



The Gleaning Principle

God's System to Provision, Dignity and Community

The Legacy Blueprint: Building a Better You
Lord Jesus Christ Church
Mississippi and Texas
Wednesday and Friday



Scriptures

- Leviticus 19:9-10
- Deuteronomy 24:19-22
- Ruth 2

Introduction

Gleaning was the practice of leaving part of the harvest for the poor, widows, foreigners, and vulnerable to collect. The gleaning is not charity. It is a structured compassion.

- Leaving the edges of the field unharvested
- Not picking up what falls
- Making provision for the poor, widow and stranger.
- A command system not for charity.

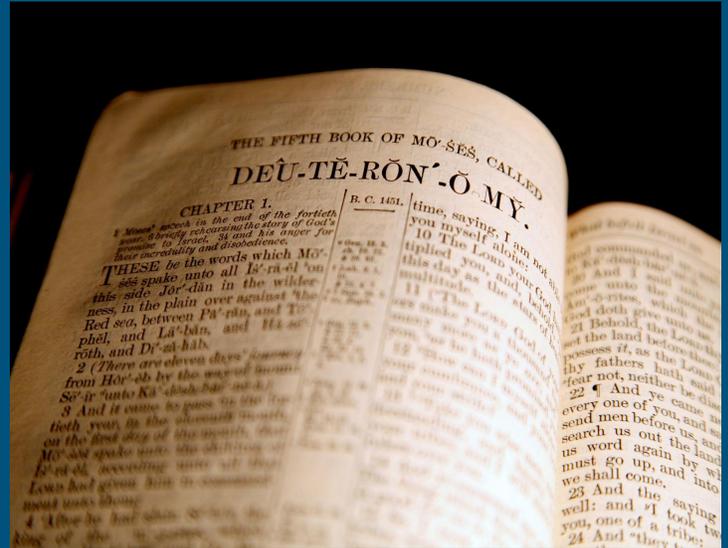
The Command

- Do not reap to the very edges
- Do not gather very leftover
- Leave them for the poor and foreigner.
- I am the Lord your God.
- God limits greed



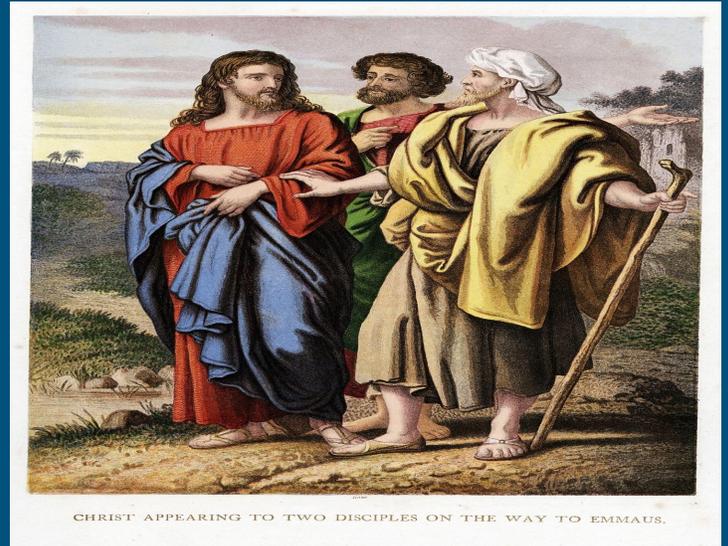
The Reminder

- Remember you are slaves to Egypt.
- Compassion rooted in memory
- obedience connected to empathy



The Ruth Model

- Naomi: widowed and vulnerable
- Ruth: Poor and foreigner
- Landowner: who obeyed and exceeded the law.



Boaz Leadership example

- Protected Ruth
- Provided access
- Instructed workers to laav xtra gain
- Practiced generosity beyond obedience.



The Theology Behind Gleaning

1. God owns the field.
 2. We are stewards.
 3. The poor participate with dignity
 4. Community shares responsibility
- Ownership with limits
 - Provision with dignity
 - Compassion with structure
 - Justice without dependency

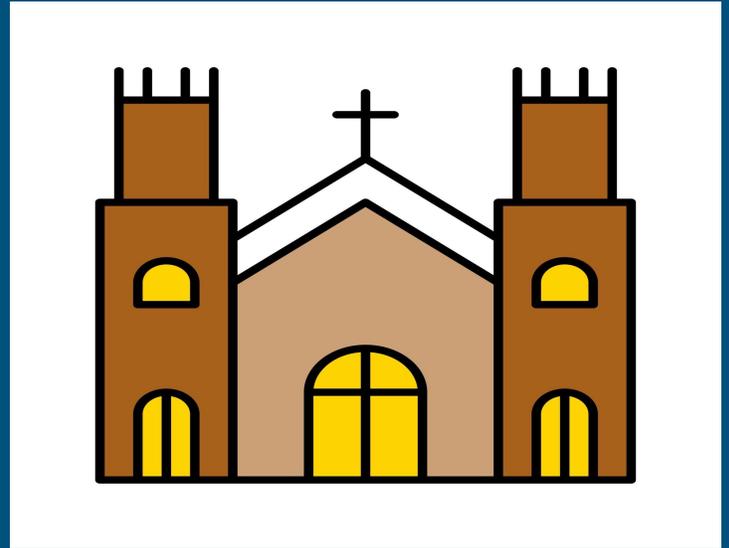
Modern Application: Personal Finance

- Leave margin in your budget
- Don't spend to the edge
- Avoid harvesting everything for yourself.
- Plan generosity intentionally



Modern Application: Church Responsibility

- Benevolence systems
- Financial literacy workshops
- Job readiness programs
- Mentoring workshops



Modern Application: Community Impact

- Business owners create opportunity
- Church partner locally
- Structured compassion changes systems.



Discussion Questions

1. What are the edges of your field?
2. Are you harvesting everything?
3. Where can you create margin?
4. What if generosity was meant to be structured?
5. What if God already built economic justice into Scripture?