

Ruth

THE FAR-REACHING KINDNESS OF GOD

*Accompanies podcast "The Foreigner Finds Favor" - 5/19/24
at www.newdaynw.com/sermons*

Read Ruth 2:1-13

Can you think of a time in your life when you most keenly felt that you were an outsider? What contributed to that feeling? Did anyone help you feel included? If not, what would have helped?

What were the indicators that let Ruth know she had found favor? How might those indicators picture what God's favor (or grace) looks like for us? Compare with Ephesians 1:4-6 and 2:6-9.

God's favor went before Ruth, meaning it was there waiting when she went looking for it. How might this alter how we think about seeking the Lord's favor for ourselves?

As a wealthy landowner, Boaz had clearly experienced the favor of the Lord himself. He shared that favor not only with Ruth, but with his employees and other gleaners as well. Do you find it difficult to share the blessings God has given you? Why is that? How can we cultivate a more generous spirit?

The Hebrew mindset didn't believe in luck or chance. Good things were associated with the favor of the Lord. How have you seen the favor of the Lord recently? Take a moment to thank him for it.