



Full.

Leanna Bolden
Eternally Speaking Now

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*"I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance,
and My people shall be satisfied with My goodness," says the LORD.
Jeremiah 31:14*

Something special came as a result of teaching through the book of Ruth at a Women's Bible Study a couple months ago. It was so powerful that I documented it in my journal when it happened. Initially, I thought this occurrence was private, but as time passed, the Holy Spirit prompted me to share it with a **friend**. Then another **friend**. Then **another**, and then one **more**. At that point, it was apparent I was to share it with **all of you** in this month's blog.

Following is what transpired, as chronicled in my journal last September.

Right in the middle of teaching a Bible study segment, when I came across the words, "threshing floor" in Ruth Chapter 3, I was hit so mightily by the Holy Spirit, that I suddenly stood still, frozen.

Within a split second, a series of things had simultaneously hit me:

- As the words 'threshing floor' fell out of my mouth, they turned back around and penetrated my soul, bypassing human understanding, literally leaving me spiritually stunned.
- Various people in the Bible who experienced God at a threshing floor flashed before my mind: David, Gideon, Joseph, Uzzah, Ruth...*and I melted*. I felt like I was linked together with each person all at once-- not with my brain or intellectual knowledge, but with my spirit and heart, deep within.
- All this left me longing to leave the room and run away to be alone with Jesus. It was an unexpected yearning I couldn't grasp. *Yet*.

Well, I had to move on with the teaching at hand, so I told the women that there are great riches to be found in a Bible study on the words 'threshing floor.' I encouraged them to do a Scripture search on their own and made a mental note to do so myself.

A few nights later, I got up for my middle-of-the-night prayer time in my 'WARsh Room.' (*Do you have a WARsh Room yet? [Read about it here](#) or [Listen to the podcast here.](#)*) I happened to be dealing with some strong emotions and difficult situations, so my prayers were especially raw and needy. At some point, my spirit sensed the Lord say, "**Lay down on My threshing floor.**"

Immediately identifying with the intimacy of this invitation, I began to cry, took a towel, and laid it on the floor. I crawled down and curled up 'at the feet of Jesus,' as Ruth did with Boaz. I cannot tell you how precious, personal, and amazing this was. And it was *so real*.

Would you like to know what kept pouring out of my mouth as I laid there with my Savior on our threshing floor that night? "**Take me under Your wing, Jesus. I find refuge under the shadow of Your wing.**" It was a merging of the two times this is spoken in Ruth (at a threshing floor), with the same phrase repeated in Psalm 91.

***"...and you shall go in, uncover his feet, and lie down;
and he will tell you what you should do." Ruth 3:4***

***...he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain;
and she came softly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. Ruth 3:7***

***And he said, "Who are you?" So she answered,
"I am Ruth, your maidservant.
Take your maidservant under your wing,
for you are a close relative." Ruth 3:9***

*He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
He (God) shall cover you with His feathers,
and under His wings you shall take refuge... Psalm 91:1,4*

As I reclined there on a lowly bath towel that night, I continued to pray, as if to be Ruth herself, recognizing my position of **desperation** and **dependence**.

At some point, I identified with Ruth so intensely,
it's as if time stopped,
and I was transported back in history,
literally living her reality as a Moabitess who needed
a Redeemer, a Provider, a Protector, a Defender...
as one who had no hope but HIM...
and as one who was eventually grafted in to a spiritually royal family,
to be used of the Lord through a string of events
orchestrated by God to bring Christ to the world.

This was Ruth's story.
Somehow it became mine.
Now it can be yours,
for Ruth's reality is **each of ours** on God's threshing floor.

CHALLENGE

Bowing before the Lord has long been a familiar position for me, but it's somehow maximized now, through the Lord's personal prompting to do so with a threshing floor mindset.

Bride of Christ,
Jesus is calling all of us,
wooing each of us,
unto His threshing floor.

What exactly does that mean? I believe the key is found in embracing the biblical significance of threshing and winnowing.

The Hebrew word for threshing floor is goren, and here are its definitions:

To smooth
Made even
An open area
Barn floor
Corn floor
Void space

The threshing floor is where threshing and winnowing take place.
This begs the question, "What does it mean to thresh and winnow?"

