

# **First Baptist Church – Odessa**

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“The Blessings of God’s Favor”**

**“Christmas Blessings” - Pt. 2**

Ruth 2:1-23 & Selected

***God’s blessings of favor are available to all, especially those who feel discarded, empty and unworthy.***

### **I. God is the guide to His blessings of favor.**

*“So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was part of the clan of Elimelech.” Vs. 3*

### **II. God is the giver of favor to whom He desires.**

*“Then Boaz said to Ruth, ‘Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women.’”*

Vs. 8a

#### **One of Life’s Most Perplexing Questions:**

**Why have I found favor in your eyes, O God?**

*“And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you; you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’” Luke 2:10-12*

*“In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.” 1 John 4:9*

*“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world.” 1 John 4:14*

*“But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* Romans 5:8

### **III. God is the guardian of those who receive His favor.**

*“The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”* Vs. 12

#### **Receiving God’s Gift of Divine Favor:**

- **God initiates His heavenly exchange.**

*“Then Boaz said to Ruth, ‘Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women.’”* Vs. 8

- **God offers the Bread of Life.**

*“And at mealtime Boaz said to her, ‘Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine.’”* Vs. 14a

*“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.’”* John 6:35

- **God receives us into His family.**

*“So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over.”*  
Vs. 14b

*“Father of the fatherless and protector of widows, is God in His holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; He leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.”* Psalm 68:5-6

- **God seeks our total welfare and protection.**

*“When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, ‘Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her.’”*  
Vs. 15

- **God always exceeds our greatest expectations.**

*“And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.”* Vs. 16