

In our entertainment-saturated world, we hear a lot of lines from movies. Most are quickly forgotten, but some make us laugh, some make us think and others give us a lump in the throat. But among the countless lines that have been captured on film, a few have actually changed the way we talk.

The following, taken from The American Film Industries top 100 movie quotes are ones that I've actually used myself. Let's see if you know them.

85 My precious. THE LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS 2002

76 Hasta la vista, baby. TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY 1991

37 I'll be back. THE TERMINATOR 1984

65 Elementary, my dear Watson. THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES  
1939

54 There's no crying in baseball! A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN 1992

52 You had me at "hello." JERRY MAGUIRE 1996

25 Show me the money! JERRY MAGUIRE 1996

51 You've got to ask yourself one question: 'Do I feel lucky?' Well, do ya, punk?  
DIRTY HARRY 1971

6 Go ahead, make my day. SUDDEN IMPACT 1983

50 Houston, we have a problem. APOLLO 13 1995

44 I see dead people. THE SIXTH SENSE 1999

36 Badges? We ain't got no badges! We don't need no badges! I don't have to  
show you any stinking badges! THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE 1948

- 35 You're gonna need a bigger boat. JAWS 1975
- 29 You can't handle the truth! A FEW GOOD MEN 1992
- 23 There's no place like home. THE WIZARD OF OZ 1939
- 4 Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore. THE WIZARD OF OZ 1939
- 11 What we've got here is a failure to communicate. COOL HAND LUKE 1967
- 8 May the Force be with you. STAR WARS 1977
- 2 I'm gonna make him an offer he can't refuse. THE GODFATHER 1972
- 1 Frankly, my dear, I don't (care) GONE WITH THE WIND 1939

And 2 of my favorites that didn't make the list from "The Princess Bride"

### **Inconceivable! And**

### **He's been mostly dead all day!**

These lines from movies have infiltrated our language, but there are many lines from the Bible that are remembered and quoted in a variety of situations.

From Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.**

From Jeremiah 29:11

*For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,*

**plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:4-5

**Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.**

**Philippians 4:13**

**I can do all things through him who strengthens me.**

Romans 8:28

**We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.**

And, of course, there is the verse that Martin Luther called “the Gospel in miniature,” John 3:16:

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.**

Another classic comes from our text today in Ruth 1:16

**Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.**

Why do these lines resonate with us?

What’s so special about these lines from the Bible?

For starters, they are true — they capture an important insight about the nature of God and human beings.

- The Lord is as caring and protective toward us as a shepherd is toward his sheep.
- God really does watch over us, making plans for our welfare.
- Christ truly does strengthen us to face the challenges of our lives, and

- all things do work together for good when we love and serve our Lord.

These biblical verses are concise summaries of bigger truths, in the same way that movie lines reveal something essential about their characters.

Humphrey Bogart was a tough guy with a tender heart, captured in the romantic line, ***“Here’s looking at you, kid.”*** From Casablanca.

Movie lines are memorable because they are true to their characters.

But great lines also shape us because they capture an entire story. When Dorothy says, ***“We’re not in Kansas anymore,”*** it brings to our mind the whole story which culminates with ***“There’s no place like home!”***

When Ruth says, ***“Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God”***, this line shapes our lives because it captures the entire story of the book of Ruth, bringing to mind the faithfulness of Ruth to her mother-in-law Naomi which, in turn, is a picture of God’s faithfulness to us. Her comment reminds us of Christ’s promise to never leave us or forsake us.

But what is the lead-up to this memorable line? Back in the days when judges ruled the people of Judah, there was a famine in the land. A man of Bethlehem fled the famine and went to live in the land of Moab, along with his wife Naomi and two sons. The man died in Moab, and his two sons married a couple of Moabite women named Orpah and Ruth. But then the two sons died, leaving Naomi without a husband or sons.

So, what was poor Naomi supposed to do? She decided to return to Judah, where the famine was now over. But she knew that she had nothing to offer her daughters-in-law, so she said,

*“Go back each of you to your mother’s house.*

**May the Lord deal kindly with you.”**

All three weep, and then Orpah kisses Naomi and heads back to Moab. So Orpah leaves Naomi, but Ruth clings to her. Naomi encourages Ruth also to return home.

But Ruth says to Naomi,

*“Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!*

**Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God”.**

When Naomi sees that Ruth is faithful to her and determined to stay with both her and her God, Naomi allows her to come along.

This memorable verse has shaped our lives and changed the way we talk and feel. Even though the words are exchanged between a mother and her daughter in law, it has become a very popular theme verse for weddings because it speaks to the faithfulness that husband and wife pledge to each other in their wedding.

We remember these words because they reveal something essential about Ruth: She was a woman of deep love and faithfulness.

But we also remember these words because they summarize the entire story and remind us that God used this loving and faithful woman in a powerful way. Ruth

went to Bethlehem with Naomi, and there she met a man named Boaz. She married him and had a son who became the grandfather of David. Because Ruth remained faithful to Naomi and to God, she was able to become the ancestor of the greatest of Israel's kings — and of Jesus.

When Ruth promises to stay with Naomi, she does not know that she will end up with a husband and child. When the two women arrive in Bethlehem, Naomi is bitter and empty. Which is where we sometimes find ourselves:

- with a scary diagnosis,
- a relationship crumbling,
- the loss of a job,
- the death of a loved one.

We find ourselves in these empty places, uncertain of the end of the story. We do not know how, or if, our fortunes, our security, our confidence, our hope will be restored.

In short, we understand Naomi's desperate situation and can feel her pain. Which is what makes Ruth's response so powerful.

***I'll not leave you even though there seems no hope for our future!***

**That's God's promise to us as well!**

**Genesis 3:15**

*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring;*

**he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."**

Even though you turned from me, Says the Lord God, I will bring you back. I'll even pay the price to make you my children once again!

Joshua 1:9

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.*

**Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”**

As you enter the promised land, find your strength in knowing that I am with you always!

Psalms 27:10

*For my father and my mother have forsaken me,*

**but the LORD will take me in.**

The Lord is our light and our salvation and will never forsake us!

**2 Corinthians 4:7–10**

*But we have this treasure in jars of clay,*

**to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.**

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;*

**perplexed, but not driven to despair;**

*persecuted, but not forsaken;*

**struck down, but not destroyed;**

*always carrying in the body the death of Jesus,*

**so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.**

No matter what happens to us, we will be children of God by the power of Jesus' resurrection.

**Hebrews 13:5–6**

*Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said,*

**I will never leave you nor forsake you.**

*So, we can confidently say,*

**The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?**

We also remember Ruth's words of faithfulness because we know the rest of the story. After returning to Naomi's homeland, her relative Boaz, takes his place as the **kinsmen redeemer** for Naomi's family. He marries Ruth and they have children and a blessed life. And so, Ruth, A Moabitess, comes to be ancestor to David and to Jesus.

The storybook ending is a result not only of Ruth's faithfulness but also the faithfulness of Boaz, the **redeemer** for Naomi's family.

And so, our story will end for we too have a **Redeemer**.

We have one who was faithful even unto death on a cross to buy us back and make us children of God for all eternity.

Ruth's words resonate with us for we too have declared to follow Jesus faithfully all the days of our lives. The Holy spirit has enabled us to believe in Jesus and follow him.

***He is our Redeemer.***

***He is the keeper of all the promises that God has made to his people.***

***His life is made manifest in our lives now and forever!***