

Ruth 1: 1-14: Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah, went to dwell in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech, the name of his wife was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion— Ephrathites of Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to the country of Moab and remained there. Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. Now they took wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth. And they dwelt there about ten years. Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband. ....

2º She said to them, Do not call me Naomi (sweetness); call me Mara (bitter), for the Almishty has caused me areat arief and bitterness. amp

#### Ten Years, Naomi Subjected to Life in Moab. (Circumstances)

#### She Felt ...

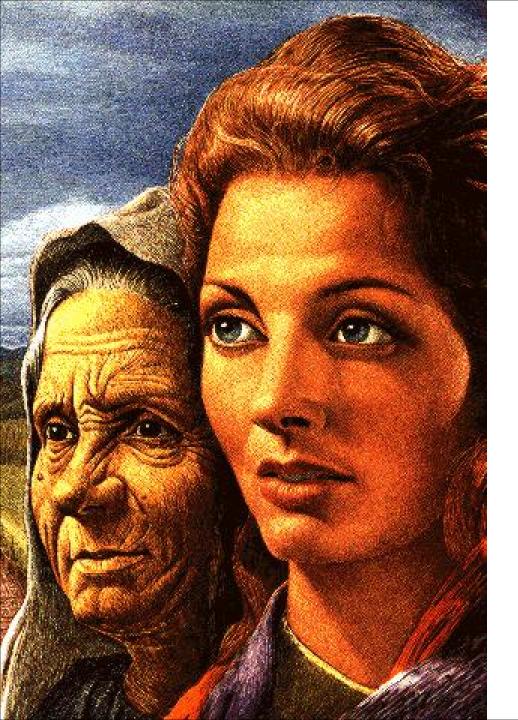
- Alone Husband and Sons Dead
- Abandoned Daughter-in-Law Left
- Altered Name Change Proved It
  - ONaomi= "to be good, sweet, and pleasant."
  - oMara= "bitter."

#### She Didn't See...

- Attention God was Watching
- Active And Waiting
- Attending Until She Turned to Him



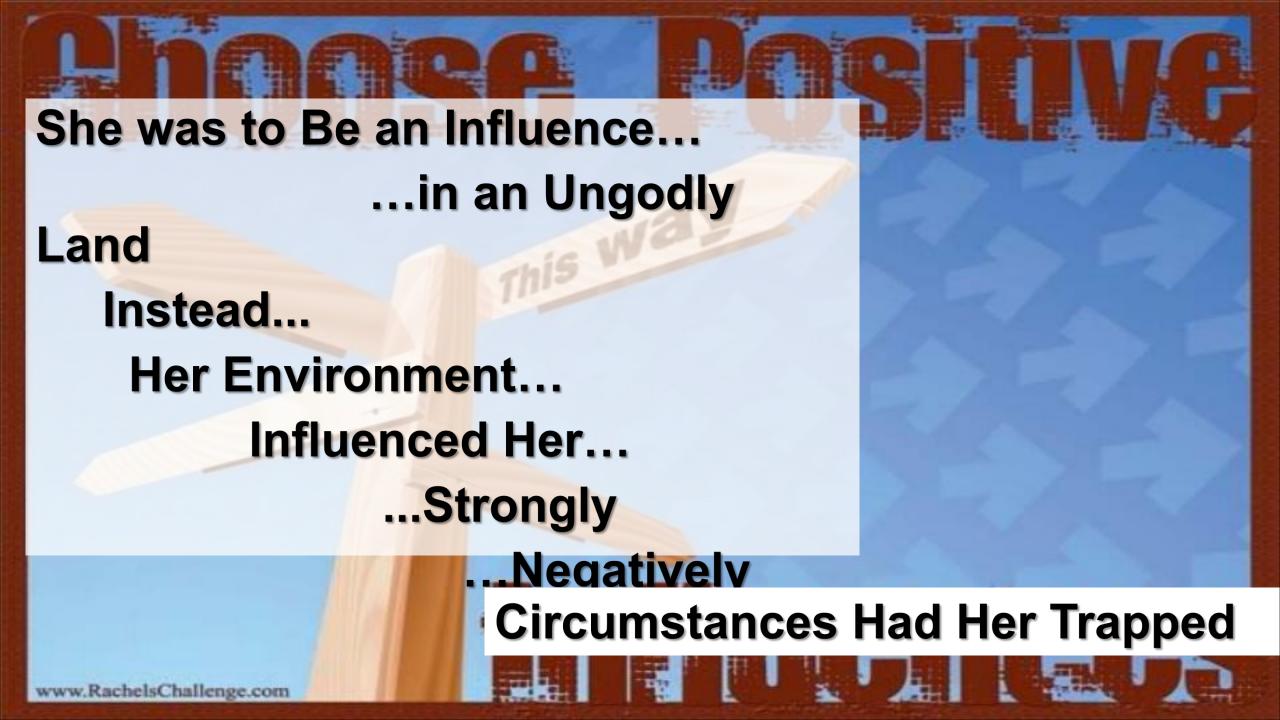
- Peter Walked on the Water Until...
   ...He Got His Eyes Off Jesus/ onto Circumstances.
   ...He Sank
- Disciples with Jesus in Garden Until...
   ...They Got Eyes on Circumstances..
   ..They Ran
- Circumstances Kept All but One Disciple from the Cross. ...They Stayed Away
- Circumstances Kept Them Behind Locked Doors..
   ...They Hid
- Circumstances Had Taken It's Toll on Naomi...
   ...Call Me Mara

