

As we continue our study of the Book of Ruth, we see her and Naomi land in a new area and figure out how to get by. To move from bitter to better, we must maintain a positive outlook and keep our eyes open for opportunities. When they come, we need to seize them with diligence and gratitude. In this study, we will examine the choices Ruth makes and the motivation behind them. These observations will help us understand how to maintain our character through difficult seasons of transition.

### What Do You Think?

- Ruth knew she “had to do what she had to do” in order to get by and support her mother-in-law. For her that meant picking up leftovers in the fields. Has a transition ever left you in a place where you felt like you were “gleaning”?

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“She said, ‘Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.’ So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest.” Ruth 2:7 (ESV)

### What Does God Say?

- Ruth’s story is really about her character and decisions in transition. Read the following passages and discuss:
    - 1) What characteristics are present?
    - 2) How did they help Ruth in her transition?
    - 3) How they can help us in our own transitions?
- **Ruth 2:5-7**
  - **Ruth 2:8-13**
  - **Ruth 2:17-18**

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“Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.” Psalm 90:14-15 (ESV)

- Even when we are faithful in transition, we may not “catch Boaz’s eye” and realize our big break. However, God always notices and rewards faithfulness. **Read Psalm 90:14-17.** What are some ways God rewards us for working hard in transition?

## What Will You Do?

- Is there a past transition that you have realized you handled poorly? Perhaps you acted out of character? Share with the group and lean on their wisdom to know how to make it right.
- What are some things you can tangibly do that will help increase your level of gratitude and contentment right where you are?
- Are you in transition right now? Ask the group to help you identify your right next step.