptive plan.

#### **Modern Parallel:**

God's plans for us are always bigger than we can imagine. When we step through the doors He opens, even if they seem small, He weaves them into His eternal purposes in ways we might never see in our lifetime.

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### **Key Lessons from Ruth's Open Door**

#### **1. Open Doors Often Look Ordinary or Difficult**

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- Ruth's open door wasn't flashy; it required leaving her home, embracing humility, and stepping into the unknown. Open doors may require sacrifice and faith.
  - **Reflection Question:** Have you ever faced an opportunity that didn't look like one at first? How did you handle it?
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## 2. Faithfulness Leads to Favor

- Ruth's faithfulness to Naomi and her willingness to work drew Boaz's attention and favor. Sometimes, walking through an open door means committing to faithfulness in small, everyday actions.
  - **Reflection Question:** Are you faithful in the field where God has placed you right now? How can you bring excellence to what you're doing today?
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## 3. God's Plan Is Bigger Than We Imagine

- Ruth's choice led to blessings she couldn't have foreseen; a new family, provision, and a role in God's eternal plan. Open doors often align us with God's purposes beyond what we can see.

## Ruth's Open Door – Part 1: Choosing Gods Way

- **Reflection Question:** How can trusting God's bigger picture help you take bold steps, even when you don't have all the answers?
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### Practical Applications and Encouragement

- **Be open to ordinary doors:** Look for God's hand in everyday opportunities, even the ones that feel challenging.
  - **Take faithful steps:** Like Ruth gleaning in the field, stay diligent in the work God has placed before you, knowing He often works through our faithfulness.
  - **Trust God's bigger plan:** Remember, God sees the end from the beginning. Your small steps of obedience today can have eternal significance.
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### Closing Thought

Ruth's story reminds us that God often works through the ordinary, the difficult, and the uncertain. Open doors may not always look like opportunities, but when we choose faith, humility, and obedience, God weaves them into something extraordinary.

## **Ruth's Open Door – Part 1: Choosing Gods Way**

What door might God be asking you to walk through today?  
Trust Him, take the step, and watch how He moves.