

Participants in Providence

Ruth 3:1-18

October 20, 2024

Discussion Questions - These questions are a guide and conversation starter, not an exact script.

1. In 3:1, Naomi says, “**should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well (Hebrew: *tov*) with you?**” What connection do we see between this and Naomi’s perception about God’s attitude to her in 2:20? As we begin to believe in God’s goodness and see His goodness in our lives, how should this motivate us to pursue good in other people’s lives?

2. What was Naomi’s bold plan that she instructed Ruth to undertake? What was she risking? How did this plan require radical faith for both Naomi and Ruth?

3. In 3:7, it says that Boaz’s “**heart was merry (Hebrew: *tov*, good)**”. What picture do we get of Boaz in 3:2 and 7?

4. In response to Ruth’s request for marriage, Boaz responds, “**You have made this last kindness (Hebrew: *tov hesed* - good kindness) greater than the first” (3:10). What did Boaz see as the good Ruth was trying to accomplish in her actions?**

5. Even though Boaz agrees to do all that Ruth has requested (3:11), he says that there is another redeemer closer than he. He says, “**If he will redeem you, good (Hebrew: *tov*), let him do it.**” What do we learn about Boaz’s character in this? How can we try to have the same attitude with regard to our plans and desires?

6. What did Boaz say to Ruth about the gift of barley in 3:17? What connection was there between this statement and Naomi’s statement in 1:21? When you are tempted to think you are empty, what specific evidences of God’s fullness can you remind yourself of so that you might cultivate gratitude in your heart to God?