

Ruth 2

Name



Harvest Time

Gleaning means picking up the bits of corn left behind by the reapers. God had given the Israelites a law that they must always leave some of the crop for the poorest people to come and pick up. There were no State benefits in those days, so God kindly made sure there was free food for the most needy. Gleaning was back-breaking work, as the gleaner was bent double most of the time. Ruth and Naomi were widows, so really poor.

Read Ruth 2 v 1-3


- 'Kinsman' (v 1) means a relative. 1) What was the relative's name? Remember this man's name!
 2. What did Ruth decide to do? (v 2)
 3. Whose field did she end up in? (v 3)

Read through Ruth 2 v 4-17

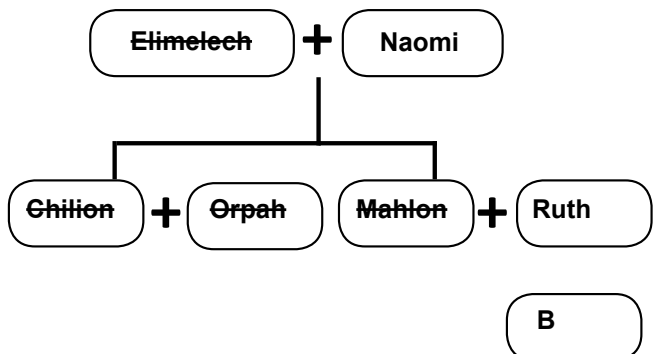
4. How did Boaz treat Ruth? (see v 13) friendly / angry / mocking
 This was surprising to Ruth, because she was a poor foreigner.
 5. Why was Boaz so kind to Ruth? (v 11-14)

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 Boaz provided food, water, protection and even told his men to drop some extra grain for Ruth to collect. Why did he do this? He didn't need to! He was showing grace, or favour, to Ruth out of kindness.
 Boaz is a picture of the Lord. We don't deserve God's favour because of our sins, but He shows great grace to those who turn to Him.

6. Who did God provide as a sacrifice for sins?
 He did this even when we were His enemies, because of His great love for His people. Have you trusted in Jesus to take away your sins?



Do Christians believe in chance?
 It seems that Ruth just made a 'lucky' guess about where to glean if you read this quickly. But remember! Ruth trusted in God. All true Christians believe that God orders every detail of their life. This is what the Bible teaches, so of course it was God Who had directed Ruth there.



7. How much grain had Ruth collected by the end of the day? (v 17)
 One ephah is equivalent to about 22 litres of grain! That's quite a lot. Imagine carrying that home after a long day's work! But it would make many loaves of bread.

Now look at Ruth 2 v 18-23

8. What did Naomi tell Ruth about Boaz? (v 20)

 Write the name Boaz in the empty box in the family tree. Join his name to Elimelech's box with a dotted line.
 Naomi told Ruth to stay working in his field. She also praised the Lord for sending Ruth to Boaz' field. She knew God was looking after them. If you put your trust in the Lord Jesus you can be sure God will care for you.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Romans 8 v 32