

RUTH 3

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

CONTEXT

- Up to this point in the story, how would you describe Boaz's character? What has he done to support your judgment?
- Up to this point in the story, how would you describe Ruth's character? What has she done to support your judgment?
- Ruth was a female, widow, foreigner, immigrant, and a Moabite. Do you remember from previous lessons why these things would have made her very vulnerable as she tries to find a new life in Bethlehem?
- We learned last week in Ruth 2:20 that Boaz held a special position called a *Go'el* (*English: kinsmen redeemer; guardian redeemer*). Watch this video to learn more about what a *Go'el* is: <https://youtu.be/0FEwuQbB-Lc>

OBSERVATION

- Widows would often wear special clothing to signify they were still mourning. Ruth changes into new robes. What do you think this suggests?
- Ruth proposes to marry Boaz. Marriages were often arranged by the parents back in this day and culture, so why do you think Ruth chooses to go against this tradition?
- We have been told already that Ruth is vulnerable to being hurt by evil men (see 2:9). Ruth now puts herself in a very vulnerable position coming to Boaz under the cover of night in a secret place. What makes Ruth believe Boaz will not treat her like other men might?
- Boaz could have taken advantage of Ruth, but he didn't. What does he do instead? Read verse 11 again. When he looks at Ruth, what does he see?
- Read [Leviticus 19:33-34](#). How is Boaz applying this law to his interactions with Ruth?

MEANING

- In chapter 2 we see Ruth learning about the providential love of her new God. In chapter 3 she begins to learn about how God wants his people to live, as seen in the example of Boaz. What is Ruth learning about God's people?

- Naomi and Ruth might have gone about this in an inappropriate way, but God does not punish them or stop caring for them through Boaz. What does this say about who our God is?
- Desperate will do desperate things to survive, and others will often look to take advantage of those desperate people. But what is God teaching us about how we should treat those in need?

APPLICATION

- Right now there are (or soon will be) many people in a desperate situation like Ruth to stay healthy and financially stable. What family members, friends, or neighbors do you need to keep an eye out for while we wait out this pandemic?
- God blessed Boaz so that he could be generous with others. How has God blessed you or your family so that you can serve the needs of those around you?
- Boaz responded joyfully at the opportunity to help Ruth. How can you prepare your heart to respond with joy when the opportunity arises to help someone else in need?