



-- Review – The household of Boaz is an image of God's household in Christ.

How to Live in the Household of Christ

-- v. 18 – Be eager to _____ others (reaching out).

- Ruth couldn't wait to share with Naomi the abundance that God had provided her.
- In God's household, God's children seek to bless each other with the blessings we have received (Galatians 6:9-10).
- **Reaching out** means that we joyfully serve others for the glory of God. God's all-sufficient grace is growing in us a sincere love for people. Because people are so dear to us, we are delighted to share with them not only the Gospel of Jesus Christ but our very lives as well (1 Thessalonians 2:8).

-- v. 19 – Be eager to testify about your _____ (sending forth).

- Ruth can't wait to tell about Boaz and all he had done for her.
- Shouldn't we testify even louder about our Redeemer, Jesus Christ? (Jeremiah 20:9, Romans 1:15-16)
- **Sending forth** means that we humbly, yet boldly, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. God is making it our great passion to tell others about our glorious Lord, both in this community and in places all around the world. With His help, our purpose is to speak the Gospel with kindness and serve others with love so that everyone will have the opportunity to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (2 Cor. 5:20-21).

-- v. 20 – Practice _____ - _____ (welcoming in).

- *ds, x,* ("Chesed") – God's unfailing kindness, mercy, and covenantal love.

- God's household ought to resound always with God's covenant love (John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:11-12).
- Who will believe that we have received loving-kindness unless we show it to one another?

-- v. 21 – Never forsake the fellowship of God's _____ (welcoming in).

- Boaz urges Ruth to stay with his workers until the harvest is complete.
 - Our "harvest" does not end until Christ returns.
 - Thus, we are called to remain together in close fellowship while we get ready for that Day (Hebrews 10:25).
- *Welcoming in* means that we love each other deeply. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are experiencing God's matchless love, and we know that God wants us to do our best to love each other in the same way that Jesus loves us. In fact, our purpose is to love one another with such sincere, Christlike love that everyone will be able to see that we really are God's people (John 13:34-35).

-- v. 22 – Get involved in _____ (building up).

- Ruth was blessed to learn from the wisdom of the older women and from Naomi.
- Boaz also counsels the young men in His household (v. 9, 15-16).
- Likewise, our fellowship ought to be characterized by a culture of discipleship (Titus 2:1-6).
- If we attempt to grow in any field other than God's Word, we will be in danger indeed.
- *Building up* means that, with His help, we strive to become the people that God created us to be. Not only has God saved us from our sins, but He also gives us the power to change. He has given us the gifts of the Bible and the Holy Spirit so that we can put off our old sinful selves and be made more like Jesus Christ. Our purpose is to join together to learn from God's Word and grow in His amazing grace (Ephesians 4:22-24).

-- v. 23 – Let us live up to our _____ in Christ.

- Like Ruth, "reach out" by continuing to live for the blessing of others.
- Like Ruth, "welcome in" by constant fellowship in our Redeemer's household.
- Like Ruth, "build up" by plugging into discipleship.
- Like Ruth, "send forth" by testifying about God and His covenant love.
- Philippians 3:16 – "Only let us live up to what we have already attained."

-- **For the glory of God** means that in all things we seek to glorify God and exalt His name. Because we exist to worship God and because He alone is so perfectly worthy of all praise, our purpose is to make worshipping Him the motivation for all that we are and all that we do (1 Corinthians 10:31).