



*Walking with God:*

*A Study on the Book of*

*Ruth*

Day Three

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# Following God: A Study on Ruth

## Day Three

By Mary Kane

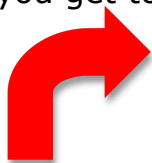
I'm so glad that you came back for another day of Bible study! The mission of this Bible study is to let the Word of God freely speak to your heart. I pray for you to follow God as He draws you closer to Him.

God has much to show us today through His Holy Word. As usual, you will need your Bible, your journal, a pencil and highlighter, and access to the Internet. Please start up your computer and take a moment to pray and ask God to guide you by His Holy Spirit as we study His Word together today.

1. Please start by reading through Chapter One of the book of Ruth. Put your initials in the blank when you finished reading Chapter One \_\_\_\_\_. Please notate in your journal anything new that God revealed to you through His Word concerning Chapter One.
2. Yesterday, I asked you to look for a word that could be the theme of Chapter One. If you are using the NKJV, the word is *return*. If you are using a different version, your Bible might say *to turn back*, *lead them back* or *take them back*. Despite the fact that *return* is translated to different words in English, they all are derived from the same Hebrew word *shuwb*.
  - a. If you found a different word for your theme word for Chapter One that is fine. You can follow the procedure below for your word.
3. Now we are going back to the Blue Letter Bible (BLB) website and do a little research on our theme word *return*. Please copy the link and place it in your browser or open BLB from your favorites if you saved it there yesterday.

<http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Rth&c=1&t=NKJV>

4. Once you get to the website, scroll down until you see Ruth 1:7.



K C L  
I V D

Rth 1:7

Therefore she went out from the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

K C L  
I V D

Rth 1:8

And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each to her mother's house. The LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

- a. Next, click on the blue box with a "C" in it on the left of the Ruth Chapter One pane.
- b. Now you should see a screen that looks like this:

English (KJV)	Strong's	Root Form (Hebrew)	Tense
Wherefore she went forth	H3318	יצא <i>yatsa'</i>	TENSE
out of the place	H4725	מקום <i>maqom</i>	
where she was, and her two	H8147	שנים <i>shenayim</i>	
daughters in law	H3618	כלה <i>kallah</i>	
with her; and they went	H3212	ילך <i>yalak</i>	TENSE
on the way	H1870	דרך <i>derek</i>	
to return	H7725	שוב <i>shuwb</i>	TENSE
unto the land	H776	ארץ <i>'erets</i>	
of Judah.	H3063	יהודה <i>Yehudah</i>	

- c. Look down on the lexicon chart and locate the phrase *to return* and click on the little speaker icon to hear the correct Hebrew pronunciation of *shuwb*.
- d. Now, to find the Hebrew meaning of the word *return*, please click on the little blue H7725. A very long line of Hebrew definitions will pop up. To gain a deeper understanding of what it means to *return*, thoughtfully and meditatively read through all the definitions.
  - i. Write down any new revelations about the word *return* in your journal. How is God speaking to you through this research? What is He trying to tell you about *returning*?

5. Next, we are going to do a verse by verse search of Chapter One to see how many times the word *shuwb* is actually used in this chapter. To get started, let's go to the place that *shuwb* is first used in this chapter. Please scroll up to Ruth 1:6 and click on the blue square with the "C" (concordance/lexicon button, C/L). Scan down the list of lexicons until you locate the word *shuwb*.

- a. Now, please go through all the other verses of Chapter One and note in your journal how many time *shuwb* is used. Also list the English phrases that are translated as *shuwb*. (It is helpful to do a word search like this because often translators will use different English words for the same Hebrew word.)

6. Due to the fact that *shuwb* is used over ten times, *returning* is obviously an important concept in the first chapter of Ruth. What is God calling Naomi to *return* to? Think geographically and spiritually. What is God calling Ruth to *turn from* and *turn to*?

- a. How about your own life? In your journal please write what God is calling you to *return to*, to *turn from* or to *turn to*.
7. In order to gain additional insight, let's examine a few other words in the original language from Chapter One.
- a. Please write verse 6 in your journal and underline the word *arose* (*prepared* in the NIV, *got ready* in the NLT, *started* in the RSV).
  - b. Next, go to Ruth 1:6 on BLB. You can get there by scrolling up to 1:6 or by typing *Ruth 1:6* in the *Word or Verse* search bar on the right of your screen under *BLB Searches*.
  - c. Now, click on the C/L button then click on the blue *H6965*. Again, a long list of definitions should display on your screen. Prayerfully read through the list of definitions and record anything that the Holy Spirit speaks to your heart.
  - d. Leave your computer on this screen as you answer the following questions:
    - i. Who do you think is *stirring up* Naomi to leave Moab? What is God *establishing* in her life at this time? What is God *confirming* to Naomi?
    - ii. Now apply all the above questions to yourself. What is God *stirring up* in you? What is He working to *establish* in your life right now? What is He *confirming* to you? Record your answers in your journal.
  - e. We are going to learn to use one other BLB feature to enhance our study time. Look back to your computer screen. Scroll down to where it says *Gesenius's Lexicon (Help)*. Click where it says *Click Here for the Rest of the Entry* in blue letters. A very long article of additional information concerning the word *quwm* should display.
  - f. Read or scan through this article, making note in your journal of anything that stands out to you.
  - g. Now let's go back and rewrite verse 6, leaving out the word *arose*, substituting in alternate words or concepts that you learned from your research about *quwm*. Below is my example:

"Because God wanted to *confirm* His power, grace and love for Naomi, He *stirred up* her heart that she might leave Moab and return to Bethlehem."

i. Record what you think God is saying to you through your research.

8. In closing, please read Ruth Chapter One and make any additional observations in your journal. Write your initials in the blank when you finish this task \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for persevering through your study time today. You are learning to walk with Him day by day. I trust that God has greatly blessed you for your efforts!

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