





# Strength for the Journey

## “Whispers in the Dark”

Ruth 2:19-3:1



Notes:

### Strength through Prayer:

Spend a few moments as a group in silent, personal prayer. Thank God that Ruth and Boaz show us that moral integrity is not only a possibility but also a preference.

You may want to begin your prayer with these words:

“Thank You, Father, for the power of Your Spirit. Thank You that we can be the kind of people You are looking for, people of moral integrity—women of character and men of true love who stay in convergence with the wonderful unfolding of Your plan. I commit my life and my family to You, in Jesus’ name.”

When you are finished with this time for silent, personal prayer, you may want to move into a time of group prayer, praying for one another.

### Closing Call to Action:

If you’re a woman, the challenge is that you would indeed embrace moral integrity in your life.

But I really want to talk to guys. We have Boaz as a model, a model of a man who knows how to truly love a woman. We don’t have a lot of models like that in our world today—certainly not in our movies, music, sitcoms, or even among our friends.

We noticed four qualities in Boaz’s life, and I want you to check your life for these qualities. When you’re around women, do you instinctively seek to protect them, to provide for them, to affirm them, and to honor them?

The reason why this list is so important is because we normally do just the opposite as we relate to women. We want them to provide protection for our ego through our conquering of them. We want them to provide joy and satisfaction for us. We want them to affirm us. A sexual conquest can be very affirming to our male ego; if a woman responds to us sexually, we feel so honored. But that’s all me-centered. That’s the sludge of sinful self-centeredness that Satan uses to take us down the drain and to destroy the health and power of a relationship between a man and a woman.

Are you a man who shows true love by living to protect, provide for, affirm, and honor the women in your life? When you do that, God will use you in great ways—not only today, but in the generations to come.

Ephesians 5:25 says: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church.” Jesus lives to protect us; He provides for us; He affirms us with His love; and He honors us by making us His children. So if you’re looking for a model besides Boaz, just go to Jesus. How does He love you? Pour that kind of love onto the women in your life.