



Walking with God:

A Study on the Book of

Ruth

Day Nine

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I am so glad you came back for Day Nine of our study. I am praying that God is using the book of Ruth to deeply affect and change your life. Please turn on your computer and get your study materials. Don't forget to ready your heart for Bible study by taking a moment to pray and ask for forgiveness and the filling of the Holy Spirit. Please sign your initials on the line after you have prayed: _____.

Today we are going to study a few words and phrases from Chapter Two.

1. Please read Ruth 2 in two different versions of the Bible. Record any special verses or new thoughts from Ruth 2 in your journal. Use the Blue Letter Bible (BLB) link to access different versions of the Bible if needed: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/>
2. Now please answer the following questions:
 - a. How does Ruth plan to provide food for herself and Naomi?
 - b. Where is she planning to glean grain (verse 2)?
 - c. Where does she end up (verse 3)?

The NKJV reads, "...and she *happened* to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz..." (emphasis mine). On the surface it seems as if Ruth *just wandered by chance* into the field of Boaz. A little research will prove otherwise!

3. Please go to the BLB website, at the top of the page, underneath *Bible/Dictionary Search* the where it says (*help*) (*abbreviations*) (*drop list*) type *Ruth 2:3* (this is a different place from where we have usually started our searches). Then next to Ruth 2:3, click on the *blue box C*. Then scroll down and click on the *blue H number* for the phrase *and her hap*.

- a. Please research the Hebrew word *miqreh* and its root word *qarah* and record your findings in your journal.

Now, to fully catch the flavor of *miqreh* and *qarah*, please read the following information from *The Complete Word Study Dictionary Old Testament* (TCWSDOT):

" A chance event, a happening, a fate. It [miqreh] refers to something that occurs without human planning or intervention."
"It [qarah] is used of an event in which God is involved or is behind the scenes working something out."

- b. Taking into consideration the meanings of *miqreh* and *qarah*, did Ruth just *happen* to go to the field of Boaz? Answer in your journal please.
- c. Now please go back and rewrite verse three, substituting the word *happened* with other words or phrases we just learned from the Hebrew meaning of *qarah*. Please record your rewritten verse in your journal.

Often we are concerned about *finding* or *missing* God's will for our lives. Ruth was not concerned about either of these things; she focused on seeking God and living according to His plan and provision. She lived each day trusting God for her *daily bread* through the practice of gleaning.

When you are trying to seek God's will for your life and don't know what to do next, shift your focus from seeking His *will* to seeking *Him*. Live according to His Word and God will move you where He wants you to be. He will bring the people, the situations, and the opportunities about to guide you in your journey with Him. Like Ruth, being obedient to what you already know to do (for Ruth it meant gleaning, for us it means reading God's Word, studying, praying) can change the entire course of your life.

In case you still aren't convinced the meeting between Ruth and Boaz was not purely a coincidence, let's study another interesting Hebrew word in verse 4.

4. Please type *Ruth 2:4* in the *Word or Verse* search bar to the right of your screen. Click on *blue box V* next to *Ruth 2:4*, then scroll down and click on *WLC* version of the Bible. Next to *Ruth 2:4* (all in Hebrew), click on *blue box C*. Now scroll down and click on the *blue H number* for *hinneh*. Please record in your journal what you discover from your research about *hinneh*.
 - a. Now please hit the back arrow at the top of your screen. (The next set of directions might seem a little complicated but please follow them to learn another important study technique.)



- b. Now please scroll up to *Ruth 2:4* and click the *blue box V* to change out of the Hebrew to your favorite version. Then click on the *blue box C*. In the blue phrase *And, behold, Boaz* on the left side of the *Lexicon Concordance for Ruth 2:4*, please click on the blue word *behold*.
- c. Please scroll through the *Concordance* entries for the word *behold* and take note of the context in which *hinneh* is usually used. Make notes in your journal.

Many times the word *behold* is used to indicate that God is doing something important, miraculous or significant. In this case (Ruth 2:4), God was deep at work miraculously directing the everyday events of a young foreign widow who was laboring to provide for her mother-in-law to meet her kinsman redeemer.

Please read the following entry from TCWSDOT:

When Hinnēh is used it “ ... indicates a call to realize something that **God** or others have done” ... “It [hinnēh] can call attention to something that is about to happen, a future reference.” (emphasis mine).

Perhaps right now, like Ruth, you are facing a seemingly impossible problem or challenge. It may seem that doing the right thing is a dead end street. Like Ruth, do the right thing anyway. When you don't know what to do, continue to follow God. Read your Bible. Pray. Worship. Trust in His word and seek Him with all your heart. God is deep at work in the everyday events of your life guiding and directing you. No matter the cost, no matter what the sacrifice, always follow Him. Behold, He is working all things for your good!

Have you had any *behold moments* in your life?

What do you need to do right now to follow God?

End today by giving God any hardship or trial (financial, relational, physical, emotional) you are facing. Ask Him to work it out according to **His will**. Step out in faith and trust Him to lead you and guide you.

God bless you.

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