



Ruth

The New American Standard Bible (NASB) has been used to prepare this Study. When a question instructs you to use your "study tools/helps", this means to use your personal concordance, dictionary or other resource.

Chapter 2

Looking Back:

Wow! The Book of Ruth quickly jumps right in to the story of Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and their two sons. No lengthy introductions here. Immediately we were thrown into a famine in Judah, which resulted in Elimelech packing up his entire family and moving to Moab. Next, we learned of the devastating events that followed. First, Elimelech died, then both sons.

In the midst of what must have seemed an overwhelming loss, Naomi decides to return home. She wasn't completely alone, however, because her sons had both taken Moabite wives, Orpah and Ruth. These two young women had a very important decision to make...go back home to their families and to their gods, or travel to Bethlehem with their mother-in-law. Orpah goes back home, but Ruth chooses to go with Naomi, even after Naomi's strong urging to the contrary. Back in Bethlehem, "feeling" afflicted by the Lord, Naomi and Ruth had no idea as to God's beautiful plan for them. It's all about to become abundantly clear...He makes all things beautiful in **His** time.

Looking Ahead:

Ruth wastes no time once in Bethlehem. She knows that the well being of herself and her mother-in-law is at stake. Ruth sets out to glean in the fields not knowing where and to whom the Lord will lead her.

We will continue to see the beautiful heart and character this woman possesses in this chapter. Ruth is not only physically beautiful, but will again prove to be of exceptional character in more important ways.

At home, Naomi waits for Ruth's return. Was her gleaning successful? Did the Lord watch over her? Will she have words of encouragement for Naomi or will there just be more bad news?!! As we study this chapter, we will witness the way the Lord starts to unravel His amazing plan. Surely, Naomi will no longer identify with the name Mara (bitter). Sweet things are coming her way!

This week's Memory verse is **Isaiah 12:2**. Begin memorizing the verse(s) today. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you memorize this passage and for opportunities to apply it...

**"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid;
For the LORD GOD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation."
Isaiah 12:2**

Write out **Isaiah 12:2** _____

Write this verse(s) on your index cards... keep one with you & post the other in a prominent place.

DAY ONE

Pray, then read *Ruth 2:1-2*

1. Who are we introduced to in v.1? _____
A. What two things are we told about him? _____
Define: KINSMAN _____

"The lineage of Boaz, Elimelech's relative, is traced to Perez, a son of Judah in Ruth 4:18-22. Boaz was **a man of great wealth**, a phrase meaning that he possessed the finest of qualities." Ryrie Study Bible

2. Give Ruth's reason for wanting to "go to the field". What did she "hope" to find? (v. 2) _____
A. Although it isn't specifically mentioned, what other reason would she have for gleaning in the field? _____
Define: GLEAN _____
1. What was Naomi's prompt response to this request? _____

♥ "Go, my daughter." Perhaps the Lord is speaking these very words to YOUR heart today. Where is He leading you and why are you dragging your heels?! Pray, seek, knock...He may be opening an amazing door of opportunity for you and for His glory!

3. Wait a minute! Was it acceptable for Ruth to trespass on private property? What are we told in these verses?
***Leviticus 19:9-10 _____
***Leviticus 23:22 _____



Let's practice our memory verse: "Behold, _____ is my _____, I will _____ and not be _____;
For the _____ is my _____ and _____, and _____ has become my _____."
_____ : _____

DAY TWO

Pray, then read *Ruth 2:3-7*

1. How did Ruth end up in Boaz's field? (v.3) _____
A. Ruth just "happened" to come to this particular field. What an amazing coincidence!!! NOT! What does Proverbs 16:9 say? _____

2. Consider how Boaz addresses his workers in v.4. What does this reveal about him? _____

"Now Boaz does show many characteristics of a fine, outstanding, godly man. Just remember, it's a time of spiritual declension and apostasy, the period of the Judges. But here's a man who's walking with God, who comes out and greets his servants by saying, 'The Lord be with you'. Evidently there's a good management relationship here with servants, and they say, 'And the Lord bless thee'." Pastor Chuck Smith

- A. Read Ephesians 6:5-9. According to this passage...
*Though we may not be slaves, as workers/employees, what are we exhorted to be?(v.5) _____
*With what attitude are we to work/serve? (v.7) _____
*What benefit is there for those who follow these instruction? (v.8) _____

1. Is this exhortation given only to the worker bees? (v.9a) _____
a. Why? (v.9b) _____

♥ Got a bad attitude towards someone in authority over you (boss, ministry head, etc.)? Carefully re-read and meditate once more upon Ephesians 6:5-9. The rewards are ours in abundance if we confess, repent and submit to God's order for our lives. He definitely knows what He's doing. 😊

3. Boaz doesn't waste any time! What does he immediately want to know? (v.5) _____
A. **Initially**, why do you think Boaz was so interested in her? _____

4. The servant in charge of the reapers informs Boaz as to who Ruth is, why she has come...AND..where she is at this very minute! (v.6,7) Where was Ruth "sitting"? _____
A. What does the Lord know about us? (Psalm 139:1,2) _____

"The house was probably a temporary shelter for workers."