The Hebrew word for thresh is *duwsh*, which is defined as:

To trample
To break, tear
To tread down

The Hebrew word for winnow is *zarah*, which means:

To toss about
To diffuse
Cast away, compass, disperse, fan, scatter away, spread, strew

On a physical level, the threshing floor is where, after having been reaped, the harvested grain or corn is taken. It is then threshed (crushed) by a heavy sledge or grinding wheel, which loosens the grain from its stalk. Once ground, the milled mixture is winnowed (tossed in the air), where the wind separates the edible grains from the husk or chaff.

Are you capturing this powerful illustration and its application?

The threshing floor exemplifies intimate **worship**.

It's a place of **surrender, separation, and sanctification**.

It's both a condition of our heart and a work of the Lord,

where our **obedience to come undone** before Him

merges with **His purifying presence**,

releasing us to be **nourished** and **strengthened**,

that we may in turn be used of Him to **feed** and **empower others**.

One of the **friends** with whom I shared this experience summarized it perfectly:

***"...The threshing floor is the need to remove the world from us.
It's the process of dying to self and being transformed into His likeness.
There is suffering in the process of the crushing."***

She concluded by acknowledging the separation of our new life in Christ (wheat) from our old nature (chaff). ***"Death is swallowed up, and we now embody His Life."*** Amen.

Ruth's very name means **"friend, friendly."**

What she did was obedient, intentional, and selfless,
and our calling is nothing less.

***"You are My friends if you do whatever I (Jesus) command you."
John 15:14***

Spending time with Jesus at the threshing floor has become a regular part of my time alone with Him. The way the Lord has ministered to me as I've taken this posture is phenomenal. Will you do the same?

Friend, if you're hesitating to approach the threshing floor because **trampling, breaking, and crushing** don't sound appealing, please keep in mind what is actually taking place:

You bring your messy, mixed up emotions to Him,
and He **separates** lies from truth,
bringing comfort and clarity.

You bring your impossible situations to Him,
and the wind of His Spirit **fans away** all confusion,
revealing unimagined solutions.

You bring your strongholds to Him,
and He **tramples, tears, and treads** them down,
leaving you with freedom, courage, and fresh revelation.

You bring your fear, bitterness, anger, sorrow, insecurity and pain to Him,
and He **casts it all away, tossing it out as useless chaff**,
replacing it with purity of mind and heart.

As if that's not enough,
would you like to know what happened
as Ruth left Boaz's threshing floor?

She went away full.

*Also he (Boaz) said, "Bring the shawl that is on you and hold it."
And when she (Ruth) held it, he measured six ephahs of barley,
and laid it on her. Then she went into the city.
When she came to her mother-in-law,
she (Naomi) said, "Is that you, my daughter?"
Then she told her all that the man had done for her.
And she said, "These six ephahs of barley he gave me; for he said to me,
'Do not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'"*
Ruth 3:15-17

To say that Ruth went away **full** is an understatement.

Not only was she abundantly endowed with grain that provided for her and Naomi in the present, but her 'seed' upon marriage with Boaz would eventually lead to the birth of Christ in the future.

Yes, Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of the world--
the one **born on the floor of a humble barn** in Bethlehem,
is a direct descendant of Ruth and Boaz.

*What if Ruth had never gone to the threshing floor?
Let us not miss our opportunity, either.*

God's threshing floor is humble, simple, and approachable, like a **barn floor or corn floor**. His threshing floor is **smooth**. It's **even**, stable, and secure. Jesus is our **safe place**, an **open area** where we can be honest, fearlessly admitting our weakness and need. It's where our **'void spaces'** are **made full** with His abundance. He then sends us out with **more than enough to share with friends**. *He will not let us leave empty-handed.*

Wonder**full**.
Beautif**ull**.
Bountif**ull**.
Full.

Scroll down for bonus links that will add power to your threshing floor experiences.

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The Prayer that Creates Nothing

Pray this, and you'll create *nothing*. Yup, couple **this prayer** with your threshing floor experiences, and **all that chaff will blow away forever**. Don't take my word for it-- take God's.

Become a Threshing Sledge & Move Mountains!

Did you know you can **become a threshing sledge**? For real. Read about it **here**. Be radically transformed into an unstoppable force, as you literally move mountains.

Threshing Floor Verses

*For extended research, check out these **'threshing floor' verses**. Feel free to do an additional search on the words 'thresh' and 'winnow.'* So powerful & insightful.

The Serpent & The Light Blog

*Did you catch the September blog? Another angle of Ruth's story is woven through it as well. **Read The Serpent & The Light blog here**, or **listen to it here**.*

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