



Sermon Discussion Questions

Under His Wings // Ruth 2

This chapter begins with two widows who have no means of support, even to get their next meal. Ruth, a stranger and a foreigner, and at great personal risk, takes the initiative in seeking food in the barley harvest. In that immediate context, two primary themes jump out of the passage – Caring for the poor and the significance of grace or favor.

- God consistently calls for practical compassion for the poor to provide food through a practice called gleaning (Leviticus 19:9-10; 23:22; Deuteronomy 24:19-22).
In our non-agrarian culture, how can and should we show that same practical compassion for the poor? Consider other passages such as *Deuteronomy 15:7,11* ; *Luke 14:13*; *Galatians 2:10*; *James 2:14-17*; *Romans 15:26*.
- What character qualities do you see in Ruth that challenge you toward personal godliness?
- What character qualities do you see in Boaz that challenge you toward personal godliness?
- This chapter has the repeated theme of *favor* from the perspective of expectation, verse 2 – *Let me go to the field and glean among the [heads] of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor*; surprise, verse 10 – *Why have I found favor in your eyes?*, and settled recognition, verse 13, *I have found favor in your eyes...*
How does this illustrate the ultimate favor that God shows us in eternal salvation? *Grace* in the New Testament?
Note: the Hebrew word *favor* has the same meaning as the Greek word *grace* in the New Testament in such key passages as *Romans 3:24*; *Ephesians 2:5-8*; *Titus 3:7*
- In what way does Ruth experience temporal salvation as a gift of undeserved favor or grace? How is this a picture of eternal salvation?
- In what way is Ruth rewarded for her good works?

- Boaz speaks to Ruth of “the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”
What is the evidence in your life that you are under the wings of God?

