

Best Practices For Sowing Hesed – Ruth 2:1-16

When we sow generous acts of kindness (hesed) into the lives of others we too reap the Lord's favor.

Intro. Ruth 1:6, 8; 2:20

- 1. Show Some Initiative While Waiting – Rt. 2:1-3**
- 2. Pray The Lord Will Be With Your Workers – Rt. 2:4**
 - Deuteronomy 24:19, 22
- 3. Pray The Lord & Your Hard Work Will Bless Your Employer – Rt. 2:5-7**
- 4. Raise Up & Empower Next Generation Leaders – Rt. 2:5, 6**
 - The motto of “Always be working yourself out of a job.”
- 5. Sow Generously Into The Lives Of Those In Need Without Prejudice – Rt. 2:8-13**
 - “Cling” in 1:14 is the same Hebrew word “keep close” in 2:8
 - “Thirst” – 2:9 see John 6:35; 7:37, Revelation 7:16
 - “Favor” – 2:2, 10, 13
 - The principle of “You Reap What You Sow, And More” – v. 12
 - Luke 6:38, 2 Corinthians 9:6, 10
- 6. Become An Answer To Your Own Prayer – Rt. 2:14-16**

Devotional:

1. As you read Ruth 2:1-16 which of the characters do you most identify with the most right now: Ruth, Boaz, Young man in charge, reapers, or young women in the field. Why?
2. Which of the six best practices do you need to improve on in order to sow more hesed? What would that look like?
3. With whom is the Lord calling you to sow generous acts of kindness and why?
4. **Praying Psalm 63:1-11 - Seeking the favor of the Lord**
 - David knew the story of his great grandparents Boaz and Ruth.
 - Like Boaz was for Ruth, so Christ is for us when we seek his favor.
 - Like Ruth we are to cling to Jesus when in a difficult place like David who found himself in the wilderness.
 - See how the words in Ruth 2 are repeated in David's prayer in Psalm 63 whose soul is seeking the Lord's favor. Then make his prayer your own.
 - a. **My Soul Thirsts For You – Psalm 63:1-4, Ruth 2:9**
 - “Steadfast love” in Psalm 63:3 is the word “kindness” in Ruth 2:20
 - b. **My Soul Will Be Satisfied – Psalm 63:5-7, Ruth 2:14**
 - The word “wing” in Psalm 63:7 is also found in Ruth 2:12
 - c. **My Soul Clings To You – Psalm 63:8, Ruth 1:14; 2:8 (keep close)**