A GOD OF PROVIDENCE

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

We live in a society that is materially wealthy compared to many, and we have many freedoms when it comes to choice. Do you think that our trust in God is weakened by these facts?

Read Ruth 2

- Looking at the first 4 verses, what can we learn about Boaz?
- Look at Deuteronomy 24 : 19, and Leviticus 19 : 9,10.
 - What do we learn about God's character from the law on gleaning?
 - What do we learn about Boaz from the way he kept the law (remember Judges 21 : 25)?



- Boaz noticed Ruth straightaway. What strikes you about Ruth as we watch her in the opening part of this chapter? Look at chapter 2 : 1-7.
- We talked last week about God's loving-kindness which comes up throughout the book of Ruth. Where do you see examples of it in this chapter?
 - What does it tell us about Boaz that he shows the same kindness (v 8-9, v 14-16)?

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- What do we learn about Ruth in verse 10 and verse 13?
- What is the 'gossip' that has gone round about Ruth, according to Boaz in verse 11?
- How might this challenge us as we think about how people talk about us behind our backs – at work, at the school gate, in our neighbourhood?
- Think about how we left Naomi last week, and how she is in today's chapter in **verses 19-23**.
- Naomi may have felt that God's kindness had stopped flowing as she came back to Bethlehem. Review chapter 2 again to see the places where it had obviously continued.



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GOING DEEPER

Boaz gives a beautiful picture of God's wings in Ruth 2 : 12.



Exodus 19:4 | Psalm 36:7 | Psalm 57:1

Look at these verses to see other places where this picture appears



Jesus also used the picture of being protective like a mother hen in Matthew 23 v 37)

Are these pictures that you can identify with when you think of God? Can you think of other places in the Bible where God provides protection?

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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

Use this song as a prayer in your group

(Ben Cantelon - Guardian)



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MiRH8Hc8VQI

PRAY

Ask God to remind you through today's chapter of his provision and protection of us.

Honestly seek to share with your group if you feel more like Naomi did at the start of the chapter than at the end of the chapter.

Ask them to pray for you.