

**THE GENERATION OF  
RUTH**  
**(Winning against intimidating odds)**

**DR. TOR TERRY SHAGUY**

The Generation of Ruth  
Copyright © 2016 Dr Tor Terry Shaguy

TERRY SHAGUY MINISTRIES

#2 Faith Bible Way, Akobo

Box 19824, UI.

Ibadan, NIGERIA.

Email: [terryshaguy@gmail.com](mailto:terryshaguy@gmail.com)

Tel: 234 (0)7030308123

[www.terryshaguy.org](http://www.terryshaguy.org)

ISBN: 978-1533386892

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publishers.

All scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated. All emphasis and amplification are mine.

Interior design by Pages & Audio

[www.pagesandaudio.com](http://www.pagesandaudio.com)

[pagesandaudio@gmail.com](mailto:pagesandaudio@gmail.com)

Printed by Createspace. An Amazon Company

## CONTENTS

Thanks

Dedication

Acknowledgements

Chapter 1: Two Camps 13

Chapter 2: Ruth's Curriculum Vitae 17

Chapter 3: Ruth's Virtues 25

Chapter 4: Ruth Gave Her Isaac 57

Chapter 5: Ruth's Achievements 69

Other Titles By Dr. Tor Terry Shaguy 81

About the Author 95



## THANKS

*God my Heavenly Father who makes  
Ways in the wilderness and Rivers in  
deserts.*

*The Lord Jesus Christ my Good  
Shepherd who leads me besides still  
waters.*

*The Holy Ghost my Helper who gives  
me revelations and also enables me to  
share same with humanity.*



## DEDICATION

*Pastor Dickson Iyke Ojukwu has been a kind of Boaz' to my family and ministry. It is an easy choice to dedicate this work to you.*

*My kid sister Gift Mnena (Shaguy) Nyamngee went back to repeat Primary Six at an age her mates were getting married. She was never intimidated by the fact that she was easily the biggest pupil in her class and easily passed for the class teacher. When she couldn't get her WASC/ GCE at first sitting, she sacrificed the comforts of city life, relocated to a village, spent another year preparing and finally got it. This is another young woman who eventually sponsored herself through the university without resorting to depending on boy-friends or 'sugar daddies'. Kid, you are 'it'.*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I acknowledge with appreciation, the labour of our tripartite spiritual parents.

Rev. Dr. Olu & Rev. Vicki David mentored us from spiritual infancy, commended us to ministry and have also remained our spiritual parents since.

Rev. Dr. & Rev. Professor O.O. Olawoye are our ‘resident’ spiritual parents. No matter the challenge, ‘Daddy GO’ will simply smile and tell you “Is that all? Come on, go forward”. He speaks from the experience of a veteran. He has conquered all kinds of Goliaths.

Rev. Prof. Ademola & Rev. Dr. Olumide Akinpelu (our special gifts) proofread this material while Kola Agbeluyi designed the cover.

I am grateful to the following who played principal roles at our 2007 Book release which took place at Kuti Hall University of Ibadan; Prof & Mrs S. K. Onwuka, Prof & Mrs P. Aiyedun, Prof & Mrs G. Adeoye, Prof Edith Ajayieoba,

Adeniran, Dr Kemi Olujimi, Dr Nkechi Onwuka, Mr & Mrs Femi Mesele and Mr & Mrs Bukola Olafare. Furthermore, I appreciate everyone who made that event happen.

My appreciation to the following; Pastor (Professor) & Dr Adeola Adenikinju, Pastors Victor & Rachel Chukwuemeka (Northern Island) and Pastors Muiyiwa & Margaret Olujobi (USA), Pastor & Mrs Gogoro Leh

Togi, Late Pastor & Mrs B. Olorogun and all the Ever Increasing Faith (ELIM) Church brethren, Pastor & Mrs Mike S. Fakorede of God's Generals, Pastor Tunde Akinsola a Field Rep of The FGBMFI, Pastor Emmanuel Elaigwu of NIS, Pastor & Mrs David Ekuma Eze, Pastor & Mrs Joseph Benu, Pastor & Mrs Joseph Adebamowo, FBC GOs designate Rev Pastor Segun Adeyemi, Pastor & Mrs Kehinde Osifeso, Pastor & Mrs Samuel Ojo Jinadu, Pastor & Mrs Ayodele Abiona, Pastor & Mrs Emmanuel Umoren, Rev & Mrs Austin Babundo and Pastor & Mrs Kelechi Udochukwu. Also, Rev. Pastor Mike Sackeyfio, Rev. & Pastor Ramson Asante-Darteh and Rev. & Mrs Nketiah all from Ghana.

