

RUTH

finding **HOPE** in a disappointing world

Ruth 2: Having Our Needs Met in Disappointing Times

1. Our needs will be met through our _____

"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. Leave them for the poor and the alien.** I am the LORD your God". (Leviticus 23:22)

"When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. **Leave it for the alien, the fatherless and the widow,** so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands." (Deut 24:19)

"And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, '**Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain** behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.'" (2:2)

2. Our needs will be met through our own _____

•We must take _____
"Ruth the Moabitess said... '**Let me go**'..." (2:2)

•We must be _____ (2:7)
"She went into the field and has **worked steadily from morning till now...**"

•We must have _____
"So Ruth gleaned in the field **until evening.** Then she threshed the barley she had gathered, and **it amounted to about an ephah** (35 lbs.)." (2:17)

3. Our needs will be met through our own _____

•Faith involves _____ about ourselves
"**Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.**" (2:7)
"Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a **foreigner**?" (2:10)
"You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly to your **servant—though I do not have the standing of one of your servant girls.**" (2:13)

•Faith involves _____ on God
"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.**" (2:12)

4. Our needs will be met through _____

"Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side...**a man of standing,** whose name was Boaz." (2:1) "**As it turned out,** she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz" (2:2)

"**Just then** Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, '**The LORD be with you!**' '**The LORD bless you!**' they called back." (2:4)

"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 my servant girls. Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the girls. **I have told the men not to touch you.** And whenever you are thirsty, **go and get a drink from the water jars** the men have filled.'" (2:8-9)

"At mealtime Boaz said to her, '**Come over here. Have some bread and dip it in the wine vinegar.**' When she sat down with the harvesters, he offered her some roasted grain. She ate all she wanted and had some left over. As she got up to glean, **Boaz gave orders to his men, 'Even if she gathers among the sheaves, don't embarrass her. Rather, pull out some stalks for her from the bundles and leave them for her to pick up, and don't rebuke her.'**" (2:14-16)

5. Our needs will be met through _____

"The LORD bless him!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. 'He (God) has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead.' She added, '**That man (Boaz) is our close relative; he is one of our kinsman-redeemers.**'" (2:20)

Now What?

If we faithfully _____, God will faithfully _____

Why does it not always happen in our lives?

- Our needs may not be _____ needs
- Our needs are _____ met
- Our needs may be _____ than we supposed

What can I do now to have my needs met?

- Determine what _____ to take
- Trust the situation to the Lord through _____
- Look for _____ working in our lives