



Refuge

Ruth 2

To get the most out of this guide, prepare **BEFORE** your growth group, then be ready to discuss **DURING** the group. This will help you and others to engage and respond to God's Word.

▶ Starter

1. Share an example of a “random act of kindness”.

Much of the book of Ruth revolves around harvesting, gleaning, gathering. To understand more about the context, let's go back to some of the Old Testament laws.

▶ Pray & read Leviticus 19:9-10 and Deuteronomy 24:19-22

2. What provisions are made for the poor, the alien, the needy?
3. What reasons lie behind these provisions?

▶ Read Ruth 2:1-7

4. What impression do we get of Ruth?
5. What impression do we get of Boaz?

Boaz is described as a ‘man of standing’ (2:1). Ruth is described as a ‘woman of noble character’ (3:11). These descriptions both come from the same Hebrew word which signifies integrity, strength or wealth. It is also the same word used of the woman of ‘noble character’ in Proverbs 31:10.

▶ **Read Ruth 2:8-23**

6. In what ways does Boaz go “above and beyond” for Ruth? Why?

7. What makes the kindness of Boaz particularly remarkable? (Compare vv. 6, 10, 13 with Deut 23:3-6)

8. How does Boaz reflect the kindness of God? (See also Titus 3:3-7)

9. In what ways might the kindness of God change the way you treat:
 - a) your family

 - b) your church family

 - c) outsiders

▶ **Possible prayer points**

- Thank God that the gospel of Jesus is a message for all people, no matter what race or nationality.
- Ask God to give you a loving and welcoming attitude towards strangers, foreigners, the sick, the marginalised and the poor, that you may show kindness toward all people.
- Thank God for all the blessings he gives us even though we have done nothing to deserve them.