

Bible Study Packet

The Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness



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Pastor Marlon McDuffie
Lead Pastor

The Fruit of the Spirit
Read Galatians 5:16-26

Kindness: Caring for one another
Reading for this Lesson: Ruth 2

1. Read Ruth 2. Whom do we see Ruth interact with in this passage?
2. What do you observe from their interactions with Ruth (or lack thereof)?
3. What key moments in this passage jump out at you?

4. We know from the previous chapter in Ruth that Naomi had lost her husband and two sons while living in Moab and that she was considered “too old” to remarry (Ruth 1:12). How had those losses made both Naomi and Ruth vulnerable?

5. How did God provide, in part, for poor people like Ruth and Naomi (see Leviticus 23:22; Ruth 2:2-3)?

6. How might Leviticus 23:22 guide us in stewarding the money and resources the Lord has given us?

7. After Boaz learns about Ruth from his overseer (see verses 5-7), how does he go above and beyond Old Testament law in showing kindness to Ruth (see verses 8-9)?

8. Ruth is astonished by the kindness of Boaz, especially since she is a foreigner (see verse 10). What do we learn about Ruth's own kindness and character through Boaz's response to her (see verses 11-12)?

9. Our kindness should never emerge from selfish motive or come with an expectation of receiving something in return. Yet kindness to others often becomes intentionally reciprocal. Why do you think this happens?

10. In verses 14-17, what exceptional privileges does Boaz grant to Ruth, both directly and indirectly?

11. Ruth returns to Naomi with both a meal and about thirty pounds of barley—an extraordinary amount (see verse 17). How does this entire passage, including Ruth and Naomi's conversation, reveal God's kindness and care for the two women?

12. The kindness of Boaz had implications far beyond his and Ruth's lives.

Because of his decision to act with goodness toward someone in need, Boaz and Ruth eventually married, becoming ancestors of both King David and Jesus. When the Holy Spirit prompts us toward kindness, God is up to something, even if we never see the end result. When have you experienced God's conviction to show kindness to another person?

13. What happened, and what did you learn about listening to the Holy Spirit's voice?

14. Who among your family, friends, and neighbors need help and kindness?
What specific acts of kindness might you offer to them, this week and beyond?

15. The book of Ruth is a fascinating story that unfolds over only four chapters.
Take time to read the rest of the book. What more do you learn about kindness both human and divine?