

HARVESTING A LIFE OF HOPE

Provision
Message 2

Joshua J. Masters
May 24, 2020

► Outline

He gives food to every living thing. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His faithful love endures forever.

Psalm 136:25-26 (NLT)

A. Introduction

B. We harvest a life of hope by having gratitude for God's provision of...

1. _____.
(Ruth 1:22; 2:1,3,12. C/R: Psalm 103:19; Job 11:7-9; John 5:17; Romans 8:28)
2. _____.
(Ruth 2:1-8. C/R: Psalm 1:1; Proverbs 27:17; John 15:13; 1 Corinthians 13:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
3. _____.
(Ruth 2:2,6-13. C/R: Matthew 7:7; Romans 13:1-3; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 John 5:14)

4. _____.
(Ruth 2:8-9. C/R: Psalm 136:25-26; Matthew 6:31-33; Philippians 4:19)
5. _____.
(Ruth 2:9. C/R: Psalm 91:1-2; 138:7; Isaiah 54:17; Romans 8:31; Hebrews 13:6)
6. _____.
(Ruth 2:14. C/R: Psalm 23:5; Matthew 9:11-12; Luke 14:12-14; Romans 15:7; 1 John 3:1)
7. _____.
(Ruth 2:15-17. C/R: John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 9:10-13; Ephesians 1:7-9; 3:20)
8. _____.
(Ruth 2:18-22. C/R: Proverbs 3:5-6; James 4:10; Philippians 4:6; 1 Peter 5:10)

Engage

Where do you see God's silent fingerprints in your life? Encourage one another by sharing pictures, video or text in the comments of our Facebook post at facebook.com/BrookwoodChurch this week. Use #GodsFingerprints @BrookwoodChurch.

Answers: 1. Providence 2. People 3. Permission 4. Physical needs 5. Protection 6. Perfect acceptance 7. Plenty 8. Providence

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself, with those in your home or with others using video chat.

Introduction

The Book of Ruth reveals the invisible fingerprints of God throughout history and in our individual lives. As we walk through the story, we discover how God offers hope and direction in a world full of chaos and confusion.

Opening in Prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Conversation Starter

Beach or mountains? Why?

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Old Testament law ([Leviticus 23:22](#), for example) required Israelites to leave grain along the edges of their fields for foreigners to glean. Despite this law, many farmers and field workers treated foreigners quite harshly. Rather than allowing them to gather uncut grain and scraps from the edges of the fields, they were often kept out, mistreated, and left hungry.

Read [Ruth 2:1-7](#)

1. What can we learn from Ruth's bold and courageous initiative to go out into the harvest fields?
2. Boaz not only lived by the *letter of the law*, but he also lived by the *spirit of the law* (as beautifully described in [Leviticus 19:33-34](#)). What are specific ways Boaz cared for Ruth?
3. What words would you use to describe Boaz?
4. What did the foreman say to Boaz about Ruth? How was this an example of God's love and care?

5. Describe a situation where you (or someone you know) faced adversity and had to do things to survive or make ends meet that you never imagined doing.
6. Share a time in your life when you doubted God's love for you.
7. Describe a situation or event in your life that you would describe as a *God thing*.
8. Who has God put in your life to care and provide for beyond their expectations?
9. Why do we tend to overlook God's involvement (or not give Him credit) when good things happen in our lives?
10. How does Jesus reassure you of God's love, even when your life is full of trouble?

Soul Training

Providence is *the protective care of God and His preparation for our future*. How has God's providence been at work in your life? Write down ways God has cared for you - through people and/or events - and spend time thanking Him for each experience He brings to mind. Ask God to help you see His hand at work more and more in the days and weeks ahead.

Memory Verse

He gives food to every living thing. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His faithful love endures forever. [Psalm 136:25-26 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [Psalm 103:6-18](#)

Day 4: [Ephesians 1:3-11](#)

Day 2: [Matthew 7:12](#)

Day 5: [Matthew 6:25-34](#)

Day 3: [Isaiah 55:1-5](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, May 31, we'll continue our series in the book of Ruth. To prepare, read [Ruth 2](#), and pray God will help us see His fingerprints in every part of our lives.