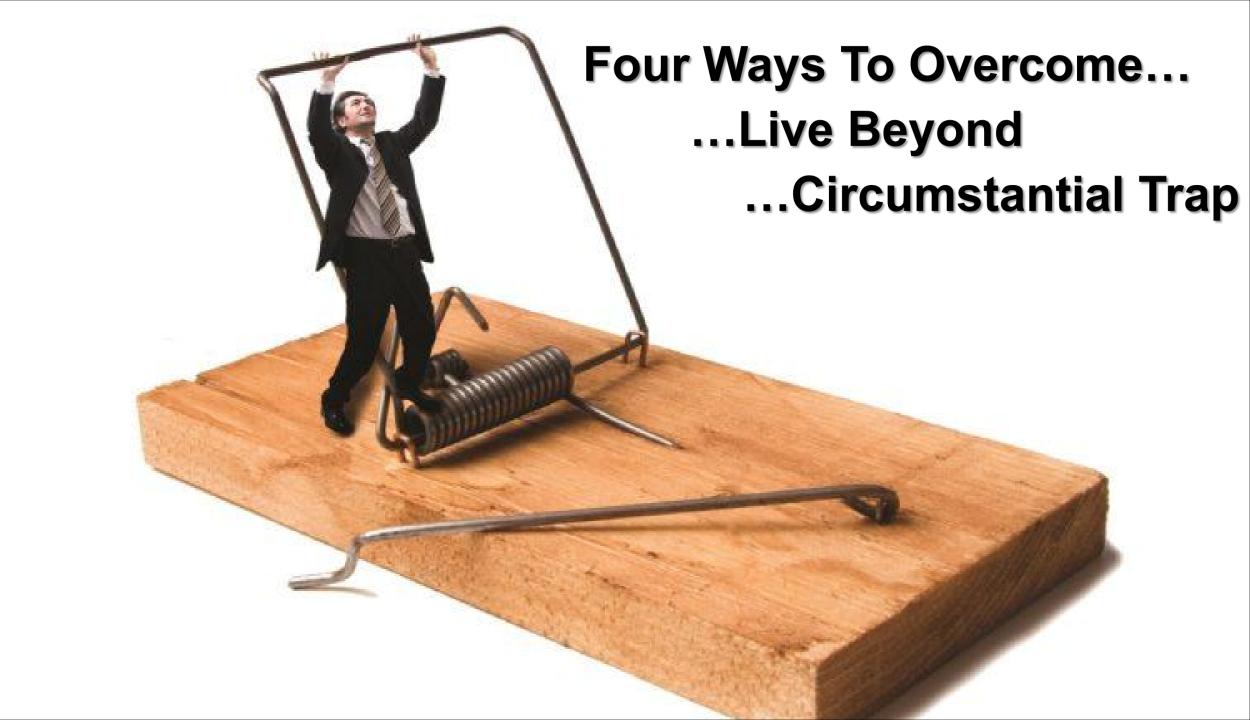


#### From Naomi to Mara

Names Very Important to Hebrew ...Represents

- Picture of Self (Identity)
- ○Potential (Path)
- Prophet of Future (Destiny)





### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Determine Your Identity ances

- I Am Not What I Am Living Through...

  ...Nor Am I What I've Already Been Through.
- **What Does Your Father Call You?** 
  - ol Am Blessed and Highly Favored. -Luke 1: 28
  - We are the Head and Not the Tail -Deut 28:13
  - oBlessed Coming in and Going Out -Deut 28:6
  - ONo Weapon Formed against Me shall Prosper -lsa 54:17

#### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Distort Your View of God

What Have You Been Through That Left You With A...
...Distorted View Of Your Heavenly Father?
"Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me" (20).