Ryrie Study Bible



Time to practice Isaiah 12:2 _____

DAY THREE

Pray then read **Ruth 2:8-13**

1. What are Boaz's first two words to Ruth? (v.8) _____
A. How does he refer to Ruth? _____
1. What do you believe this indicates about his intentions? _____

2. Boaz was more than willing to attend to Ruth's needs in v.8-9. Answer the following:

*How would her need for **companionship** be met? (v.8b) _____

*How would her need for **protection** be met? (v.9a) _____

*How would her need for **refreshment** be met? (v.9b) _____

A. How does the Lord meet **our** need for:

***companionship?** (John 14:16-17) _____

***protection?** (2 Thessalonians 3:3) _____

***refreshment?** (John 4:13-14) _____

♥ Stop and praise Him for His wonderful provision.

3. Why was Ruth surprised by Boaz's kindness? (v.10,13) _____

"Since I am a foreigner: This was constantly on Ruth's mind. She was a Moabitess, and not an Israelite. She knew that on the basis of national background, she didn't belong. This made Boaz's kindness to her all the more precious." David Guzik

4. What did Boaz perceive as extremely attractive about Ruth? (v.11) _____

A. According to Proverbs 31:30, what is important for us (as women) to remember? _____

1. Read Proverbs 31:31 and Ruth 2:12. Do you see the correlation? Share your thoughts. _____

5. Boaz saw Ruth as one seeking refuge under the wings of the LORD. (v.12b) What do these verses teach us?

***Psalm 17:8 _____

***Psalm 36:7 _____

***Psalm 57:1 _____

***Psalm 61:4 _____

***Psalm 63:7 _____

***Psalm 91:4 _____

♥ Which one of these blesses you the most and why? _____



Without peeking, write out Isaiah 12:2 speaking it out loud as you write: _____

Ask someone if you may share Isaiah 12:2 with them. If you did... share with your group ☺

DAY FOUR

Pray then read **Ruth 2:14-17**

1. How does Boaz continue to show kindness to Ruth? (v.14a) _____

A. Who actually served Ruth the roasted grain? (v.14b) _____

1. To what extent did he serve her the grain? _____

a. Read Isaiah 55:1-2. For those who come to the Lord hungering and thirsting, what will they "delight" in? (v.2b) _____

2. Record Boaz's words to his servants after Ruth rose to glean. (v.15,16) "Let her glean, even _____ the _____, and do _____ her. Also, you shall purposely _____ for her _____ from the bundles and _____ that she may glean, and do _____."

"The gleaners in the East glean with much success; for a great quantity of corn is scattered in the reaping, as well as in their manner of carrying it. One may judge, then, of the large quantity which Ruth would gather in consequence of the liberal orders given to the servants. These extraordinary marks of favor were not only given from a kindly disposition, but from regard to her good character and devoted attachment to her venerable relative." Robert Jamieson

3. How long did Ruth glean in the field and what does this say about her? (v.17) _____

A. Once again, let's take a look at the Proverbs 31 woman. According to v.27b, what does she **not** do?

Define: IDLE/IDLENESS _____

♥ You've probably heard the saying, "Idle hands are the devil's workshop". Even though idleness or unwillingness to work is not a good thing, working too much can also be wrong. Ask the Lord to search your heart and your motives and give you a healthy balance in regard to your work ethic. The Proverbs woman was recognized for her hard work, but praised for fearing the Lord. Hmmm.

4. After Ruth "beat out what she had gleaned", how much barley did she have? (v.17) _____

"After Ruth beat out (threshed) her barley, she had an **ephah**, about three-fifths of a bushel (22 lit, or 20 qt), enough to feed herself and Naomi for about 10 days." Ryrie Study Bible



DAY FIVE

Pray then read **Ruth 2:18-23**

1. Ruth gleaned in the field until evening. Where to and whom did she go at the end of the day?(v.18) _____

A. Look down at v.23b. Just in case there might be any possible doubt, what was Ruth and Naomi’s living arrangement? _____

1. Most of us have homes, responsibilities, and loved ones to return to after a long, hard day. Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-8. If we fully grasp what is waiting for us, what home would we “prefer”?

“The times you have been overwhelmed by God’s artistry as you look at the sunset, when you have been amazed by His grandeur as seen in a starry night, when you have been awed by His power, grace, and goodness as you look at the ocean, your family, or His Word are all “engagement rings” – sneak previews, down payments toward what lies ahead.” Jon Courson

2. What did Naomi say indicating that she was pleased by what Ruth had brought home?(v.19a) “May he who took notice of you be _____”.

A. What impressed Naomi even more? (v.19b,20) _____

“**relatives:** Here Naomi used the Hebrew word goel, ‘kinsman redeemer’.” Ryrie Study Bible

♥Even “if” Ruth didn’t fully realize just how amazing all of this really was...Naomi did!! She clearly saw the hand of God leading, directing and providing. What events in your life are you chalking up to “luck” or “coincidence”, failing to recognize and give glory to God? Write a word of thanksgiving to the Lord for the mighty way He **is** and **will** work all things out for you. (Romans 8:28)

3. After Ruth finishes sharing all the details of Boaz’s instructions to her, how does Naomi respond? (v.22) _____

A. Just imagine how encouraged Naomi was at this point! Even though she told her friends to call her Mara (bitter), that name is never again recorded in Scripture. It’s as if God is saying, “that name just won’t do”! Isaiah 62: 1-5 (esp. v.4) describes Zion’s glory and a new name given to her. Share how this blesses you. _____



Perfect segue to practice & write out your memory verse: _____

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.”

Revelation 2:17

