

THE PATHWAY TO VISION – *Pro 29:18*

(Moerewa CF – 25/10/98 EKB)

This teaching follows No 187 because our personal vision and ministry fits into God's overall plan.

Ruth chapter 1: is centred around **Ruth's choice to follow Naomi** and to give her life to care for her mother-in-law.

Ruth chapter 2: describes how **Ruth goes out to glean grain** in the fields after the reapers, and comes under the attention and favour of the farmer, Boaz, who is a near relative, *Ru 3:9*.

Ruth chapter 3:3,4: contains Naomi's instructions to Ruth on **how to find God's vision, provision, and calling for her life**. But for one other person, *Ru 3:12,13*, Boaz had the right of redemption for Naomi and Ruth, to re-establish them in the inheritance Naomi and family had lost when they went over to Moab in time of famine, *Ru 1:1-6*.

Naomi said to Ruth (*Ru 3:3,4*)

1. **“Wash yourself”** – *Ru 3:3*. The first step to receive the vision of God for our own life is to **be cleansed by the Blood of Jesus from all our sins and guilt**, as we repent, turn to God in faith, and are baptised into Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. *Ac 2:38, 1Jn 1:7, 1Jn 1:9, Rev 1:5, 1Cor 15:3*.
2. **“Anoint yourself”** *Ru 3:3*. In our conversion the Holy Spirit comes and dwells within us and makes us born again, *Jn 3:3,5, Jn 14:17*. As well as the Holy Spirit within, we also need to receive the Holy Spirit's anointing power coming upon us, *Ac 1:8, Ac 8:16,17, Ac 2:39, Lk 11:13*. This anointing is the life of God upon us, and in us, and teaches us God's plans and purposes, *Jn 14:26, Jn 16:13*.
3. **“Put on your best garment”**. *Ru 3:3*. Our best garment is the nature of Christ, *Gal 3:27, Rom 13:12,14*, or the fruit of the Spirit, *Gal 5:22,23*. We are to put off the unclean garments of sin and sinful habits and put on Christ, *Eph 4:22-32*. The old sinful nature was put to death with Christ at the Cross and we have been set free, *Rom 6:6,11*, so we are to refuse sinful habits and cut them off, *Rom 6:12*. Now Christ is our life, *Gal 2:20, Col 3:4*. Be specific in naming and describing various sinful bondages that need to be cast off, *Jn 8:31-36*.
4. **“Go down to the threshing floor,”** *Ru 3:3*. The “threshing floor” is the local church fellowship of believers where we are matured and separated from the chaff of the old life. As we worship, fellowship, are discipled by others, and get busy exercising our gifts to edify the saints, *1Pet 4:10, Rom 12:5-8, 1Cor 15:58, Is 41:15f*, the Lord comes to us and shows us His plans. We have to be busy in the Lord's work in the church, and in witnessing to the unsaved, if we are to hear His voice, revealing His plans and purposes for us. Passive pew-sitters are passed by and never progress.
5. **“Lie down at His feet,”** *Ru 3:4*. In the midst of keeping actively involved in serving God we need to have times each day of sitting at His feet and listening to His Word. *Lk 10:39, Is 55:3,6*. We do this in prayer and meditating in His Word, *Ps 1:1-3, Pro 4:20-22*.

6. **Then “He will tell us what to do,”** *Ru 3:4*. He will give us His instructions and revelations for our ministry of serving Him. *Jer 29:11, Eph 1:17-19, Col 1:9-11, Jer 33:3, Jn 14:26, 1Jn 2:27*.

Write down what He says to you, *Hab 2:2*.

Work at it. “Run” with the vision. Get busy, *Hab 2:2*.

Wait for it. It will surely come to pass. Keep pressing in, *Hab 2:3*. Never, never, never give up!

In this way, you will be a minister of God, *2Cor 3:6*, to bring His vision to pass. *Num 14:21, Hab 2:14, Is 11:9, Rev 11:15*.