Ruth
Part 3: The Power of Kindness

Text: Ruth 2

INTRODUCTION: ARE CANADIANS KIND? OR JUST NICE?

Being kind is NOT:
- Being overly nice and cheery all the time.
- Being a push-over.

Recap of chapter one.

1. KINDNESS TAKES THE INITIATIVE

Ruth 2:1-3

Out of faithfulness, Ruth stayed with Naomi. Out of kindness, she took the initiative to provide for her.

Kindness doesn't wait for others to be kind; it takes the initiative.

Matthew 5:46-47

There is no telling what one simple act of kindness will do.

2. KINDNESS IS OFTEN INCONVENIENT

Ruth 2:8-12

Boaz went the "extra mile" with his acts of kindness towards Ruth. Just as Ruth showed faithfulness beyond what could be expected to Naomi, so did Boaz show kindness to Ruth.

God is at work in everyday, simple acts of kindness. And he wants to work through you.

Galatians 5:22-23

3. KINDNESS RESULTS IN KIND

Ruth 2:20-22

Naomi's whole demeanour is transformed by the power of kindness.

"Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." - Mark Twain

"More people have been brought into the church by the kindness of real Christian love than by all the theological arguments in the world."

CONCLUSION: TRUE RELIGION

James 1:27

Discussion Questions

WARM UP

1. What is the difference between being kind and being nice? How are they the same?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. Read Ruth Chapter 2. What stands out to you from this passage? What themes do you see?

3. Read Galatians 5:19-22. What does this passage reveal about how Christians ought to live? How is your fruit?

4. Read James 1:27. Often the church looks after the needs of others corporately, but there are times when we need to respond as individuals like Boaz. How can we respond in obedience to this mandate?

APPLICATION

5. How will you live differently *this week* in light of what you have learned?

PRAYER

1. Spend time praying for each other, that God would give you a revelation of his love towards us and that he would transform you by the power of his Holy Spirit.

2. Other requests
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