

Whose skirt do you choose?

Many of us turn to the book of Ruth for inspiration in the godly pursuit of romantic love. Reading through this love story, the Holy Spirit pricked my heart with the question, "Whose skirt do you choose"?

Remember the section of the story where Naomi offers advice to her dear daughter-in-law to go to Boaz on the threshing floor? Once he had dined, laid down and fallen asleep, she was to go to him, uncover his feet and ask to cover herself with his skirt. This tradition was to communicate to the kinsman that a woman was willing to surrender herself to him as his own.

As single women, it is sometimes difficult to put away our independence. Each day we feel the need to proclaim to the world, "I am woman, hear me roar." So, we try to cover ourselves with our own skirts. However, within our hearts we know that our needs are greater than any deed or pursuit that we are able to accomplish. We may try, but the reality of our inability rings louder than the bells in the church tower. Our skirt goes lacking; it does not protect us from our accuser. We need God's righteousness for our filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6).

So, we continue our search for the skirt to provide our covering - our intimate needs; intimacy to provide companionship, completeness and fruitfulness. We look to others to fulfill these needs. To ask one man to meet each of these needs is a tall order to fill. Should one attempt this order, he will eventually fail us or become weary of our demands and maybe even resentful and unwilling. The skirts of others also go lacking, for they do not provide the complete covering we seek.

But, there is One whose skirt provides protection from the accuser and the covering of all our needs. Along with a robe of righteousness and the power found in intimacy only with Him, we find ourselves adorned in a garment of praise and rejoicing. Jesus is our willing and able Kinsman-Redeemer (Zechariah 3:4; Hebrews 7:25) worthy of all our praise (Isaiah 61:10,11).





Focus Questions

1. In what ways or situations are you tempted to prove your independence?
2. What needs are often sought from relationships that can truly only be satisfied by through Christ?
3. Song of Solomon 2:4 speaks of the banqueting table under the banner of God's love. A banquet typically has more food than we need or require. Create a list of items you have found in God. Review this list and categorize each item as a need or a desire.

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