

V. SHOW LOVE BY RESPONDING TO WHAT OTHERS SAY

18 *"When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her."* Ruth 1:18

19 *"So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;"* James 1:19

13 *"He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him"* Proverbs 18:13

7 *"...A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;"* Ecclesiastes 3:7b

Jesus Best Shows Love

"...But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."
Proverbs 18:24b

- Jesus offers you words of encouragement.
- Jesus sticks with you through tough times.
- Jesus adjusts to meet your needs.
- Jesus commits to you when you commit to Him.
- Jesus responds to what you say.

RUTH: BE STRONG IN LOVE

STRONG WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Ruth: Strong In Love

Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Did you know the Bible is full of stories of awesome, strong women? These are strong women who discovered supernatural strength found only in God.

These women were like the women described in Proverbs 31,

"Strength and honor are her clothing" (Proverbs 31:25a).

B. In the Strong Women Of The Bible Teaching Series we will unveil the story of six strong women. And how these formidable women wielded this power to overcome difficulties and transform lives.

Get ready to EMPOWER your life by applying principles and lessons from STRONG WOMAN OF THE BIBLE.

May 10	Mary: Strong In Obedience
May 17	Jochebed and Amran: Strong In Parenting
May 24	Rahab: Strong In Faith
May 31	Deborah: Strong In Leadership
TODAY	Ruth: Strong In Love
June 14	Esther: Strong In Courage

TEXT: Ruth 1:16-18

Ruth pledged unwavering love for God and Naomi (her mother-in-law) in the difficult role of both of them being widows.

16 *"But Ruth said: 'Entreat me not to leave you, or to turn back from following after you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.'" Ruth 1:16*

HOW TO BE STRONG IN LOVE

I. SHOW LOVE BY ENCOURAGING WORDS

¹⁶ "But Ruth said..." Ruth 1:16a

¹⁰ "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit."

I Peter 3:10

²⁴ "Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones."

Proverbs 16:24

¹¹ "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver."

Proverbs 25:11

¹³ "But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called 'Today,' so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

Hebrews 3:13

II. SHOW LOVE BY STICKING WITH PEOPLE THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

¹⁶ "...Entreat me not to leave you..." Ruth 1:16b

¹⁷ "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Proverbs 17:17

⁷ "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

I Corinthians 13:7

III. SHOW LOVE BY ADJUSTING TO OTHERS

¹⁶ "...For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge I will lodge; Your people shall be my people..."

Ruth 1:16c

⁴ "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also, for the interests of others."

Philippians 2:4

¹⁶ "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

I John 3:16

- Ruth adjusted physically to Naomi.
- Ruth adjusted relationally to Naomi.

IV. SHOW LOVE BY COMMITTING TO GOD

¹⁶ "...and your God, my God.

¹⁷ Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried.

The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me."

Ruth 1:16d-17

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

⁹ "for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,"

I Thessalonians 1:9

²⁴ "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.'"

Matthew 16:24