Sebastine T. Hon (SAN) and his wife Felicia are our true brother and sister. Hon. John Dyegh, Dr. Kemi Fadipe (UCH), Prof & Mrs M. O. Olowookorun, Prof (Mrs) M. I. Atinmo, Mr & Mrs Yinka Tijani, Mr Biodun Ajayi, Dr Emmanuel Ohajinwa, Mr & Mrs Bunmi Onasola and Mr Joseph Gbenga Okunuga are our vital pillars. Our 'blood' sister Mrs Sirah Favour (Lucky) Gbaraka and Mr & Mrs Ime Ukere have also been major pillars.

Engr & Mrs Ifeoluwa Oyedele and Mr & Mrs Dapo Adegborioye both of MATCOM together with Dr Akande have indelibly impacted our family and ministry.

My kid Sister Doo carries most of the burden of the larger family but gives me credit in the end.

Special thanks to the following, Elder Aofolaju, Mrs Bisi Oguntuase, Mrs Bamidele, Bro Felix Iwambe And Bro Raph Odili who also doubles as my personal assistant.

I further appreciate en bloc our esteemed REGAM GLOBAL PARTNERS as well as Ministers, Ministries and Congregations where we have been privileged to fellowship. We appreciate in particular, all Ministers, the Laity council and all brethren of Faith Bible Church, Akobo Ibadan. God bless you all.

We are deeply grateful to my sister in-law, 'Big Mummy' Mrs Arinola Bally, Barr & Mrs Ola Alonge, Sis Joyce E. Amatotsero, Engr Okechukwu Onwuka and Prince Akere of The Polytechnic Ibadan.

Above all, I solemnly appreciate my first congregation, Iveren favour, who put part of her Scholarship grant into this Book ministry, Sewuese Praise, Tor David, Iember Laadi, Mhile Elizabeth & Sina Mimi led by my first partner, critic, proof-reader, co-author and wife, the beautiful Rev. Dr. Debbie Bose Shaguy who patiently bear the brunt of all my adventures. Nothing be too big for you to dream, attempt and achieve, in Jesus Name. Amen.



# Chapter One



**T**here are actually no failures in this life. While others succeed in fulfilling their dreams and potential, others successfully give excuses for their non-performance.

Every nation, generation, profession, society, endeavour, and gender, there are individuals who defy tradition and history and dare to challenge the status quo. While the majority accept why the system can't change, these few with the spirit of Ruth discover how it can change. While the majority explains why it can't be done, the company of Ruth demonstrates how it can be done.

From generation to generation, there are more than sufficient reasons to keep people from fulfilling their purposes or destinies in God. Many people are smart enough to recognize these escape routes and use them to

avoid having to make any effort at all. You find them all over the place. They know your name and alias. They also know everyone who is fulfilling his destiny and all the special advantages that such people had which of course, they never had. They are so smart they can give you a hundred reasons why they never got started. They can explain to you all the lucky breaks they missed, starting with the fact that the day they were conceived, a major zodiac traffic jam had occurred and God being in such a state of anxiety, forgot to bless anyone conceived that day. They blame their failure upon God, the government, their parents and relations, their background, the economy, the devil, the educational system and even the colour of their skin. 'Either there wasn't anyone to sponsor them or the Maths teacher was such a poor teacher she discouraged them from school.' 'They were actually doing very well in sports but their physical stature just wasn't cut out for the game.' 'There is too much corruption for any decent enterprise.' 'Their stepmother is a witch and is behind why they haven't gotten any "breaks" in life.' 'Their health is so fragile that they can't engage in any strenuous tasks.' 'They just don't have any godfathers to give them the necessary endorsements.' 'They have no capital to get started.'

