

ORDINARY PEOPLE
RUTH
Chapter 2

Entrust your study of this passage to your Faithful Creator, asking that He give you understanding and encouragement to be more like Him.

Memorize Ruth 2:12.

Read Ruth 2:1-23 two times. 1) ____ 2) ____.

1. In verse 2 of Chapter 2 the account of Ruth continues with Ruth asking permission of Naomi to go to the fields to glean grain. According to Chapter 1 what decision in her past had led her to this point in her life?
2. Where does verse 1 of Chapter 2 fit? That is, is this information that Ruth had, or is this information provided to the reader (you and me) to help us better understand what happens next? How do you know? (Verses like 3, 19, and 20 will help.)
3. Here's a chance to do some creative thinking! Consider what you know of Ruth's circumstances from Chapter 1 and write a short (but inclusive) description of what this young woman's life was like that caused her to wake up that morning and decide to go gather grain.

4. a. How would you characterize the decision Ruth made to go to the fields?
(Was it extraordinary, super-spiritual, foolish, etc.?)

b. Is there an application you can make here concerning your life?

Read Ruth 2:4-16.

5. How did Boaz *first* happen to go and speak to Ruth?

6. How would you describe the way Boaz treated Ruth? (Use verses 8-16 to find out.)

7. Verse 10 shows us that Ruth is a thinking person. She asks Boaz *why* he has taken notice of her. What is the answer to her question? (Verses 11 and 12)

8. What other things do we at times *wrongly* depend on to win others to ourselves (and maybe even to the Lord)?

9. What do you learn about Ruth from verses 14 and 18?

10. In what areas can you apply this principle to your daily living?

11. Will this happen automatically or are there some specific steps that need to be taken on your part to get the process going? If so, what? (We can learn from each other as we're willing to share on this type of question!)

12. In Chapter 2 Ruth's story begins with an ordinary decision of a young woman with a pressing need to go out and provide for her family through hard work. As Ruth is going about her work, Boaz enters the picture with additional protection and encouragement. Describe what Ruth did next. (Verse 23)

13. What principle can you learn from this for your life?

14. Ruth was said to have taken refuge under the wings of the God of Israel. But she went ahead and worked hard! From Chapter 2 was God taking care of Ruth or was she taking care of herself? (Do these verses help? Leviticus 19:9, 10; Ruth 2:3, 4, 19, 20)

15. List the characteristics you observe in the woman Ruth from Chapter 2. Jot down the verse in which you see each.

16. In one or two sentences please summarize what is to you the most important lesson in this passage.