



The Favor Effect – pt.5 | Pastor Ron Carpenter Jr.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Prepare for Favor! Favor is when God initiates an act of kindness, goodness, or blessing toward us that is unexplained and undeserved. It's not earned, negotiated, or manipulated — it's initiated by God. Throughout the bible, favor is always connected to movement. When God releases favor, He is moving someone from one place to another. But before favor manifests publicly, there is always a season of preparation privately. You cannot pour new wine into old wineskins. If God is about to increase your influence, opportunity, or blessing, you must build the structure to hold it before it arrives.

DISCUSSION

PREPARATION BEFORE IT APPEARS

God often speaks about what is coming long before there is visible evidence. Noah built before rain fell. Jesus taught that new wine requires new wineskins. If God is about to move you forward, you must adjust your mindset, habits, etc. so you don't lose what He sends.

- Why is it dangerous to wait until "it starts raining" before you begin building? [Genesis 6:13–22; Hebrews 11:7]
- What does Jesus mean when He says new wine must be put in new wineskins? [Mark 2:22]
- What areas of your life may need restructuring to sustain the favor you're believing for? [Galatians 6:7–9]

ACTIVATED IN THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE

Just as a seed needs soil and a fish needs water, God-placed potential requires the right atmosphere to activate it. Ruth had to get into the field. God inhabits praise. Atmosphere matters. Favor often begins when we position ourselves in environments where God's presence and purpose can activate what is inside us.

- Why did Ruth have to physically go into the field to find favor? [Ruth 2:2–3]
- How does praise create an atmosphere where God begins to move? [Psalm 22:3]
- What "environment" (relationships, church, mentorship, habits) has helped activate growth in your life? [1 Corinthians 15:33; Psalm 92:13]



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COINCIDENCE IS OFTEN DIVINE ORCHESTRATION

Ruth “just happened” to end up in Boaz’s field. From her perspective, it looked random. From God’s perspective, it was ordained. Favor often feels accidental to us but is intentional from heaven. God orders steps before we see results. He positions us for breakthrough.

- What does Ruth’s “just so happened” moment teach us about God’s sovereignty? [Ruth 2:3]
- How does knowing your steps are ordered change the way you handle uncertainty? [Psalm 37:23; Ephesians 2:10]
- Have you experienced a moment that seemed random at the time but later proved to be God’s positioning? [Romans 8:28]

CONCLUSION & CHALLENGE

Favor changes everything — but preparation determines sustainability. God does not pour new levels of influence, blessing, or opportunity into old structures. Like Noah, you build when it looks foolish. Like Ruth, you position yourself even when you feel overlooked. What looks like coincidence often has God’s divine hand over it. Favor is not luck; God is moving you!

GROUP CHALLENGE

As a group, identify one area where you sense God may be preparing you for “more” — personally or collectively. Pray together for clarity, courage, and discipline to build now for what has not yet appeared. Commit to holding one another accountable in the prep season.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

This week, ask God: “*What wineskin needs to change in my life?*” Is it mindset? Discipline? Environment? Relationships? Take one intentional action that aligns you with the favor you’re believing for — even if no one else sees it yet.