



The Favor Effect – pt.7 | Pastor Ron Carpenter Jr.

Discussion Guide

Favor is not only released through opportunity—it is often unlocked through instruction. In the story of Ruth, she is at the lowest point of her life: a widow, a foreigner, and surviving by gleaning leftovers in the fields. Yet her life changes when she listens to the voice of Naomi. Naomi moves from being simply a mother-in-law to becoming a mentor who sees Ruth's future and gives her specific instructions. Many breakthroughs in life do not come from more information but from the right relationship and the willingness to follow godly wisdom. Favor often follows humility, mentorship, and obedience.

Discussion Questions

FAVOR OFTEN FLOWS THROUGH MENTORSHIP AND GODLY AUTHORITY

God frequently positions people in our lives who can see our future more clearly than we can. A mentor does more than give information—they provide wisdom, correction, and direction. Ruth's turning point began when she chose to trust Naomi's instruction. When we honor wise voices, we position ourselves to receive favor that we could not create on our own.

1. Why do you think Naomi felt responsible to guide Ruth toward a better future? [Ruth 3:1]
2. How can the right voices or relationships influence the direction of someone's life?
[Proverbs 13:20]
3. What qualities should we look for in people we allow to influence our decisions?

FAVOR REQUIRES INTENTIONAL DIRECTION

Naomi did not leave Ruth to figure life out randomly. She clearly identified the opportunity—Boaz—and gave Ruth a plan. Many people live without direction, hoping things will change on their own. Ruth's story shows that favor often follows clarity, purpose, and intentional action.

1. Why was it important for Naomi to clearly identify Boaz as the opportunity Ruth should pursue? [Ruth 3:2]
2. What can happen in life when people live without clear direction or purpose?
3. How can someone begin recognizing opportunities God may be placing in front of them?



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Preparation Is Necessary Before Favor Arrives

Before Ruth ever approached Boaz, Naomi gave her several instructions—wash yourself, anoint yourself, and prepare your appearance. These steps symbolized leaving behind the identity of survival and preparing for a new season. Favor often requires personal preparation before the opportunity becomes visible.

1. Why do you think Naomi instructed Ruth to prepare herself before approaching Boaz? [Ruth 3:3]
2. What does Ruth's response reveal about her attitude toward Naomi's guidance? [Ruth 3:5]
3. In what ways can preparation position someone to recognize and receive opportunities?

Ruth's story reminds us that favor rarely happens by accident. It often follows preparation, humility, and a willingness to listen to wise instruction. Naomi's guidance helped Ruth move from survival to stability and ultimately into a life-changing relationship with Boaz. When we allow God to place the right voices in our lives and respond with obedience, we position ourselves for the kind of favor that can transform our future.

Group Challenge

As a group, talk about the importance of having wise voices in your life. Encourage each person to identify someone they trust who can provide guidance, accountability, or encouragement in their spiritual journey.

Personal Challenge

Reflect on Ruth's willingness to follow Naomi's instruction. This week, ask yourself:

- Am I open to wise instruction when it challenges me?
- Is there someone in my life whose guidance I should listen to more carefully?

Take one step toward seeking or strengthening a relationship with someone who can help guide your spiritual growth.