

4. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
 In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail,
 Thy mercies how tender! How firm to the end,
 Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend

I Serve a Risen Savior **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBTluxqFu_A**

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
 I know that he is living, whatever people say;
 I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 and every time I need him he's always near.

(Refrain) He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
 He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
 He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
 You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see his loving care,
 and though my heart grows weary I never will despair;
 I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
 the day of his appearing will come at last. **(Refrain)**

3. Rejoice, rejoice O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
 Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
 No other is so loving, so good and kind. **(Refrain)**

Bible Text and Sermon (To access the sermon video/audio and worship liturgy, please visit our website at **idealparkchurch.com** and click on the “**Current Sermon Series**” tab for August 30. This will be available Monday, August 31. From there, click on “**Watch Now**” or “**Read Now**” or **Hymnsing**).

Message title: God's Total Care **Pastor Chris Bouma**

Scripture: Ruth 2

1 Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, a man of standing from the clan of Elimelek, whose name was Boaz.

² And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.”

Naomi said to her, “Go ahead, my daughter.” ³ So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.

⁴ Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, “The LORD be with you!”

“The LORD bless you!” they answered.

⁵ Boaz asked the overseer of his harvesters, “Who does that young woman belong to?”

⁶ The overseer replied, “She is the Moabite who came back from Moab with Naomi. ⁷ She said, ‘Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.’ She came into the field and has remained here from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter.”

⁸ So Boaz said to Ruth, “My daughter, listen to me. Don’t go and glean in another field and don’t go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. ⁹ Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.”

¹⁰ At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She asked him, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?”

¹¹ Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. ¹² May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”

¹³ “May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord,” she said. “You have put me at ease by speaking kindly to your servant—though I do not have the standing of one of your servants.”

¹⁴ At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come over here. Have some bread and dip it in the wine vinegar.”

When she sat down with the harvesters, he offered her some roasted grain. She ate all she wanted and had some left over. ¹⁵ As she got up to glean, Boaz gave orders to his men, “Let her gather among the sheaves and don’t reprimand her. ¹⁶ Even pull out some stalks for her from the bundles and leave them for her to pick up, and don’t rebuke her.”

¹⁷ So Ruth gleaned in the field until evening. Then she threshed the barley she had gathered, and it amounted to about an ephah.^[a] ¹⁸ She carried it back to town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered. Ruth also brought out and gave her what she had left over after she had eaten enough.

¹⁹ Her mother-in-law asked her, “Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!”

Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. “The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz,” she said.

²⁰ “The LORD bless him!” Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. “He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead.” She added, “That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers. [b]”

²¹ Then Ruth the Moabite said, “He even said to me, ‘Stay with my workers until they finish harvesting all my grain.’”

²² Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with the women who work for him, because in someone else’s field you might be harmed.”

²³ So Ruth stayed close to the women of Boaz to glean until the barley and wheat harvests were finished. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

Sermon Outline

Ruth’s predicament

- The practice of gleaning
- How Ruth must feel

The human need

- A complete picture of the human being
- What are our needs?

God provides a guardian-redeemer

- What is a guardian redeemer?
- What does Boaz provide for Ruth?

Continuing the practice of what it is to be a guardian-redeemer

- The call to care for those who are poor and marginalized
- God’s care for us

Discussion questions:

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-What is a guardian-redeemer in Ruth’s culture? Why is such a person important?

-In what ways did God use Boaz to bless Ruth? How has God used someone in your life to bless you in these ways?

-This week, is there anyone who you can bless spiritually, socially, physically, etc.?

Prayers for our church, community, nation, and world (Read these as you feel led, either out loud or silently.)

Lord Jesus, you are our living head. Teach us to be your body here on earth— your hands, your feet, your eyes, and your compassionate heart.

Lord, send the impulses of your love into the sinews of this church. May your will and thoughts direct us. Let your hands, through our hands, supply food for our neighbors' hunger.

Let them hear your voice as we visit and talk with them.

Let children come to us and sit in our laps, as they sat in yours.

Without you as our head, Lord, we are lifeless.

We wait for your power, your Word, your instruction. Fill us with your life and love, Jesus. Amen.

Amazing Grace **(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3yLV2M0rlc>)**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;

He will my Shield and Portion be, as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun

Blessing: "The LORD bless you and keep you, the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26