

Study Guide for May 6th, 2001. Series: Under His Care: Ruth 2 - The Dawning of Hope.

1. Recall a time when events unfolded so that you **began** to receive something for which you had hoped and prayed in earnest. How long was it before you **fully** realized that things were working out?

2. Background on the story: God's CARE for the vulnerable and needy.

A. **Gleaning** was a practice that respectfully provided for the poor. What is taught about **gleaning**...

1) Lev. 19:9-10:

2) Lev. 23:22:

3) Deut 24:19-22:

B. What benefits do you see in **gleaning** as opposed to strict welfare?

C. A **Redeemer** (relative) was commanded to step in and help in what circumstances?

1) Lev. 25:25:

2) Lev. 25:35:

3) Lev. 25:47-49:

D. How does this O.T. image provide a glimpse of Jesus, the ultimate **Redeemer**?

3. Reputation: Note what is reported in the chapter and said about the character of . . .

A. Boaz:

B. Ruth:

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. (Pr. 22:1)

How do the examples of Boaz and Ruth motivate you?

4. Prayer for God's Blessing: Boaz asks for God's blessing on Ruth when he says, "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.**" (Ruth 2:12). What can you learn about this phrase?

A. Deut. 32:10-11:

B. Psalm 36:7:

B. Psalm 57:1:

D. Psalm 91:4:

When have you sensed that kind of protection?

Who do you know now who needs to experience that kind of care from the Lord?

5. God's PROVIDENCE: Where do you see God's **unseen hand** at work in chapter 2? How could this observation provide the basis for encouraging someone going through a difficult time?

6. God's FAVOR: How many times do you note God's FAVOR being requested in chapter 2? How could this observation provide a guide for your prayers for others - especially those going through difficulty?