

River Valley Notes

IT'S ONLY ROCK 'N' ROLL

Part #5: Digging In

July 1, 2007

"It takes a long time to grow an old friend." --- David Grothe

Digging In: The essential ingredient of long-haul relationships is plain old _____.

Prov. 27:10

Never abandon a friend—either yours or your father's. Then in your time of need, you won't have to ask your relatives for assistance. (NLT)

Prov. 20:6

Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is really faithful? (NLT)

This isn't a love story where anyone gets swept off their feet; this is a love story where people dig in and stand firmly on their feet with fierce, beautiful, faithful commitment toward one another.

A Portrait of Uncommon Love:

1. Faithful love is not dependent upon the right _____ or environment.

Ruth 1:1

In the days when the judges ruled in Israel... (NLT)

2. This sort of love doesn't need a "_____."

Ruth 1:16-18

But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. I will go wherever you go and live wherever you live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. I will die where you die and will be buried there. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" So when Naomi saw that Ruth had made up her mind to go with her, she stopped urging her. (NLT)

3. Pride leads to _____; _____ paves the way to enduring relationships.

4. I can choose what's _____ to me or I can choose _____.

Part #5: Digging In

...continued

Ruth 3:7-9

After Boaz had finished his meal and was in good spirits, he lay down beside the heap of grain and went to sleep. Then Ruth came quietly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. Around midnight, Boaz suddenly woke up and turned over. He was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet! "Who are you?" he demanded. "I am your servant Ruth," she replied. "Spread the corner of your covering over me, for you are my family redeemer." (NLT)

5. Being _____ all the time leaves a trail of "x's" in my life; _____ & compassion builds rich, long-haul friendships.

Ruth 4:9-10

Then Boaz said to the leaders and to the crowd standing around, "You are witnesses that today I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion, and Mahlon. And with the land I have acquired Ruth, the Moabite widow of Mahlon, to be my wife. This way she can have a son to carry on the family name of her dead husband and to inherit the family property here in his hometown. You are all witnesses today." (NLT)

6. The relational life we dream of will require personal _____.

Ruth 4:13-15

So Boaz married Ruth and... the LORD enabled her to become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son. And the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the LORD who has given you a family redeemer today! May he be famous in Israel. May this child restore your youth and care for you in your old age. For he is the son of your daughter-in-law who loves you so much and who has been better to you than seven sons!" (NLT)

Ruth 4:16-17

Naomi took care of the baby and cared for him as if he were her own. The neighbor women said, "Now at last Naomi has a son again!" And they named him Obed. He became the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David. (NLT)

When it comes to relationships, what does it mean to _____?