

RUTH



WEEK SEVEN

"SPREAD YOUR COVERING OVER YOUR MAID"

DAY 1

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Read Ruth 3:7-11. Why do you think Boaz, the owner of the fields and crops, would be helping to thresh the grain and sleeping on the threshing floor? Read Judges 6:1-6 and I Sam 23:1 for possible reasons.
3. What request does Ruth make of Boaz in verse nine? In your opinion, what are the implications of this request? What is she asking of Boaz?
4. What is Boaz's response, and what does he base this on in verses ten and eleven?
5. Boaz indicates that Ruth has gained some notoriety among the people of the city for being a woman of excellence. Do a brief review beginning in 1:1 up through 3:11. What character qualities do you see in Ruth that provide the basis for this statement? What are your strengths, your gifts, and your reputation? Would people describe you as a woman of excellence? (See also Proverbs 31:10-31 for qualities of an excellent woman).
6. Write out this week's memory verse on a notecard or a piece of paper and post it somewhere you will see it often (e.g bathroom mirror, car, desk, kitchen sink, etc.).

Scripture Memory:

He said, "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge; My savior, You save me from violence."

~2 Samuel 22:2-3

I'm praying about:

DAY 2

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. As previously mentioned in this study, Boaz's character displays Christ. Ruth's request for covering is an appeal for protection. It indicates that she is the weaker or more vulnerable party that is requesting the assistance of one stronger than she. How does this parallel our relationship with Christ?
3. Scripture is full of references that call God our defender, stronghold, refuge, and fortress among other things to indicate His protection over His people. Why do we need this? What do we need protection from?
4. Read Psalm 91. How is allowing God to be our shelter/refuge/fortress depicted in these verses? What does it offer us? What do we need shelter from? Consider memorizing this chapter in its entirety.
5. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 3

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
 2. There are times in life that are incredibly chaotic and stormy. Honestly think about your life. Where do you find refuge during those times? (Consider such things as food, alcohol, drugs, relationships, spending money, travel, bingeing shows, etc.).
 3. Jeremiah 16:19-20 speaks of the idolatry of making anything other than God our refuge. What do these verses say the people "inherited" as a result of doing so?
 4. The things listed above may bring you a moment of pleasure, but they cannot deliver true peace. Ultimately they are futile and deceptive for they cannot deliver on what is promised. When we make God our refuge in days of trouble He grants us true peace even in the midst of the tumult. How does the Bible refer to the peace that God provides in Philippians 4:6 and what does Scripture say it will do for you?
 5. God's peace "passes understanding" because it defies logic to be peaceful even as your world is in chaos. What does Psalm 63:7 say we are able to do as we find refuge in the Lord?
 6. Write out this week's memory verse below:
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DAY 4

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. What does Psalm 18:30 say that God is for those who take refuge in Him? Under what circumstances would you need to make use of this item?
3. God not only "covers" us as we navigate trial and hardship, but He is also a refuge for us in seasons of "battle." At times we may feel we are under spiritual attack. Other times, we are being attacked by actual people who may be slandering our reputation or coming against our lives in some capacity. If God is a shield to us as we take refuge in Him, what does that imply during these times?
4. Read Psalm 27:1-3; 28:6-8 and 140:7. What is promised to us as we take refuge in God?
5. In 2 Samuel 22 David writes a "Psalm of Deliverance." Read it and make note of the various ways God provides a refuge to us in times of trouble or seasons of battle.
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 5

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
 2. Read Psalm 31:19; 34:8 & 22; and Proverbs 18:10. What things are promised to those who take refuge/shelter in God?
 3. According to Psalm 5:11 and 34:1-3 what should be our attitude as the Lord provides refuge for us?
 4. While God does "cover" us and provide protection and refuge for us here on earth, our ultimate refuge is in heaven. This is our final stronghold, our impenetrable strong tower in which we will dwell for all eternity. How does Isaiah 25:4-9 describe this place?
 5. What encouragement does 2 Timothy 4:17-18 offer as we walk through difficulty on earth and what does it say about the way in which we will arrive at this heavenly Kingdom? How does this encourage your heart today?
 6. Write out this week's memory verse below:
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