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Walking With God: A Study on the Book of Ruth, Day Twelve by Mary Kane

Thank you for returning to another day of Bible study! God bless you for your diligence and perseverance.

Please take a moment to quiet yourself before the Lord. Pray and ask God to cleanse your heart from any unrighteousness and for the Holy Spirit to give you fresh insight during your study time today. After you have finished praying, please sign your initials on the blank: _______. Today we are going to focus on a few unusual phrases from Ruth Chapter 3.

Gather your study materials, turn on your computer and let's begin!

- 1. Please read Ruth Chapter 3 in your favorite version of the Bible.
 - a. Please record your thoughts and special verses in your journal.
 - b. Now, please log on to Blue Letter Bible (BLB) and read Ruth Chapter 3 in a different version. Please recors your thoughts and impressions in your journal.

2. What unusual things does Ruth do in verse 7?

- a. On BLB, look up Ruth 3:7, and click on the *blue box L*. Click on a commentary and research why Ruth went to the threshing floor at night, and why she uncovered Boaz' feet.
- b. Look up the Hebrew definitions for any words that interest you in Ruth3:1-7.
- c. Please record you answers for a and b in your journal.

3. Now please read Ruth 3:9 again. What unusual thing does Ruth do in verse 9?

- a. On BLB, go to Ruth 3:9 and click on the *blue box L* button. Please choose a couple of commentaries and research the phrase *under your wing*.
 Please record your findings in your journal.
- 4. Now, reread verse 10 again.

a. Does anything strike you odd about Boaz' second statement?

When I first studied this passage of scripture, I was confused as to how Ruth had showed Boaz more kindness *later* in their relationship than in the *beginning*. Ruth being poor and destitute was not able to show any kindness to Boaz. A quick word study will shed a little light on this phrase.

5. Please research the phrase *at the end* from Ruth 3:10 by using the *blue box C.*Record your findings in your journal.

The Hebrew word for this phrase transliterates as *acharown*. *Acharown* refers to something that falls behind in reference to *time* or *location*. One of my Hebrew dictionaries states that in Ruth 3:10 *acharown* refers to a *spatial location*, *order or ranking*. If you keep in mind the end of verse 10, this explanation makes sense. Boaz, because of his greater age did not consider himself to be Ruth's first choice for a husband. In his eyes, Boaz ranked at the end of the line after the young men—rich or poor.

6. Please read verse 11 again. What is Ruth asking Boaz to do for her?

When a man asks a woman to marry him, he is assuming responsibility for her financially, spiritually, and physically.

7. How has Jesus provided for you *financially, spiritually* and *physically* for His entire life until "death do us part"?

When we accept Jesus' offer for eternal life, He provides for us **financially** by paying in-full our debt of sin, **spiritually** by making a way for us to be reconciled to God and **physically** by giving us abundant life until "death do us meet."

- 8. Now please read verse 15 again.
 - a. What curious thing does Boaz do in verse? 15?

(Six ephahs of grain weighed about eighty pounds.)

b. Why did he give this grain to Ruth (verse 17)?

I think the grain was really a sign from God to Naomi and Ruth ... But a sign of what?

c. Please compare Ruth 1:21 to Ruth 3:17. What message is God sending to Naomi?

Isn't it wonderful that God is always ready and waiting to redeem our sins and mistakes? When we turn from the emptiness of the world, back to God, He is waiting to fill us to overflowing with His presence and grace.

In closing, please consider the following from Ruth 3:15:

Ruth was given a promise (marriage) and a deposit (guarantee) that it would be fulfilled. Please fill in the missing element.

Ruth
The container— <u>her shawl</u>
The depositor— <u>Boaz</u>
The deposit—

As Christians, we have also have been given a promise (Rev. 19:7, 22:20) and a deposit (2 Cor. 1:22) in our container (1 Cor. 6:19). Please look up the verses above and fill in the blanks in the chart below.

Christian The container: _____ The Depositor: _____ The Deposit: _____

So, " ... sit still my daughter," He will not rest until your redemption is complete.