

“There is a Redeemer”

6. The Book of Ruth – Ruth 2: 14-23

Purpose: The students will learn about the “kinsman-redeemer”

Recap: (Write “There is a Redeemer”- the title of this series, on the board) We are reading the book of Ruth in the Old Testament for Bible time. These Bible times are called “There is a Redeemer” because Ruth had a redeemer, and we have a redeemer. Who is our redeemer? (Jesus Christ) What does “redeem” mean? (to buy back)

Last week in Bible time what happened in our story? (Ruth was gleaning in a field. The field belonged to Boaz. Boaz was a relative of Naomi’s husband. Boaz was a very good man who loved and respected God. Boaz was very kind to Ruth.)

Introduction:

Last week in the story Ruth met Boaz. Boaz followed God’s law. God’s law said that farmers could not pick up any food that fell on the ground. The food was for poor people and foreigners. This is one way that God took care of poor people. Picking up the food that fell on the ground was called “gleaning.”

Boaz followed God’s law. He let Ruth glean in his field. But Boaz did more than God’s law said. Do you remember what else Boaz did for Ruth? (he let her drink water from the jars that were for his workers) Today we will read about more of Boaz’s kindness to Ruth.

Question:

What were two more kind things that Boaz did for Ruth? (he gave her lunch. He told his men to drop extra barley for Ruth.)

Read Ruth 2: 14-23

Answer the question.

Revisit the story: Let’s look at the story again, more carefully.

1. Ruth got her lunch from Boaz. What did Boaz tell Ruth to do with the food? (put it in the vinegar. This was one way that people in that time made their food more delicious. Do you like vinegar? When do Japanese people use vinegar?)
2. Boaz let Ruth “glean under the sheaves.” What are “sheaves”? (some plants of barley tied together. Poor people were not supposed to glean under the sheaves. They were supposed to glean in the field. This is another way that Boaz is being extra kind to Ruth.)
3. How long did Ruth work that day? (from dawn (vs. 7) until evening)
4. What did she do after she gleaned? (she threshed)
5. What is “threshing”? (hitting the barley until the grain falls out.)

6. How much barley did Ruth get that day? (about 20 liters. This was a very large amount for one day of gleaning)
7. What did Ruth give Naomi when she went home that night? (she gave Naomi her leftover lunch, and the 20 liters of barley)
8. Naomi was excited because now they had a large amount of food. But she was also excited when she heard Boaz's name. Why was she excited when she heard Boaz's name? (because Boaz was their relative. Boaz was a special relative. He was a kinsman-redeemer)

The kinsman-redeemer: **At that time, a *kinsman-redeemer was a person in a family.** The kinsman-redeemer took care of the poor people in the family. For example, **someone in the family might have to sell themselves as a servant. Then the *kinsman-redeemer would buy them back.** The kinsman-redeemer would "redeem" them! **A poor person in the family might have to sell their land. Then the *kinsman-redeemer would buy the land back.** The kinsman-redeemer would "redeem" the land! **Then that land would not be lost from the family.**

A person's *kinsman-redeemer was their nearest male in the family. (We can read about *kinsmen-redeemers in Leviticus 25:25-28, 47-49 and Deuteronomy 25:5-10.)

What will Ruth's kinsman-redeemer do for her? We will continue next week.

Do you have any questions or comments?

Easy English Notes from Wycliffe

Chapter 2

Verse 14 Drinks like *wine and beer have alcohol in them. If we leave them open to the air the alcohol becomes something else that we call acid. The acid is not sweet. We call it vinegar. It makes some food taste better.

Verse 15 The men cut the *barley and tied it into *sheaves. This made it easier to carry.

Verse 20 'the dead' means Elimelech and his 2 sons. We are not sure who 'he' is in 'he has not stopped'. It may be Boaz, it may be the *LORD.