



God's Heart for the Marginalized and the Outsider

May 9, 2021

Introduction

- ❓ What does benevolence mean? If you had to give a short definition, what would you say?
- ❓ Do you have a category for benevolence in your personal or family budget? Why or why not? How do you see benevolence practiced through our church?

1. Ruth's Humility and Industry (Ruth 2:1-3)

- ❓ What did Ruth have to do in order for both she and Naomi to survive? When was a time you took initiative out of desperation?

- ❓ Application: What has the Lord given you to do? Have you brought glory to God by being industrious in it?

2. God's Providence (Ruth 2:4-7)

- ❓ How did God provide for Ruth even before she met Boaz?

- ❓ Application: How has God provided for you? Was His provision mixed with some hardship? Which do you allow to dictate your view of God: His provision or the hardship?

3. Boaz's Favor (Ruth 2:8-22)

- ❓ What did Boaz do to show Ruth favor? In what ways does Boaz's kindness toward Ruth reflect God's kindness toward sinners?



Application: In what ways has God's favor fallen upon you? Has His favor led you to a life of contented worship and obedience to Him or do you believe that God owes you? What needs to change in light of today's study?

Conclusion



Are you industrious for the glory of God? Do you work for God's glory out of a sense of guilt and penance or with joy and contentment because of God's great work of salvation in your soul?



When you look back over your life, how can you see God's providence there? What are some specific examples of God's providence that prepared the way for your salvation?

Daily Readings

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Monday - Ruth 2:1-3 | - Thursday - Ruth 2:13-18 |
| - Tuesday - Ruth 2:4-7 | - Friday - Ruth 2:19-20 |
| - Wednesday - Ruth 2:8-12 | - Saturday - Ruth 2:21-23 |

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

All have sinned: Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8

There is a penalty for sin: Romans 6:23 & John 3:18

You cannot save yourself: Titus 3:5 & James 2:10

Salvation has been provided: Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:16, & John 14:6

The conditions are simple: *Repent* - Luke 13:3, *Confess* - 1 John 1:9 & Romans 10:9,

Believe - Acts 16:31

Now is the time for a decision: Joshua 24:15 & 2 Corinthians 6:2

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians. Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).