



Welcome to Week Three of REDEEMER

Ruth 2:8

Ruth 2:9

Ruth 2:10

Ruth 2:11

Ruth 2:12

Ruth 2:13

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Ruth 2:15

Ruth 2:16

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Ruth 2:20

Ruth 2:21

Ruth 2:22

Ruth 2:23

Questions for Reflection or Discussion:

1. We make financial donations for many reasons, some more virtuous than others. We might have a tax advantage in mind, or enjoy the public approval that comes our way. Yet Boaz generously provided for Ruth with no apparent expectation of any return on his investment and no need for recognition.

Matthew 6:3-4 tells us, “When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” Why do you think the Lord instructs us to help others secretly instead of openly? From your own experience, what have you discovered about the value of giving anonymously?

2. As a psalmist, David repeatedly turned to the vivid imagery of a bird gathering its chicks under its wings to describe how God nurtures and protects his own, as we read in **Psalms 36:7**: “How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.”

What aspect of being beneath His wings most appeals to you? Is it the assurance of protection? The comfort of being hidden from view? The sense of closeness? The peacefulness? The safety? When was the last time you sought refuge beneath His wings, and how did He meet your needs there?

3. The Hebrew word *hesed* plays a pivotal role in the book of Ruth. According to Katharine Doob Sakenfeld, what separates *hesed* from a random act of kindness is that the action must be “essential to the survival or basic well-being of the recipient” and must be something that “only the person doing the act of *hesed* is in a position to provide.”

Based on those two criteria of *hesed*, how does Ruth qualify as showing Naomi *hesed*? And what about Boaz in regard to Naomi and Ruth? Who has shown *hesed* to you? And who in your life might benefit right now from your own unique way of expressing loving-kindness, mercy, and grace?