

Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes!

A Servant's Heart



By Mary Kane

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Please take a moment to ask our Holy Father to forgive you of any sin that is on your heart and ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit.

Now please read Ruth 2: 10-14.

Ruth was a Moabite widow who accompanied her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi, back to Bethlehem. In order to provide for Naomi, Ruth left her homeland (Moab) and toiled in the fields of Bethlehem, gathering grain for their daily bread.

What did Ruth find amidst her hard work and sacrifice (verse 10)?

She found *favor*. Favor means "grace, goodwill, acceptance." She who was unacceptable became acceptable (Moabite people were enemies of the Hebrews).

Why did Ruth find favor from Boaz (verse 11 and end of 12)?

She found favor because she sought refuge in God and because of her sacrifice for another. Ruth was being blessed because she had blessed another.

What would Ruth receive because of her hard work and sacrifice for her mother-in-law?

She would be completely compensated *and* given a full reward for all she had sacrificed in doing the work that God had called her to do. If you have given up anything to serve another, a job, a position, a dream, your freedom, you will also be given a full reward.

What did Boaz provide for Ruth during her arduous day?

What do you think is the most important word in verse 14?

I believe it is the word *satisfied*. Isn't it wonderful to know that all though Ruth was probably scared, overworked and overwhelmed, she was still satisfied?

Perhaps, like Ruth you also feel scared, overwhelmed and ill-equipped to accomplish all that you need to in order to care for the people that God has placed in your life. Do you worry that your Father doesn't see your sacrifice and hard work? Please be assured that "it has been fully reported to Him" all that you have done for your sick daughter, your injured son, your wounded husband, or your aging parents. Like Ruth, grace will be provided for your hard work; grace that was not available before this great need came to pass.

Ruth had lost everything... and amidst her great loss and pain she sought God with all her heart. Will you do the same? Despite great suffering and pain will you seek God? Will you trust Him to provide the

grace and blessing you need to continue this important calling on your life? Someone reading this today needs to hear this: God loves you. He sees your sacrifice and your hard work. Please continue fighting the good fight and ask God to provide the grace and strength you need. Like manna, God provides the grace we need each day for only that day—we just need to gather it.

Well done good and faithful servant. Be blessed.

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