



One of my favorite books of the Bible is Ruth. I also love the Psalms. Did you know that Ruth didn't have the psalms? But Ruth was the great-great-grandmother of King David? Maybe some of her words were passed down and our found in our psalm book? Who knows....that's all speculation.

Last year God lead me to the word "kindness." You know how people pick words for the year. Well I wanted to be more mindful how God showed His kindness to me. We were facing a move and I knew I needed God close. I had been looking at the life of Ruth and Naomi. I had read that book a million times, but I noticed something. In the middle of the story Naomi makes an amazing and possibly living-changing statement. She says: "And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he (Boaz) be blessed by the LORD, whose (the LORD'S) kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead." (Ruth 2:20) In the original that word "kindness" is God's covent-keeping love. The word is based on a covent - a promise. And who makes the promise? God! It isn't us who needs to keep a promise to keep God's love. God loves us because HE promised to love us!

Many times I've wondered if God has forgotten me. I know you have too. I've felt invisible. Unable to move forward and alone. The enemy likes to whisper lies to us during times of deep loneliness. Naomi felt that sting and bitterness was creeping up in into her heart. When she saw her and Ruth's possibility for redemption, she remembered God doesn't forget those He love for us because He is the one who promised it in the first place.

Psalms is another favorite book, so I did a quick search for the Hebrew word "cheched" in the Psalms. This is the word Naomi uses in Ruth 2:20. I found it was present in over 127 verses in just the book of Psalms! Many times this word was translated "mercy" in the King James Version. In the New American Standard Bible you will see the phrase "steadfast love" more often than mercy.

We can't possibly look at every single one of them, but I wanted to point out a few that show us some truth about this kindness Naomi mentions. What does this covent-keeping steadfast and faithful love of God look like?



I want to share these verses with you, but you will have a chance in the comments to print off the entire list of verses. I've only shared a few written out for you, but I want to show you this amazing love God has for you!

This love...

1. Saves (Psalm 6:4, Psalm 17:7)
2. Surrounds (Psalm 23:6, Psalm 32:10)
3. Guides (Psalm 25:10)
4. Never ends (Psalm 36:5, Psalm 57:10)
5. Preserves Us (Psalm 40:11, Psalm 94:18)
6. Satisfies (Psalm 90:14)
7. Faithful (Psalm 89:28, Psalm 100:5)
8. Abounding (Psalm 103:8, Psalm 145:8)
9. Is Found in the Bible (Psalm 119:41, Psalm 119:124)
10. Trustworthy (Psalm 143:8, Psalm 144:2)

Psalm 118 and Psalm 136 give a very detailed account of God's loving-kindness. This love of God is deeper than you could ever imagine. I would also encourage you to read Romans 8. It is a great declaration for those of us who are in Christ. It ends with these words:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:34-39)

If you would like these verses to read through, I've created a 20-day Bible reading plan with just these verses. I challenge you to print this off and spend 20 days reading one of these a day. It takes less than 2 minutes to read each one. Pray God imparts on your the beautiful truth of His steadfast, covenant-keeping love.