

Review from last week:

Ruth and Naomi arrived in Bethlehem at the time of the Barley harvest

Unknown to Ruth, she began to glean in the fields of Boaz, a relative to Naomi's dead husband. Boaz then invites Ruth to remain in his field and gather behind his workers.

<sup>11</sup> Boaz spoke to Ruth, "I've been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. <sup>12</sup> May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."

### Read the reply in Ruth 2:13

<sup>13</sup> "May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord," she said. "You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly to your servant—though I do not have the standing of one of your servant girls." (NIV 84)

1. In verse 13, what words or phrases tend to demonstrate the humility of Ruth?

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2. Why is "lord" not capitalized? How should we understand the words, *my lord*?

### Read Ruth 2:14

<sup>14</sup> At mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come over here. Have some bread and dip it in the wine vinegar." When she sat down with the harvesters, he offered her some roasted grain. She ate all she wanted and had some left over. (NIV 84)

3. List some things that Boaz did to demonstrate his "abundant" kindness toward Ruth.

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### Read Ruth 2:15–16

<sup>15</sup> As she got up to glean, Boaz gave orders to his men, "Even if she gathers among the sheaves, don't embarrass her. <sup>16</sup> Rather, pull out some stalks for her from the bundles and leave them for her to pick up, and don't rebuke her." (NIV 84)

4. What additional orders did Boaz give his men?

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### Read Ruth 2:16–18

<sup>17</sup> So Ruth gleaned in the field until evening. Then she threshed the barley she had gathered, and it amounted to about an ephah. <sup>18</sup> She carried it back to town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered. Ruth also brought out and gave her what she had left over after she had eaten enough. (NIV 84)

5. Please define the following words

Glean:

Thresh:

Ephah:

6. Describe how you think Naomi may have reacted with the bounty of food?

**Read Ruth 2:19**

<sup>19</sup> Her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!" Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. "The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz," she said. (NIV 84)

7. Why did Naomi ask so many questions?

8. Anticipate Naomi's reaction upon hearing the name Boaz.

**Read Ruth 2:20**

<sup>20</sup> "The LORD bless him \_\_\_\_\_!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. "He \_\_\_\_\_ has not stopped showing his \_\_\_\_\_ kindness to the living and the dead." She \_\_\_\_\_ added, "That man \_\_\_\_\_ is our close relative; he \_\_\_\_\_ is one of our \_\_\_\_\_ kinsman-redeemers." (NIV 84)

9. See Ruth 2:20. Just to be clear, put names in the blanks that represent the pronouns.

10. Why did Naomi say, he is **one** of our kinsman-redeemers, not **the** kinsman-redeemer?

11. Define the following:

Kinsman

Redeemer/s לִבְיָדָי

Why are Redeemers important?

Leviticus 25:25 & 49, <sup>25</sup> If one of your countrymen becomes poor and sells some of his property, his nearest relative is to come and redeem what his countryman has sold.

<sup>49</sup> An uncle or a cousin or any blood relative in his clan may redeem...

12. How else did God assure, those who were poor or without blood relatives, that they could be made whole again?

Leviticus 25:28, <sup>28</sup> But if he does not acquire the means to repay him, what he sold will remain in the possession of the buyer until the Year of Jubilee (once every 50 years). It will be returned in the Jubilee, and he can then go back to his property.

**Read Ruth 2:21–23**

<sup>21</sup> Then Ruth the Moabitess said, "He even said to me, 'Stay with my workers until they finish harvesting all my grain.'"

<sup>22</sup> Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, "It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with his girls, because in someone else's field you might be harmed."

<sup>23</sup> So Ruth stayed close to the servant girls of Boaz to glean until the barley and wheat harvests were finished. And she lived with her mother-in-law. (NIV 84)

13. What real danger could Ruth have faced if it were not for the kindness of Boaz?