

The Book of Ruth Walks-Week 2- Boaz

**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

As you go for your walk, try and go somewhere you don't know, (even if it is walking a road you have not been down before.)

- Are there places around you that you have never walked?
- How do you spend your time when passing through new places? Do you hurry through or take your time to look?

Read Ruth 2:8-17

⁸ 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. ⁹ Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn." ¹⁰ Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favour in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?" ¹¹ But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² May the LORD reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!" ¹³ Then she said, "May I continue to find favour in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants."

¹⁴ At mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here, and eat some of this bread, and dip your morsel in the sour wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. ¹⁵ When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, "Let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not reproach her. ¹⁶ You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the bundles, and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her."

¹⁷ So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.

Here we are introduced to a relative of Naomi's husband. He has heard of what has happened as does not look at Ruth as an outsider, but as someone who has had a difficult life. He acts generously towards her and offers her his protection and provision. He is also a man who follows the customs of the land.

- How do you view the places and people that you walk passed?
- Do you judge them on their appearance? Do you judge them on how they adhere to the rules? Can you imagine their story?
- How do you think they perceive you? Would they be able to guess your story?

Take some time to observe the people and places you pass. May take or make a picture, or take a memento back from your walk. Let it be an aid to remind you to pray, for those you have seen and those you haven't. Those who are treated generously and those who don't have the same story.

Boaz Activity:

Boaz was generous and gave Ruth a blessing (Chp 2:11-12). He ensured she had everything she needed. A similar promise as Ruth made to Naomi.

How can you be generous to those who have had a difficult journey recently?

Challenge yourself to be like Boaz and give of yourself to someone who is in need this week.