

Ruth

by Rabbi Shefa Gold

עִמְךָ עַמִּי וְאֱלֹהֶיךָ אֱלֹהֵי

Amaych ammi vaylohayich elohai (Ruth 1:16)

Your people are my people and your God is my God.

On Shavuot, we read The Book of Ruth, which recounts the story of love and loyalty. As we chant Ruth's vow to Naomi, we can each find our own love and loyalty. Though Ruth was a Moabite (enemy of Israel) she became the honored ancestor of King David. Through her steadfast devotion to Naomi, her people and her God, Ruth found her own way. So too may we find a sense of belonging, and birth Maschiach consciousness into the world.