# February 22, 2011 Charles Stanley's Life Principle #6

You reap what you sow, more than you sow, and later than you sow.

Reading volunteers will be needed for the following Scriptures. Please take a slip as they are passed around if you would like to volunteer.

- Ruth 1:14-17
- Ruth 2:2-3
- Ruth 3:1-5

- Ruth 2:11-12; 3:10
- Ruth 4:16-22: Matt. 1:5
- Galatians 5:17-22; 6:8

#### **Ruth's Dedication (Ruth 1:14-17)**

In biblical times, it was customary for married women to live with their husbands' families. What, other than love for Naomi, might have motivated Ruth to return with her?

# Not a Lazy Bone in Ruth (Ruth 2:2-3)

"Gleaning" is the act of collecting grain left behind for the poor (Lev. 23:22). Based on what Boaz and Naomi say in verses 15, 16, and 22, what problems was Ruth spared by gleaning in his fields?

#### The Kinsman Redeemer (Ruth 3:1-5)

What was a "kinsman-redeemer"? When a man died, his brother or close relative was obliged to 1) buy back any family property that had been sold, 2) avenge his death if he was murdered, and 3) marry the widow if she was childless, to carry on the name of the deceased.

Naomi tells Ruth to approach Boaz at night at the threshing floor (3:1-4). What is the younger woman's reaction to Naomi's unusual request (v. 5)?

## **Ruth's Reputation (Ruth 2:11-12; 3:10)**

What were Boaz's words about Ruth and her reputation? (2:11-12)

What did Ruth's actions show to Boaz? (3:10)

#### Ruth's Ultimate Reward (Ruth 4:16-22; Matthew 1:5)

What was Ruth's ultimate reward for "sowing" loyalty to her mother-in-law's family?

## Application of Sowing & Reaping (Galatians 5:17-22; 6:8)

What does it mean to sow in the flesh?

What does someone reap if he sows in the flesh?

What does it mean to sow in the Spirit?

What does someone reap if he sows in the Spirit?