



Welcome to The Citadel Global Community Church where stars are born and great futures are created.
Welcome to the home of consummate and conscientious nation builders whose hearts are open to the plans of the Holy Spirit, and in whose lives all things godly are possible because we choose to win by righteousness.

PRESSING INTO THE FULLNESS OF GOD

...Maximising the Rest That Is Found in His Presence

By Pastor Tunde Bakare

Introduction

True Christianity goes beyond routines and outward expressions. It is a journey from the rest received at salvation to the deeper rest found in God's presence—moving from the outer court, through the Holy Place, into the fullness of God. Ruth's story mirrors this divine pattern: redemption by blood, baptism by water, and the infilling of the Spirit. But we are called to go further—beyond miracles, beyond our labour, and beyond our own understanding—until God works fully through us. Only when the veil of our minds is removed in complete surrender can we enter the fullness of His glory. This message traces Ruth's journey through these experiences and invites us to press into the fullness of God.

The Threshing Floor Encounter

In **Matthew 11:28-30**, the Lord extends an invitation to all who labour and are heavy-laden to come to Him, take His yoke upon themselves, and learn from Him, that they may find rest for their souls. Here, we see that *there is a rest that is given and a rest that is found*. There is a difference between the rest that is given and the rest that is found.

Using the analogy of the Tabernacle, when you enter the Holy Place, you are not stepping into a place of rest but into a place of restlessness. It is where you take the Lord's yoke upon yourself, and everything that ought not to remain in your life is removed. The Holy Place is God's threshing floor, where you are not only baptised with water but also with fire, and everything that does not represent God is

shaken away. Even at that stage, it is only preparation, for you have merely moved from the Passover court into the Holy Place, the realm of Pentecost. You are now approaching the Tabernacle—the Holiest of All. It is there, after the discipline of teaching and doctrine has shaped you, that you finally find rest for your soul. Unfortunately, the church has held on only to the rest that is given at salvation. There is more in God beyond the salvation experience.

Ruth: A Portrait of the Believer's Journey

I have preached from the Book of Ruth many times and read it several times. But it blew my mind when the Holy Spirit opened my eyes to see that Ruth is a picture of a believer from conception to perfection.

In **Ruth 1:1-22**, her life's journey revealed that it is by pressing into the fullness of God that true rest is found. It comes by taking on the yoke of the Lord Jesus Christ and learning from Him in the Holy Place. You have already left the outer court through your born-again experience.

WHO WE ARE

"We are a people sent to the nations, governments and powers of the earth as the voice of reason, possibilities and hope. We are the instrumentality of catalysing change and centralising God in the governance of nations. Our mandate is to enforce the Kingdom of God over the kingdoms of this world that have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ. We are men and women, boys and girls who love God and love people and who serve God and serve people. We always seek to give hope and to be at the forefront of driving change both spiritually and governmentally. We exist, primarily, as a fully functional church and conceptually as a governmental force for change, good governance and leadership."



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THE CGCC CREDO

- ➔ Love God, Love People
- ➔ Serve God, Serve People
- * By doing the above, we glorify God individually and corporately.

OUR COMMITMENTS

- ➔ Wholehearted Worship of God
- ➔ Prayer ➔ Ministry of the Word ➔ Evangelism
- ➔ Seeing People Grow Deeper (Discipleship)
- ➔ Helping People Build Vital Relationships with Other Believers
- ➔ Loving God and Loving People
- ➔ Serving God and Serving People

OUR CORE LEADERSHIP VALUES

- ➔ Compassion
- ➔ Intelligence
- ➔ Responsibility
- ➔ Judgement
- ➔ Influence

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You now stand in the Holy Place through your baptism in the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues. But you are not meant to stop there. You must press towards the Feast of Tabernacles, into the very presence of God.

Beyond the Spirit, the Water, and the Blood

In **1 John 5:8**, the Bible says there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood. The moment Ruth made the decision and declared that Naomi's God would also be her God, she stood at the place of the Passover Lamb—the place of the blood (outer court) (**Ruth 1:16-17; Romans 10:6-10**). Remember, she was a Moabitess (**Ruth 1:4**). But for her “born-again” journey to be complete, it could not end with the blood alone. There must also be the water and the Spirit.

In baptism, the Scriptures teach that we are buried with Christ and raised with Him into newness of life (**Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12**). Ruth's journey reflects this. When she pressed further and said where Naomi dies and is buried is where she would die and be buried—although she was speaking naturally, she was also speaking spiritually. It was a type of burial in baptism. In this, she received her “water baptism”. Furthermore, she also foreshadowed the baptism of the Holy Spirit because when they arrived in the land, it was the time of the barley harvest—the season of firstfruits, a biblical type of the Spirit. Thus, in her journey, we see the witness of the blood, the water, and the Spirit beautifully fulfilled (**Leviticus 23:10-11, 1 Corinthians 15:20**).

Going Beyond One Measure

Having gone through the three experiences, Ruth came into the field, which represents the Church, and laboured from morning until evening. And all she gathered was just one measure (**Ruth 2:17**). Boaz then instructed his men not to reproach her, but to deliberately let some handfuls fall for her. The implication of this is that if not for those small, intentional drops of grace, those little miracles the Lord allows to fall on our way, we might not even have gathered one measure.

Unfortunately, this is what the Church is chasing today: miracles—blessings that drop without labour and without understanding of God's interventions that make them happen. But when you gather all of them together, they still do not represent the fullness of God. They amount to only one measure. All the labour, even with baptism and spiritual experiences, still equals just one measure.

From One Measure to Fullness

The Bible says that Boaz took six measures of barley and added them to what Ruth had gathered. This is the part that amazed me most: when you add those six measures to the one she obtained through her own labour, symbolically, she entered into the fullness of God (**Ruth 3**).

There is still more in God than what we have known. There is a new approach to ministry that we must embrace. He has given us rest, but we must seek to find that rest. We need grace to enter it and labour so that we can come into the place where it is no longer our work but His work, no longer our ministry but His ministry.

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL OPERATIONAL DYNAMICS

- Church-in-the-House
- Church-in-the-Community
- Church-in-the-City
- Church-in-the-Cloud.

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL GROWTH DYNAMICS

- To grow up.
- To grow big.
- To grow very rich.
- To grow together.

The Veil Removed: Entering His Fullness

There is one major thing the Lord will deal with in our lives: the middle wall of partition—the veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holiest of All. That veil must be removed before we can press into the fullness of God. The real problem is the veil, that is, the way we think. Let us take that veil and lay it before the Lord, and say, “From now on, Your thoughts shall be our thoughts, and Your ways our ways. This is not my ministry; it is Your ministry. I remove the veil. I seek nothing for myself. You be Lord, and let me be Your servant.” Once the veil is taken away, then He will add six more measures to you, bringing you into the fullness of seven, where you press into the complete measure of God.

Reflective Note

Ruth's journey reveals the believer's path from the rest given at salvation to the rest found only in God's presence. We must move beyond the blood, the water, and the Spirit into the realm where God works through us. One measure represents human effort; the added six reveal divine grace. The true barrier is the veil of our own mind. When that veil is torn in surrender, our labour ends, His work begins, and we enter the sevenfold fullness of God. There is more in God for those who press beyond the veil.

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