***A READING FROM THE BOOK OF***

***RUTH***

*But Ruth said,*

 *"Do not ask me to abandon or forsake you!*

 *for wherever you go I will go,*

 *wherever you lodge I will lodge,*

 *your people shall be my people,*

 *and your God my God.*

*Wherever you die I will die, and there be buried.*

*May the Lord do so and so to me, and more besides,*

 *if anything but death separates me from you!"*

***THE WORD OF THE LORD***

***RUTH 1:16-17***