

# Wednesday thoughts



**Loyalty** is a great human characteristic that is so positively demonstrated just now in our current life situations by thousands who have stayed working at their numerous posts, despite the risks they face themselves.

We feel that one of the best examples of loyalty in the Bible is in Ruth 1:1-18 (NRSV) that tells of Ruth's loyalty to her mother-in-law Naomi.

Their story could well be one of today – there is a famine where they live so a man called Elimelech decides to take his wife Naomi and their two young sons to another country called Moab where there is no drought.

Not long after they arrive Elimelech dies leaving Naomi a widow. The boys grow and both marry Moabite girls – Opah and Ruth. Then more tragedy strikes as the boys die thus making Opah and Ruth young widows. Naomi is obviously distraught and decides to go back to her homeland – this is where Ruth's loyalty comes into play – despite Naomi's many protests Ruth insists on travelling back with her which will result in Ruth now being a stranger in a foreign land – this story, however, does have a happy ending – you can read about it next Wednesday

Blessings everyone