



The book of Ruth is only 4 chapters - but full of meaning and lessons for us.

In the middle is a lovely phrase – ‘As it turned out’.

While our plans may be put on hold and patterns of life significantly changed remember God is unchanging!

In Jeremiah 29:11 we read: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

We give thanks that his love endures forever.

## Song

The sun comes up  
It's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass  
And whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
When the evening comes

Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before  
Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name

You're rich in love  
And You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
And Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons  
For my heart to find

Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before  
Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name

When my strength is failing  
The end draws near  
And my time has come  
Still my soul will  
Sing Your praise unending

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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## Read Psalm 47

## Teaching Ruth 2

Would it have been more spiritual for Ruth to pray and wait for God to answer? Is there a place in our lives where we need to step out in faith and take action?

Do we greet others and respect them and show them that we truly care, even when we potentially “don't have to”?

What might our version be of the companionship, refreshment and protection offered to Ruth by Boaz?

## Song

As the deer pants for the water  
So my soul longs after You  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You

You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You

I want You more than gold or silver  
Only You can satisfy  
You alone are the real joy giver  
And the apple of my eye

You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You

Martin Nystrom

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## Prayers

Drawn by the cords of kindness  
I bind myself today  
To be tied and tethered to the tender care  
Of the one who declares me free  
**PAUSE to thank God**

To be fastened to you is freedom God  
To be anchored is emancipation  
Held hard to a heart that hammers for me  
Hemmed in by the pulse of your passion  
**PAUSE to recognise that we are loved**

This is the recipe  
For authentic liberty  
To relinquish my rights  
And find intimacy  
By choice I lay down  
My licence to choose  
Resolving to use  
Each instrument  
Of privilege and power  
To take pleasure  
In the preference of others  
**PAUSE to ask for what you need today**

Through the bars of our cages  
We see you God:  
An eagle in flight  
Defining freedom  
The ground beneath our feet is groaning  
Crying out for liberation  
Yet louder still we hear your voice  
Singing out the names  
Of slaves unchained  
**PAUSE to pray for those in need**

Drawn by the cords of kindness  
I bind myself today  
To be tied and tethered to the tender care  
Of the one who declares me free  
**PAUSE to allow the Holy Spirit to free your heart and mind**

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## Psalm 47 redux

May my joy in you never be at the expense of others.  
May my neighbours' well-being be to me as my own.  
May your sovereignty be known not by violence,  
but in peace secured by justice,  
hope undimmed by suffering.

Examine my heart,  
and remove all that prevents my compassion:  
arrogance, fear, greed.

Enlighten my understanding,  
and give me all that makes for a discerning mind:  
wisdom, patience, kindness.

Enliven my imagination,  
and inspire the gifts that bless:  
generosity, courage, creativity.

Even as you know us,  
make yourself known through us.

## Confession - use either one of these

Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us  
from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Lord our God,  
in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Communion

This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to  
remember me.

This cup is the new promise made with my blood.  
Every time you drink from it, do it to remember me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup,  
you tell about the Lord's death until he comes



## Song

Meekness and majesty,  
Manhood and Deity,  
In perfect harmony,  
The Man who is God.  
Lord of eternity  
Dwells in humanity,  
Kneels in humility  
And washes our feet.

O what a mystery,  
Meekness and majesty.  
Bow down and worship  
For this is your God,  
This is your God.

Father's pure radiance,  
Perfect in innocence,  
Yet learns obedience  
To death on a cross.  
Suffering to give us life,

Conquering through sacrifice,  
And as they crucify  
Prays: 'Father forgive.'

Wisdom unsearchable,  
God the invisible,  
Love indestructible  
In frailty appears.  
Lord of infinity,  
Stooping so tenderly,  
Lifts our humanity  
To the heights of His throne.

Graham Kendrick  
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Ben Trigg

The blessings  
Of the highest sky be yours  
In fiercest storm  
In deepest dark

The flare and the flicker  
Of the goodness of God  
Highlight your horizon  
His burnished breadcrumb-trail  
Of beauty  
Shine to show  
Your way home

The sighs of the spirit  
Soar in you  
A rousing shout  
A rising song  
The sweet delight  
Of reassuring light  
To flood and fill your soul  
May peace  
Be yours