### Ruth

## Chapter 2

1Well, there was a very wealthy man [in BethLehem] that NaOmi knew (because he was a relative of her husband EliMelech) whose name was BoAz.  
  
2So Ruth (the Moabite) said to NaOmi:  
  
 ‘If he approves of me, should I go into his field to glean grain?’  
  
And NaOmi replied:  
  
 ‘Go, my daughter.’  
  
3So she went into the field and followed behind those who were doing the harvesting... And it so happened that the portion of the field she was in was being harvested by some of BoAz’s relatives at the time.  
  
  
4Then {Look!} when BoAz came from the city (BethLehem), he said to those who were harvesting there:  
  
 ‘May Jehovah be with you.’  
  
And they replied:  
  
 ‘May Jehovah bless you.’  
  
5Then BoAz asked the servant that was supervising the harvesting:  
  
 ‘Whose young woman is that?’  
  
6And the supervisor replied:  
  
 ‘She’s the Moabite servant who just came here from the country of the MoAbites along with NaOmi.’  
  
7So [Ruth] then [went up] to him and said:  
  
 ‘Please, may I collect grain here… I’ll just follow behind those who are doing the harvesting.’  
  
Well, she’d been working all day long, from morning until evening, and she hadn’t stopped at all to rest.  
  
8So BoAz said:  
  
 ‘Hasn’t anyone told you, my daughter? You don’t have go into my field to just glean… [go and work] with the rest of the young women [who are my relatives].  
  
 9‘Look around the field and see where they are, and work along with them, for I’ve instructed my servants not to bother you... And when you get thirsty, you may go and drink from the water in the jugs that belong to my servants.’  
  
10Well at that, she bowed low before him with her face to the ground, and then she asked him:  
  
 ‘What have I done to find so much favor in your eyes that you should treat me this well, since I’m just a stranger?’  
  
11And BoAz answered:  
  
 ‘All the things you’ve been doing for your mother-in-law since the death of her son, your husband, have been reported to me... I’ve heard about how you arrived in this unfamiliar land just two days ago after leaving your father, your mother, and your country.  
  
 12‘So, may Jehovah repay your good deeds, and may the God of IsraEl that you’ve come here to serve shelter you under His wings.’  
  
13Then she said:  
  
 ‘I [hope] that may I find your favor, my master, and [that I can prove worthy] of the comfort that you’ve given to me; for your words have touched the heart of your slave girl.  
  
 ‘Look, I’m your servant!’  
  
14Then BoAz said to her:  
  
 ‘It’s almost suppertime.  
  
 ‘Here, take some of my bread… And here’s some vinegar to dip it in.’  
  
15And at that, Ruth sat down next to the rest of the harvesters, and BoAz gave her a large amount of toasted grain, which she ate.  
  
Then, after she’d eaten enough, she left.  
  
  
16So, [the next day] she got up to collect [grain]. And BoAz gave orders to his servants, saying:  
  
 ‘Absolutely let her collect for them middle of the sheaves – and don’t give her any trouble! Definitely reserve some of what’s heaped up for her, and leave her be! She’ll collect – and you won’t bother her.’   
  
17So she worked all day long... And when she beat out the grain, she found that she’d collected a heaping bushel full, 18which she then carried back to the city.  
  
  
Now, when her mother-in-law saw how much she’d collected and how much she’d been given, she asked:  
  
 ‘Where did you go today, and where did you get this? May the one who recognized you be blest!’  
  
19Then Ruth told her mother-in-law where she did [the harvesting] and said:  
  
 ‘The man who let me to do this today is called BoAz.’  
  
20And NaOmi said:  
  
 ‘Praise Jehovah!  
  
 ‘For He hasn’t forgotten to be merciful [to the widows] of those who’ve died.’  
  
Then she added:  
  
 ‘This man is our next-of-kin… One of our closest relatives!’  
  
21And Ruth said to her mother-in-law:  
  
 ‘He also told me to [work alongside] his servants until I’ve finished harvesting everything I need!’  
  
22Then NaOmi told Ruth:  
  
 ‘My daughter, it’s good for you to work alongside his servants, for you likely wouldn’t have been able to meet his relatives in any other field.’  
  
23So thereafter, Ruth worked along with the young women of BoAz’s family through both the barley harvest and the wheat harvest (about 50 days).