

## BE A BRINGER

*“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”*  
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

*“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....”* I Samuel 12:23a

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Tony & Marcia Haug



Missionaries  
to Japan

Please Contact Them at  
tonysai777@me.com

# Ruth

Loss, Love and Legacy  
GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 06/03/18

Study: 06/10/18

## Moving Forward In Favor

All day long, Ruth labored with a happy and hopeful heart. She didn’t have to worry about the men harassing her or the other workers hindering her. She had food when she was hungry, drink when she was thirsty, and a place of rest when she became weary. The grain she gleaned amounted to about half a bushel, enough food for the two women for nearly a week. She also had some food left over from her lunch (v. 18). Ruth was not only a diligent worker, but she was also careful not to waste anything God had given her.

How will Naomi respond to Ruth’s experiences? The last time we met Naomi, she was sharing her bitterness with the women of Bethlehem and blaming God for her sorrow and poverty. When Ruth had asked permission to go to the fields to glean, all Naomi said to her was, “Go, my daughter” (v. 2). She gave her daughter-in-law no word of encouragement, not even the promise of her prayers.

But now we hear a new word from Naomi’s lips: “blessed!” (vv. 19–20). She not only blessed Ruth’s benefactor, but she also blessed the Lord! We have moved from bitterness to blessedness. When Naomi saw the grain, she blessed the man who allowed Ruth to work in his field, and when she heard that the man was Boaz, Naomi blessed the Lord. What a change has taken place in the heart of this grieving widow! This change came about because of the new hope she had in her heart, and the one who gave her that new hope was Boaz.

Naomi had hope because of who Boaz was—a near kinsman who was wealthy and influential. As we shall see, a near kinsman could rescue relatives from poverty and give them a new beginning (Lev. 25:25–34). But she also had hope because of what Boaz did: He showed kindness to Ruth and took a personal interest in her situation. When Ruth shared with Naomi what Boaz had said, Naomi’s hope grew even stronger because the words of Boaz revealed his love for Ruth and his desire to make her happy. That Boaz insisted on Ruth staying close to his servants and in his field was proof to Naomi that her husband’s relative was making plans that included her and her daughter-in-law.

Should not we who believe in Jesus Christ rejoice in hope? When you consider who He is, what He has done for us, and what He says to us in His Word, there is no reason for us to feel hopeless. Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He has died for us, and now He intercedes for us in heaven. In His Word, He has given us “exceeding great and precious promises” (2 Peter 1:4 KJV) that can never fail. No matter how you may feel today, no matter how difficult your circumstances may be, you can rejoice in hope if you will focus your faith on Jesus Christ.

The exciting new hope that now possessed the two widows was centered in a person, Boaz, just as our hope is centered in the Son of God. In fact, Jesus Christ is our hope (1 Tim. 1:1; 1 Thess. 1:3; Col. 1:27). Through faith in Christ, we have been born again into “a living hope” (1 Peter 1:3), and because it is a living hope, it grows stronger each day and produces fruit. The hopes that the world clings to are dead hopes, but ours is a living hope because it is rooted in the living Christ.

Source: “Be Committed” by Warren Wiersbe

## KEY VERSE

Ruth 2:10

*So she fell on her face, bowed down to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" NKJV*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Monday: Ruth 2:10-23**

### Introduction

1. What's one thing that God has done in your life that far exceeded what you could have asked for or dreamt of?
2. How do you define favor?

**Tuesday: Ruth 2:10-13; Psalm 119:57-58; Proverbs 8:35**

### Seek God's Favor

3. How did Ruth respond to the favor Boaz showed to her?
4. What qualities did Ruth demonstrate which made her open to receive God's blessings?

**Wednesday: Ruth 2:14-17; I John 3:1; Ephesians 2:4-9**

### God Lavishes His Love On His Children

5. Boaz had already shown favor to Ruth. In what ways does he show additional favor towards her in this passage?
6. How has God demonstrated His favor towards you?

**Thursday: Ruth 2:18-21; Psalm 13:5-6**

### Rejoice Over God's Kindness

7. What are some specific acts of kindness that Boaz performed toward Ruth?
8. What was Naomi's reaction to Ruth's explanation?
9. What words would you use to describe Boaz?

**Friday: Ruth 2:22-23; John 15:4; Psalm 73:28**

### Remain Close To God

10. What was Naomi's advice to Ruth as Chapter 2 comes to a close?
11. What do you do to remain close to God and deepen your relationship with Him?
12. What has God taught you so far through your study Ruth?