



“How Do I Love Thee?”

RUTH 1:14-18

# The Path of Love

“There are prodigal yearnings within each of us. We want to find our own way. Even though we get hopelessly lost, there is something in us that prefers aimless wandering to childlike imitation and obedience.”

# The Path of Love

“The cross of Christ is  
God’s pursuit of  
wayward children.”

# Two Ladies; One Road

Orpah **turned back**

Ruth **clung to** Naomi

*Genesis 2:24; Deuteronomy 10:20*

# Choose to Cling

Not fear or insecurity;  
Conscious, deliberate choice  
not to abandon = “**hesed,**”  
**loyal love.** – Resisted  
“Return home” 4x

# “Crazy Love”

Ruth's committed, loyal  
love isn't as much about  
Naomi, as it is about  
Naomi's **GOD**!



# We Love Because HE...

*“May the LORD do to me!”*

*Personal expression of belief.*

*God's Love Transformed*

*Ruth's Love.*

# 1 John 4:19

The nature of true love is that it  
is **undeserved**.

Naomi did not deserve Ruth's  
love.

Naomi was probably difficult to love!



# 1 John 4:10

“Persevering love is most relevant in difficulties, and we are, in fact, very difficult people for God to deal with.”

How quickly we forget!!!!

# “Free Love”

Ruth loves Naomi bec  
God loved Ruth!  
She is free to love!

***1 John 4:10-11***



# “How do I love thee?”

**1 John 4:2, “God is love.”**

- Excellence of God's character
  - No expectation of benefits

# “Crazy Love”

Ruth sacrificed all hope of security to pursue God's “road.”

How “crazy” is your love for God and others?

# Greatest is Love

Self-love is NOT the highest:

- Love of God
- Love for God
- Love for others

# Count the Ways

1. What do you cling to?
2. How deep is your love?
3. Jump in the Sea of Love!