



Today's Topic: A Sovereign Plan

Ruth 2:17-20

Sunday, August 21, 2022

1. A Faithful Servant

“And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, ‘Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.’ Naomi said to her, ‘Go ahead, my daughter.’ So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters.”

Ruth 2:2-3a (NIV, 2011)

“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.” Leviticus 19:9-10 (NIV, 2011)

2. A Faithful Steward

“So Boaz said to Ruth, ‘My daughter, listen to me. Don’t go and glean in another field and don’t go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.’” Ruth 2:8-9 (NIV, 2011)

“The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.” Leviticus 25:23 (NIV, 2011)

“Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was _____.” Matthew 1:5 (NIV, 2011); compare Joshua 2; Hebrews 11:31

3. A Faithful God

“‘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 guardian-redeemers.’” Ruth 2:20 (NIV, 2011), compare Leviticus 25:25-55

The Point:

Next Steps:

Are we living as faithful servants and stewards while we trust God to work His greater plan?

Discussion Questions:

1. Describe a “random” event in your life that God used to lead you in a different direction.
2. Read Leviticus 19:9-10 and Deuteronomy 24:19-22. What do these passages from the Law of Moses teach us about how God wants us to care for the less fortunate in our culture?
3. Read Ruth 2:3-7. What first impression does Ruth make on those watching her? What lessons can we learn from her in this regard?
4. Why is Ruth so surprised by the “favor” she received from Boaz in this story?
5. What do the words and actions of Boaz say about his character?
6. How is God working through this “random” encounter?
7. What truth from this study will you think about and try to apply throughout the coming week?