These are very successful excuse givers. They blame everything and everyone except themselves. They are of the stock of Orpah. They are fair-weather people and will be there as long as everything seems ok. At the slightest sign of challenges however, they will take off. They have

small hearts and even smaller resolve. We needn't bother with them.

However, there is another set of people equally as smart. These are aware of the several reasons they may be enticed to go easy on life and not bother too much with pressing for excellence or any kind of achievement for that matter. We are interested in this group because they look obstacles squarely in the face and confront the obstacles. They are headed in one direction: forward. When they meet an obstacle, they just march forward. Like a river, they are unstoppable. They benefit from John Mason's counsel: "They know their limits then ignore those limits." So they challenge their challenges, changing decrees and laws.

Ruth, a young widow from Moab was one of such people. Widowhood, lack of material resources, new and strange environment, foreign custom and a divine decree that made her not just an outsider but indeed, an enemy to God's covenant with Abraham, all conspired to render her insignificant.

She had several options.

1. She could stay indoors and enjoy a lavish self-pity party.
2. She could bemoan her widowhood indefinitely blaming God all the while for allowing her marriage to Mahlon in the first place. After all, the Omnipotent must have known all along that Naomi's firstborn had but a short time to live.
3. She could be so intimidated by all her obstacles

and sort coming that she could be confined to Naomi's apron. She would have refused to step outdoors.

4. She could have packed her purse full of the barrages of excuses for none activity. She evidently was well armed to convince any-one at short notice why it was impossible to make any attempt.

She chose rather to look all those 'genuine' reasons for failure in the face and call all their bluff. With a selfless and daring attitude, she stepped into the unknown and changed divine history.

Ruth is the company of compulsive winners who start with nothing but work their way to the top and change history in the process.

It is my dream and prayer to challenge every reader to get up and bell!!! As you go through these pages, may the winner and giant within you be aroused to get up and fulfill your destiny. God's waiting for you! Your generation is waiting for you! Your family is depending on you!

If widowed Ruth made it, there is no more excuse for failure or mediocrity.

# Chapter Two



## Ruth's Curriculum Vitae

### *Ruth broke the Rock with her Teeth*

*And Boaz answered and said unto her,  
It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou  
hast done unto thy mother in law since  
the death of thine husband: and how thou  
hast left thy father and thy mother, and the  
land of thy nativity, and art come unto a  
people which thou knewest not heretofore.*

*Ruth 2:11*

**G**enerosity is a spirit. Some have it. Some don't. Those who haven't, manifest stinginess even when their gift is actually substantial. Those who have it are generous even with their words.

I have been privileged to meet people who were so generous to me that I felt undeserving of all their lavish love, gifts and praise. With such people, even their speech

smacks of generosity. Obviously, Boaz is one of such people. In few verses, he generously revealed that Ruth was, widowed, foreigner, vulnerable, knew not Jewish customs, etc.

1. Widowed - since the death of thine husband. In Bethlehem Judah, Ruth had sufficient justification to have reasoned that she was a widow and deserved to stay at home and fulfill her mourning.
2. Foreigner/stranger -and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity. She could have equally reasoned that she was a stranger and it wouldn't be safe for her to venture among her new neighbours lest she came to some mischief.
3. She was vulnerable. Like any other young woman under such circumstances, Ruth was vulnerable. She was in danger of being molested by young impudent men. You recall that not too far from this place, the Benjamites of Gibeah had forcefully dispossessed a man of his wife and sexually abused her all night to her death (Judges19). What was there to assure anybody that Bethlehem Judah's sons of belial (every city has its sons of belial) were any different. For that matter, here was a defenseless young widow. Worse still, everyone knew that her only relation at this moment was

an aged and perhaps more defenseless mother in-law. In fact Boaz confirmed this danger when he assured her;

*Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn. Ruth 2:9.*

4. Knew not the custom of her new abode - art come unto a people which thou knewest not. It was true that she knew not the custom of the people and that was more than enough to intimidate her from making an attempt to find nourishment for her mother in-law and herself.
5. Being such a stranger and new around, she certainly would not know her way around. As an utter stranger who was not familiar with the ambiance or geography of the place, she could have accepted the logical excuse that she didn't know her way around and would not even know where the farms were.
6. Furthermore, she was an adversary.  
*An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not*

*enter into the congregation of the LORD forever: Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee. Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy days for ever.*  
(Deut23:3-4,6)

Visions of falling among hostile mobs and getting stoned or physically abused were enough to rob a less determined Ruth of the audacity to venture into the neighborhood.

