

# Ruth

## *God's Loving-Kindness Exemplified*

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## RUTH CHAPTER 2

### *Ruth Meets Boaz*

#### A. RUTH GLEANS IN BOAZ'S FIELD (2:1-13)

1. Ruth gleanes in Boaz's field (2:1).
  - Boaz was a relative of Elimelech
  - Boaz was a "worthy" man--connotes character, wealth, position, or strength (ESV Crossway Bibles 479)
2. Gleaning fields (2:2-3).
  - Gleaning is the act of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been commercially harvested or on fields where it is not economically profitable to harvest
  - According to the Mosaic Law, the poor of the land had the privilege of gleaning fields of the more fortunate--see Deut. 24:19 (Merrill 186)
3. Boaz meets Ruth (2:4-13).
  - Boaz enquires about Ruth
  - He is told that she is a young Moabite women



#### B. DISCUSSION

1. Was it just by coincidence that Ruth happened to glean in Boaz's field or was it God's mysterious providence?
2. Can you cite any similar cases in your life where events seem to have been "coincidences" but were actually God's providential care for you?
3. Why did Boaz show such loving-kindness to Ruth? (2:11)
4. In what ways can this act of gleaning in the OT apply to believers today?

#### C. "LUNCH BREAK" (2:14-16)

1. "Mealtime" probably a lunch break where the reapers rested and ate before continuing the afternoon work of gleaning and threshing the wheat.
2. Boaz invites Ruth to come closer and eat with his other reapers, and he also gave her some roasted grain (2:14-16).

3. She was satisfied and had some left over (2:14).
4. Boaz instructs his workers to let Ruth glean from among the sheaves and they were to pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean (2:15).

#### D. DISCUSSION

1. Was it just by coincidence that Boaz was attracted to Ruth or was it God's mysterious providence?
2. In what ways did Boaz show loving-kindness to Ruth (2:14-16)?



#### E. RUTH FINISHES GLEANING AND RETURNS TO NAOMI (2:17-23)

1. Ruth returns from Boaz's fields to Bethlehem where Naomi was living (2:17).
2. Naomi asks Ruth where she got some much food (2:18-19).
3. Naomi tells Ruth that Boaz is a close relative of hers, "one of her redeemers" (2:20)
4. Boaz had instructed Ruth to glean with his reapers, and Naomi now instructs Ruth to stay close to other young women of Boaz, for her protection (2:21-23).

#### F. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What characteristics of Boaz is the author emphasizing? (2:8-9, 13-16, 21-22)
2. In what ways is Jesus Christ our kinsman-redeemer?

Kinsman-Redeemer	Jesus Christ
A close relative	
Pays a ransom for a close relative	
Rescues a relative in danger	
Provides for a close relative	
Marries the wife of a deceased relative	

#### Sources used in this study

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