

## **“Devotion on Display” (2)**

**“Listen, daughter, and pay careful attention: Forget your people and your father’s house. Let the king be enthralled by your beauty; honor him, for he is your lord.”**

**(Psalm 45:10-11 NIV)**

### **Leaving & Cleaving**

**Ruth 1:1-18 – <sup>1</sup>“In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. <sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. <sup>6</sup>Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, ‘Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!’ Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. <sup>10</sup>And they said to her, ‘No, we will return with you to your people.’ <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, ‘Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.’ <sup>14</sup>Then they lifted up**

their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup>And she said, ‘See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.’ <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, ‘Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.’ <sup>18</sup>And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.”

### **Testing Resolve**

**John 6:15, 25-29** –<sup>15</sup>“Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself. <sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.’ <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, ‘What must we do, to be doing the works of God?’ <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’”

**John 6:60-64** – <sup>60</sup>“When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?’ <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, ‘Do you take offense at this? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But there are some of you who do not believe.’ (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)”

**John 6:66-70** – <sup>66</sup>“After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus said to the twelve, ‘Do you want to go away as well?’ <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, <sup>69</sup>and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.’ <sup>70</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.’”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)