- She is Blaming God for All Her Misfortunes.
- Do Not Allow the Enemy to Distort Vision of God
- Her Family Took Matters in Their Own Hands
- This was NOT God's Doing but Bad Decisions!



Potential



Performance

### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Devalue Your Potential (Path)

Potential in Naomi is Revealed in Her Ability to Walk thru Difficulty of Moab/ Come Out w- Ruth by Her Side, Not Orpah

- ○Orpah's Name = "stiff neck"
- ○Ruth's Name = "beautiful"

Potential

Performance

### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Devalue Your Potential (Path)

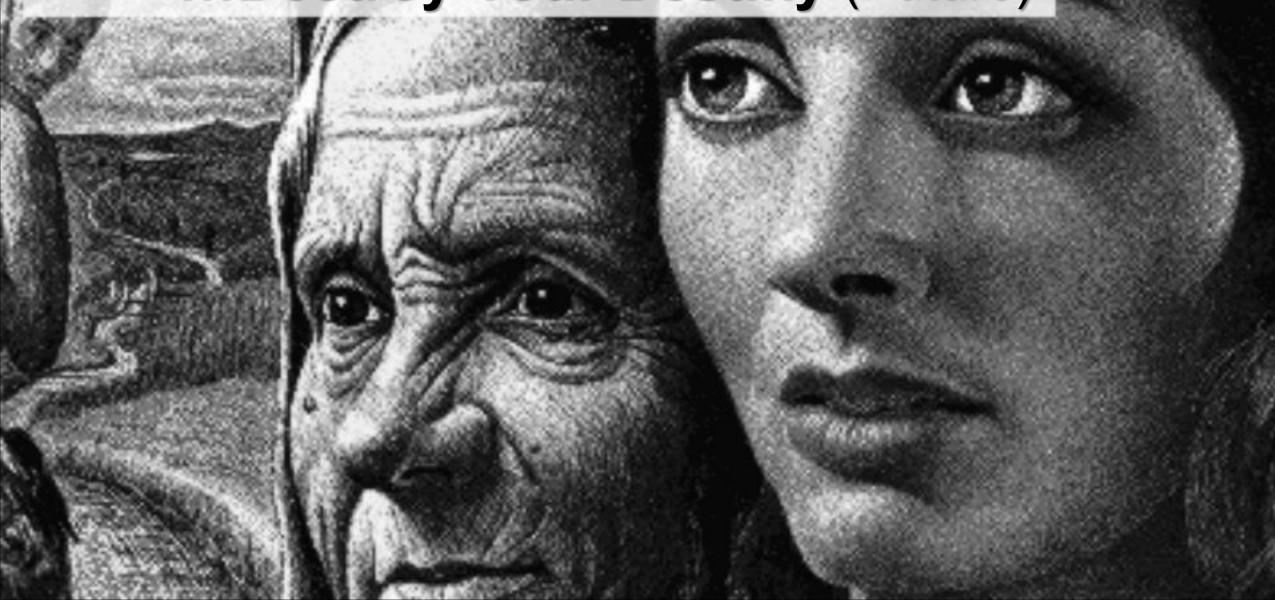
Potential in Naomi is Revealed in Her Ability to Walk thru Difficulty of Moab/ Come Out w- Ruth by Her Side, Not Orpah

- ○Orpah's Name = "stiff neck"
- ○Ruth's Name = "beautiful"
- You Can't Always Help Finding Yourself In Moab, But ...
   ...You Can Determine What You Walk Out With
- You Can Walk Out W- Bitterness Or Something Beautiful.
  - **The Choice Is Yours.**

Potential

Performance

# Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Destroy Your Destiny (Future)



### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Destroy Your Destiny (Future)

