

“Love, Loyalty and Redemption”

RUTH LESSON 4

*“You will show me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” Psalm 16:11*

DAY #1

Read Chapter 2.

- 1) Summarize in your own words what is happening in this chapter.

Let's focus on verses 1-3.

Here in chapter 2 the scene shifts. When last we left Ruth and Naomi they were at the city gates – Naomi sorrowful and bitter and Ruth standing quietly at her mother-in-laws side while all the women of the city buzzed around them. At this point, as far as we know, they had no plan as to how they would go about providing for themselves now that they were back in Bethlehem.

- 2) Who is the newest character introduced to us in verse 1?
- 3) What do we know about *Boaz* (H1162)?

At this point in time, Ruth had no idea who Boaz was. Boaz, although he had probably heard about Ruth, didn't have the slightest idea who she was either. As far as each was concerned the existence of the other was of no consequence. BUT GOD... God knew Ruth. God knew Boaz. God knew Naomi. He knew each of them intimately. He knew their needs, their desires, their coming and going and He loved them!

The same is true from each one of us. God knows His kids. Jesus says in John 10:27
 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”

4) What do the following verses say about how well God knows you?

Jeremiah 29:11

Ephesians 2:10

Psalm 139:13-16

We may not know what tomorrow holds for us, but we can rest in the knowledge of Who holds our tomorrows. Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz didn't have a clue as to *how* God was going to provide for their needs and desires, but God did!

- 5) What was the immediate need that Ruth saw according to verse 2 (read between the lines)?
- 6) When Ruth saw the need, what did she do?
- 7) What was the answer Ruth received?
- 8) What is Ruth's response according to verse 3a?

Ruth, although obviously familiar with the custom of “gleaning” as specified in Lev. 19:9-10, 23:22, had no idea whose field she had come upon. She simply went out in faith and when presented with an opportunity she took it. God took care of the details. Don't you just love that? When we see a need and after prayer, Godly council we see the open door to go ahead, all we need to do is “go”. God will direct our path. He will guide our feet and keep us from stumbling.

In closing today, look up the following verse and allow the Holy Spirit to bring back to your remembrance a time when God directed you to a specific place at a specific time for a specific reason – I like to call them “Godincidences” - When you heard His voice, trusted in Him and acted in obedience. Be blessed and realize that God uses you simply because He loves you!

Proverbs 3:5-6

DAY #2 Read Ruth 2:4-7

- 1) What else do we learn of Boaz's character from these verses?
 - a) What do the words which come out of your mouth say about who you are?
 Matthew 12:34-37

- 2) Where was Boaz coming from and going to according to verse 4?
 - a) When you "finish the days work" whatever it might be, what do you do with the rest of your time?
 Proverbs 13:4

- 3) What does Boaz do in verse 5?

- 4) There was something about Ruth that caught Boaz's attention. According to the report given by the servant in charge of the reapers, what was Ruth probably doing when Boaz noticed her?

Ruth may have been aware that she was being watched, but I highly doubt she knew she was being watched by the owner of the field.

- a) How do you act when you think no one else is watching you?

- b) How would you act differently if you knew someone *was* watching?

Job 28:10; 34:31

Matthew 6:3-4; 6; 17-18

Jeremiah 17:9 says, “*The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?*” “ God can and He does! There is absolutely *nothing* we can do, say or think that God does not know about. Praise the Lord that “*Through the LORD’S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning...*” *Lamentations 3:23*

DAY #3 Read Ruth 2:8-11

- 1) Look up “listen” H8085”

- 2) In verse 8 and the first part of 9, what is Boaz “commanding” Ruth to do?

- 3) What is Boaz offering her in return for her “obedience”?

- 4) Look up “abide” G3306

- 5) What does the Lord offer to us when we *abide* in Him?

John 15:1-11

- 6) What was Ruth’s response according to verse 10?

- 7) Based on Scripture, what should our attitude toward God be in light of everything He has done for us? Pray about your answer, meditate over it, and act on it.

DAY #4 Read Ruth 2:11-13

- 1) In verses 11 what character trait does Boaz recognize in Ruth?
- 2) Go back and re-read Ruth 1:16-17. Now, re-read Ruth 2:11. Compare the two sections and write down what you find.
- 3) When you bowed the knee to Jesus Christ, acknowledging Him as Lord of your life, you handed your life over to Him; you surrendered everything and committed yourself to His Lordship. If you were to stand before Jesus today, this very hour, would He find you *totally* committed... *totally* obedient... *totally* loyal... *totally* devoted... *100%* sold out to Him?
- 4) What did Boaz do in recognition of Ruth's loyalty and devotion (verse 12)?
- 5) What are some of the blessings God pours out on us when we walk in loyalty and obedience to Him?

Psalm 32:1-2

Psalm 37:22

Psalm 41:1-3

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Ephesians 1:3

James 1:12

1Peter 4:14

Revelation 19:9

Revelation 20:6

In verse 13 we see Ruth's humble acceptance of the blessings Boaz offers. God blesses us so abundantly every single day. Close today's study by sitting at your Masters feet giving Him thanks, praising Him for the undeserved blessing you have received because of His endless grace toward you, His beloved.

DAY #5 Read Ruth 2:14-19a

- 1) What do you see happening in verse 14?

- 2) Once we as believers have submitted ourselves to Christ's Lordship our natural response is to desire fellowship with Him.

Who initiated the fellowship in verse 14?

- 3) Read John 21:1-14

Describe what is happening here. Who initiated the fellowship? Who provided the meal?

Jesus provides everything we need for fellowship, right down to the invitation. All we have to do is accept.

****CHALLENGE** What are some of the invitations God gives to us in His word? What are the practical ways we can accept these invitations? What blessings do we receive when we do? Remember, support your answers with Scripture.

- 4) Notice that Ruth was satisfied in verse 14. Look up "satisfied" H7646.

- 5) Jesus is our Bread of Life. Jesus says in John 6:35; **"I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."** Are you hungry? Are you thirsty? Spend time with Jesus and ask Him to satisfy you. Spend time in the Word and allow Him to fill you up. Not just to the top, but to overflowing!

- 6) Look at the end of verse 14. How much grain does Ruth receive?

- 7) What did Ruth do after she had been satisfied to the point of excess (verse 15a)?
- 8) What does Boaz command the reapers to do for Ruth in verses 15-16?
- 9) Think of a time when the Lord blessed you abundantly over your greatest expectations.
- 10) Did Ruth “do” anything to deserve these blessings?
- 11) Do we “do” anything to deserve the blessings of God?

Jesus says in John 10:10; “...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it more abundantly*.” Jesus desires to bless us simply because He loves us! How glorious, amen??!!

- 12) After Ruth finished working for the day, where did she go (verse 17-18)?
- 13) What did Ruth do with the “leftovers” she had received from Boaz?
- 14) What was Naomi’s response (verse 19a)?
- 15) According to Ephesians 3:21-22, what should our response be to God when He provides for us?

May we be like Ruth, in that when we receive the exceedingly abundant blessings of God, we would desire to go out and share them with others that they may also be blessed; never taking credit but rather always giving the glory to the giver of all good gifts – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!