

Redemption

Week 4 – More than Leftovers

Transition: Last week's text recorded Naomi and Ruth's journey to Bethlehem and revealed the toll that suffering had on Naomi. The providence of God was subtly seen in the mention of barley harvest, which would be instrumental in turning the tide for Naomi and Ruth.

Check Point: Would anyone like to share something they worked on from last week's discussion?

Context: In this week's text, Ruth sets out to the fields to glean grain. She "just so happens" to come to the field owned by Boaz, a relative of Naomi's husband. Boaz takes notice of Ruth and makes sure that she is protected from potential harm in the fields.

Opening Questions:

- How do you typically respond when someone treats you with favor that you didn't earn?
- When you have felt like an outsider, what helped you to feel welcome? What made you feel unwelcome?

Scripture/Storying: Ruth 2:1-13

Discipleship Questions:

- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?
- God set up specific gleaning laws to provide food for the vulnerable and poor (Leviticus 19:9-10). Have you ever been in a position where you relied on the good will of others to get you through hardship? Share your story and the emotions that come up when you think about it.
- Who in your life right now is vulnerable and in need of compassion? What are some practical ways you can be a Boaz to them?
- Verse 3 shows God's providence in bringing Ruth to the specific part of the field belonging to Boaz. Where have you seen God's providence in your life, bringing you to just the right place at just the right time? How does God's providence comfort you?
- Verse 7 tells us that Ruth had been working from early morning with hardly any rest. Share a time when you had to make tremendous sacrifice for those you love. What did you learn through the experience?
- In verse 11 Boaz recognized Ruth's willingness to sacrifice. Who in your life do you see quietly making sacrifices that needs to be noticed? What are some practical ways to demonstrate your appreciation of them?
- In verse 12, Boaz mentions that Ruth found refuge under God's wings. Share a time with the group when you found refuge under God's wings. What were you feeling in that moment?

Prayer time: - Street Hope TN

Pray for continued protection over the youth they serve and a deeper impact through their ministry efforts. Pray for open doors as they connect with new schools and churches for prevention education in the fall, and for God's guidance as they prepare for the year ahead. May this month be marked by clarity, provision, and hearts ready to receive truth!