7. She had no known influential referees, sponsors or friends. Ruth's only known relation in this community was her mother in-law who was no motivation at all. In fact Naomi was so defeated by her present circumstances that she voluntarily changed her name to 'bitterness'.

*And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me? Ruth1:20-21.*

Naomi did not only change her name to 'Mara' which means bitterness but she even concluded that it was God who was fighting her. We have to agree that such a per-son would not be any motivation to another person. This is evidenced in the fact that although she knew of Boaz, she didn't have the confidence to recommend him when Ruth first stepped out to glean.

Even today, the issue of 'connections' is so critical that employers, spouses and businessmen alike require your referees to decide your suitability or otherwise. Little wonder, many people excuse their lack of achievement on the absence of influential mentors or (using a Nigerian political slang) 'godfathers'. In her days, Ruth faced such a disadvantage.

8. She had neither capital nor any financial instruments with which to commence. Worse still, she had no clear trade or education.

All over the place, people find ready excuses for lack of achievement. They either have no capital to set up a business or they haven't sufficient education to get ahead in life, they claim. In my privileged position to teach on finances in seminars, churches, workshops corporate bodies and government establishments, etc, I have repeatedly proved that the "capital" most of such people need is not Naira or Dollar or Pound Sterling. What they actually need is capital resolve and capital idea. Secondly,

we have proved that whereas Western Education is both vital and priceless, those who find themselves without it are not necessarily condemned to a life of mediocrity and penury. There is always the education of all the experience you have acquired in life through exercising your innate abilities such as cooking, organizing, entertaining, even physical wellbeing, etc.

The dismaying CV Ruth started off with in her new environment should justly intimidate any young woman. These obvious 'handicaps' should be sufficient to rob any ordinary person of all initiatives and condemn him/her to a life of self-pity, begging and permanent de-feat. The truth of the matter is that nobody is a loser until he/she first loses his/her self-esteem and finally refuses to make an honest attempt to get ahead.

Many years ago, I counseled with a young man who was standing trial for armed robbery. He had actually robbed, he confessed. In that season, God was doing some strange things and allowing me to be in the centre of it. If we prayed with any accused person, the Lord would intervene and set them free even when both they and their lawyers knew they stood no chance. I believe what was actually happening was that those God decided to give another chance to, He put us in situations where we got to pray with them. Our one condition usually was to get the accused to vow never to go back to crime. It was during such a season that we encountered this fellow who confessed to committing armed robbery. We counseled with him to renounce robbery and the Lord

would set him free.

This very honest fellow confessed that he was neither educated nor knew any other means by which to survive! We prayed with him anyway. I think the last we heard, he had been released, had gone on another operation and had been gunned down by security operatives.

Recently, many youths and even undergraduates are taking to all kinds of crimes. They are into robbery, bunkering, internet crimes, smuggling, impersonation, prostitution and more recently, kidnapping, etc. (I am hoping that by the time you get this book, terrorism would have been stamped out globally). When the jaws of the law snaps shut upon them like it always will, they in-variably blame poverty and lack of help for their obnoxious choices.

There are cases where we have counseled with some commercial sex workers. Their stories are diverse; lack of support, lack of education/vocation, widowhood, single parenthood, raising money to pay back exorbitant bride prices, raising money to support aged parents, etc. The list is endless. But in summary it all bows down to a loss of self-esteem and a refusal to make an honest attempt through nobler means of livelihood.

Ruth was also a widow, desperately in need, didn't have any discernable source of income or even capital, was in a strange land, had no godfather and was cumbered with fending for an aged mother in-law as well as herself. She more than qualified to resort to her body as her only merchandise. But do you know what she did? She

humbled herself and chose the only path of honour under the circumstances. She took a step of faith. She broke the rock with her teeth.