

SERIES TITLE: RESCUED

PART TWO: WHEN YOU NEED SHELTER

TEXT: RUTH 2

INTRODUCTION.

The action of Ruth takes place during the time of Judges, more than 1,000 years before Christ. Since Ruth is a Moabitess (a nationality generally considered immoral in Israel—see Gen. 19:30-38; Numbers 25:1-3), the story shows how she became part of the royal lineage of David. An important part of the plot involves the kinsman-redeemer. To understand more about how the next of kin was obliged to help the widow and the impoverished, see Deut. 25:5-10; Lev. 25:23-28.

DISCUSSION.

Have you ever been part of a harvest? What was it like?

EXAMINATION.

Vv.1-3 What do you learn here about Ruth and Naomi and their relationship?

What do you think of the concept of gleaning? (see Lev. 19:9-10; 23:22) How is that similar to or different from what we do for the poor and alien in our country?

vv.4-9 What most impresses you about Boaz?

vv.10-16 What are all the negatives about Ruth that could make her less than desirable?

Why is v.12 so important that it could be considered the central truth of the whole book?

What is the most significant way that Boaz honors Ruth in this story?

vv.17-23 What are the indications that gleaning wasn't always a safe activity, and what seem to be the possible dangers?

APPLICATION.

- What do you have to believe about God to be able to do the following: Take the Next Biblical Step; Work Hard; Do the Righteous Thing?

- How should this story influence the way you make decisions or what you do when faced with a difficult situation?
- Which of the qualities displayed by Ruth or Boaz need to show up more in your life? Why?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?