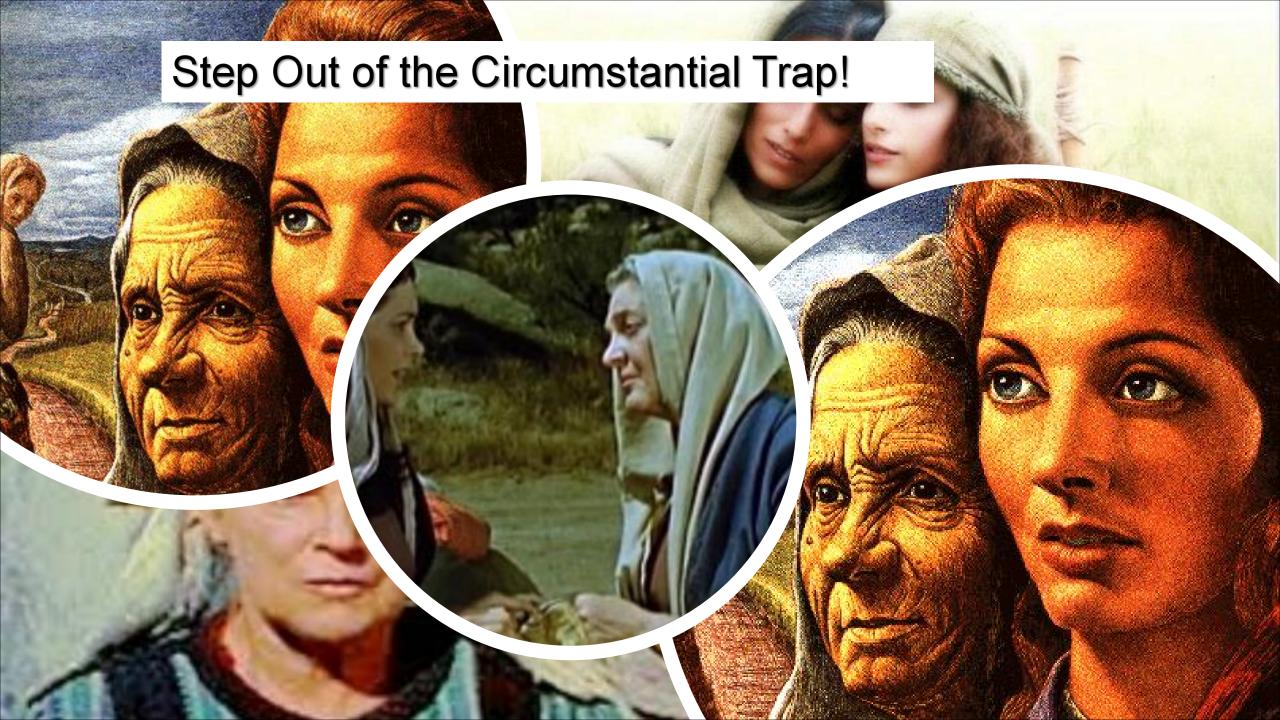


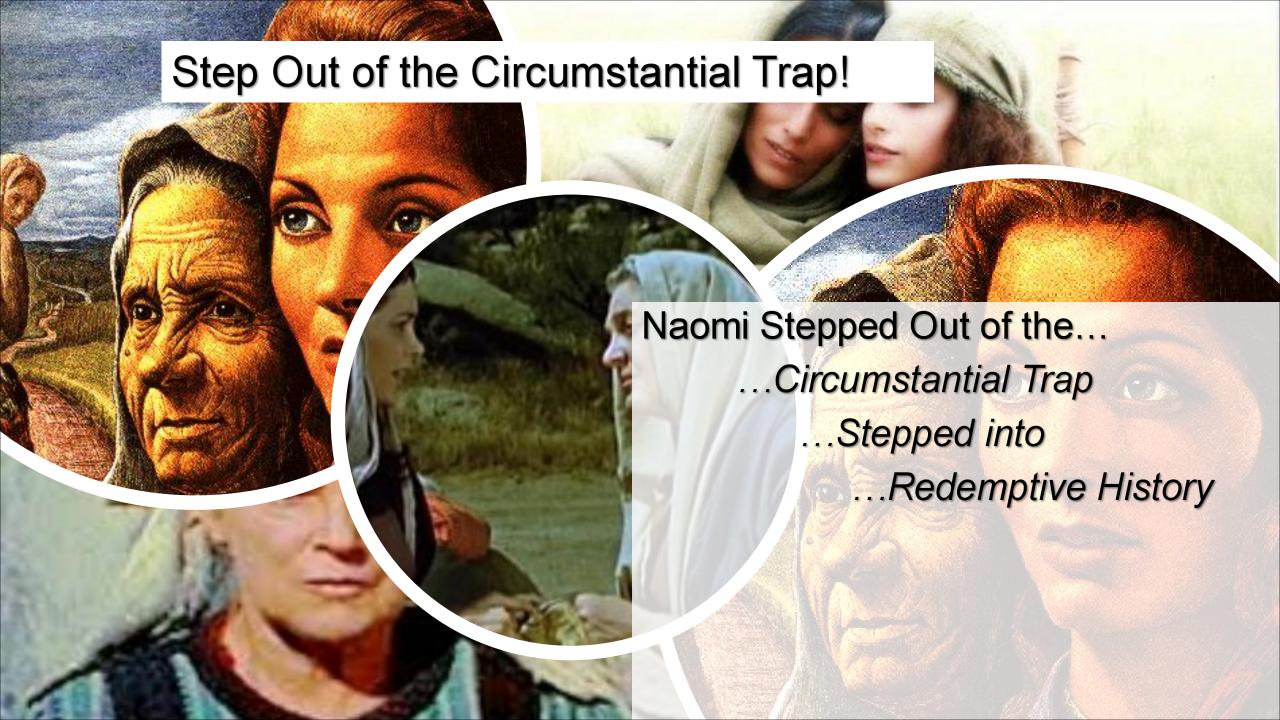
- Even in Her Old Age, Naomi had a Destiny to be...
  ...a Part of Something Greater than Her
- Her Destiny was to Help Bring Ruth to Boaz and...
   ...Produce a Child Linked to the Throne of David.

