

knowing God by name



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**To be loved and not known is superficial. To be known and not loved is our greatest fear. To be truly known and yet truly loved is our heart's deepest longing.**

*- Tim Keller*



*Fesed*

Steadfast Love



# Hesed



“loving mercy”

“loving-kindness”

“merciful goodness”

“kindness”

“mercy”

“goodness”

“lasting love”

“loyal love”

“unfailing love”

“steadfast love”



“ ”

**The never stopping, never giving up,  
always and forever love of God.**

*- The Jesus Storybook Bible*



### **Exodus 34:6-7 niv**

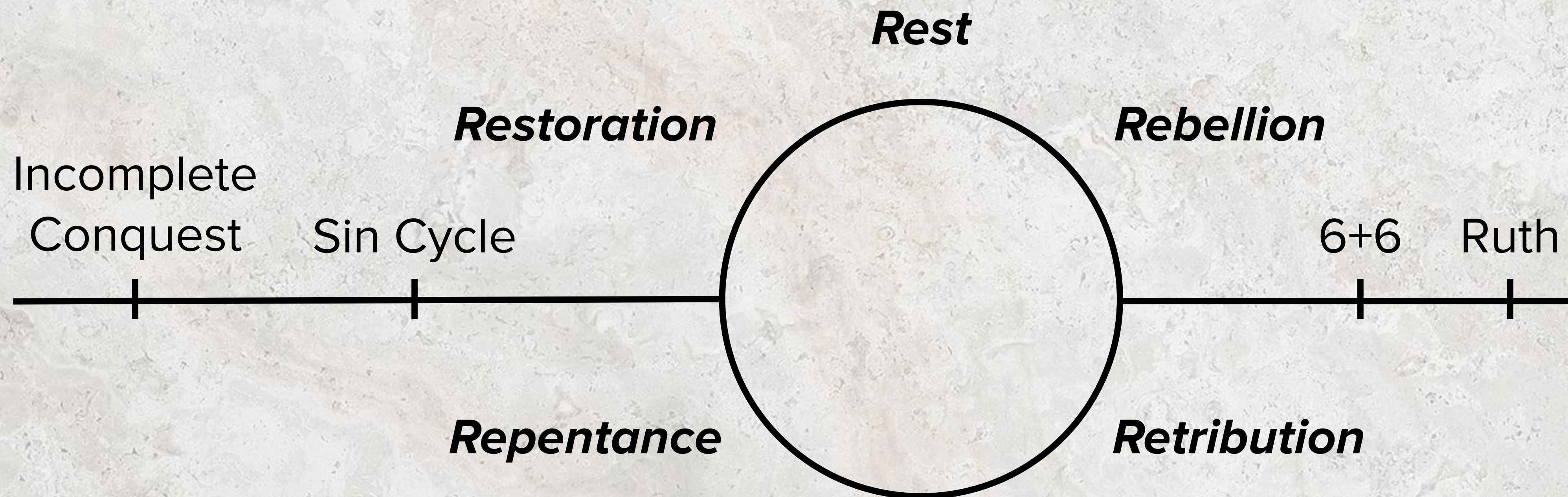
And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, ***abounding in love*** and faithfulness, <sup>7</sup> maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”



# RUTH

— a *hesed* story —







# Naomi's Own Personal Misery



## Ruth 1:1-2 *niv*

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. <sup>2</sup> The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.



# Naomi's Own Personal Misery

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## Ruth 1:3-5 *niv*

Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.



# A Bitter Blessing



## Ruth 1:8-9 *niv*

Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back, each of you, to your mother’s home. May the LORD show you ***hesed***, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. <sup>9</sup> May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.”



# Never Stopping, Never Giving Up...



## Ruth 1:15-17 *niv*

“Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.” <sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

<sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.”



# A Man of Standing



## Ruth 2:1-3 *niv*

Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, **a man of standing** from the clan of Elimelek, whose name was Boaz.  
<sup>2</sup> And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter."  
<sup>3</sup> So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.



# A Man of Standing



## Ruth 2:8-9 *niv*

So Boaz said to Ruth, “My daughter, listen to me. Don’t go and glean in another field and don’t go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. <sup>9</sup> Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.”



a “***foreigner***”



**Ruth 2:10 *niv***

At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground.  
She asked him, “Why have I found such favor in your  
eyes that you notice me-a foreigner?”



# The God of Israel

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## Ruth 2:11-12 *niv*

Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. <sup>12</sup> May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”



# The God of Israel



## Ruth 2:20 *niv*

“The LORD bless him!” Naomi said to her daughter-in-law.  
“He has not stopped showing his ***hesed*** to the living and the dead.” She added, “That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers.”



# A Bold Proposal



**Ruth 3:9 *niv***

“Who are you?” he asked.

“I am your servant Ruth,” she said. “Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family.”



# Hesed Received



## Ruth 3:10-11 *niv*

“The LORD bless you, my daughter,” he replied. “This ***hesed*** is greater than that which you showed earlier: You have not run after the younger men, whether rich or poor.  
<sup>11</sup> And now, my daughter, don’t be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a **woman of noble character**.”



## A Blessing for the “*Foreigner*”



### Ruth 4:11-12 *niv*

Then the elders and all the people at the gate said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. <sup>12</sup> Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.”



## Better than Seven Sons



### Ruth 4:13-15 *niv*

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. <sup>14</sup> The women said to Naomi: “Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a guardian redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! <sup>15</sup> He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth.”



# A Son for Naomi and Israel



## Ruth 4:16-17 *niv*

Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. <sup>17</sup> The women living there said, “Naomi has a son!” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.



# Hesed for the King



## 2 Samuel 7:15-16 *niv*

“But my *hesed* will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.  
<sup>16</sup> Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”



# A King Forever

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## Matthew 1 *niv*

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

...Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was **Ruth**, Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of **King David**...

and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of **Jesus who is called the Messiah**.



### **Matthew 27:46 *niv***

About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).



**Romans 8:38-39 *niv***

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



**Nothing will ever separate us from the  
never stopping, never giving up, always  
and forever love of God in Christ.**





