

**“The Tender Kindness of the Lord”**

**Ruth 2:1-23**

**July 5, 2020**

**I. The Lord’s Kindness to His People**

- A. The Lord really does care for his people in a personal and nurturing way (Ruth 2:12).

*Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. (See Ps. 61:4 as well)*

*Matthew 23:37 - “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.”*

- B. This has not changed since the days of Ruth; the Lord still tenderly cares for us.

**II. The Lord’s Kindness through Others**

- A. The Lord showed kindness to Ruth and Naomi through Boaz (Ruth 2:20).

- B. The Lord still nurtures us through the care and goodness of others in our lives.

**III. The Lord’s Call Us to be His Conduit of Kindness to Others**

- A. We can show the Lord’s kindness to others by, like Boaz did for Ruth, encouraging them and by being generous.

*1 Thessalonians 5:11–12 - Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

*1 Timothy 6:18 - Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share.*

- B. This honor of being the Lord’s vehicle of kindness can appear truly costly.

*John 15:12–13 - <sup>12</sup> “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”*

- C. Motivation to bless others this way is found by faithfully remembering God’s own tender kindness to us.

*Hebrews 13:5b - ...for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.”*