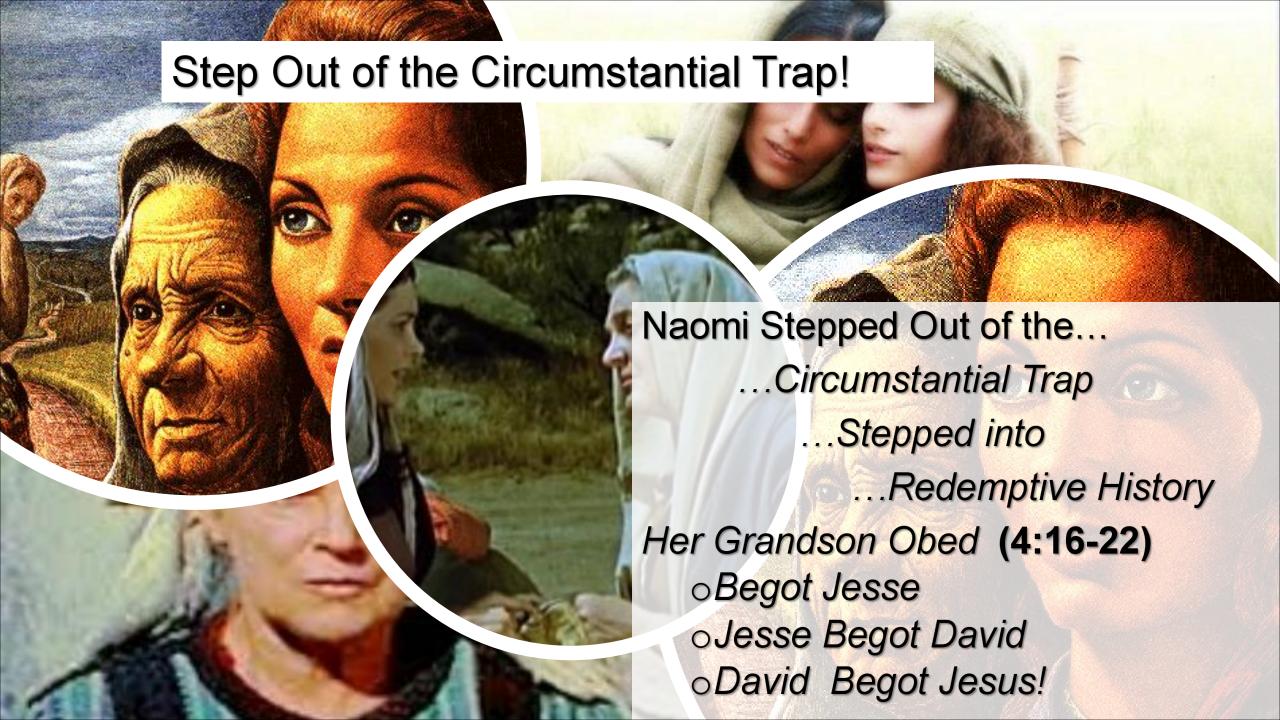
### Refuse to Let Circumstance... ...Destroy Your Destiny (Future)



- Even in Her Old Age, Naomi had a Destiny to be... ...a Part of Something Greater than Her
- Her Destiny was to Help Bring Ruth to Boaz and...
   ...Produce a Child Linked to the Throne of David.
- Don't Let Moab Destroy Your Destiny.
- Come Out of the Wilderness...
   ...Refuse to Allow the Marks of Where You've Been ...to Be Your Identity.







## This Weeks Challenge... The circumstances we ask God to CHANGE are often the circumstances God is using to CHANGE US.

#### This Weeks Challenge...

- Instead of Asking God Why?
  - **OWhy This?**
- OWhy Now?
  - **○Why Me?**
- Train Yourself to Ask God What?
- **OWhat Are You Teaching Me Through This Now?**
- oThank You Father For Trusting Me Enough...