

discover
**THE
GUARDIAN-
REDEEMER**

STUDY GUIDE

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**THE
GUARDIAN-
REDEEMER**



CoffeeBreak



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The Guardian-Redeemer

**Leviticus 25:23-28, 47-55; Deuteronomy 25:5-10; Ruth 4:1-10;
1 Peter 1:17-21; Galatians 3:10-14**

Getting Started

In this lesson we explore the guardian-redeemer (kinsman-redeemer) concept in Scripture. The story of Ruth beautifully illustrates the concept of guardian-redeemer, and in this lesson we will look at some Old Testament texts to gain an understanding of its background. We will also consider how we might apply the spirit of these laws today. In addition, we will study some New Testament passages pointing to Christ as the ultimate Guardian-Redeemer, and we'll see what that means for our lives today.

What Does the Bible Say?

Study Note: Hard Living in Ancient Times

As you study the Old Testament laws about life in ancient Israel, try to imagine living in that culture. At that time it was very important that land remain within a family or clan and that a family's name continue. The obligation to take care of family members in need was often more challenging and risky than it is in our culture today because there were no government-sponsored safety nets for people who faced significant loss. Widows in that day were especially at risk economically and physically, so they needed protection through a household. As you look at some of the following Scriptures, imagine being someone who was impoverished in such times, and reflect on the desperate situations you could have encountered.

1. Leviticus 25:23-28

Note: Leviticus is a book of laws and ceremonies given by God to his people Israel.

- a. To whom did the land belong, and what were the restrictions?

My thoughts about . . .

b. If someone became poor and had to sell their land, who was to buy it back?

Let's talk about...

c. What does it mean that the people lived “as foreigners and strangers” in the land, and in what ways should we have that perspective?

2. Leviticus 25:47-55

What did the law say about people who sold themselves into servitude?

3. Deuteronomy 25:5-10

Note: The word *levirate* comes from the Latin word *levir*, which means “husband’s brother.”

Explain the levirate law and how it worked in ancient Israel.

4. Ruth 4:1-10

- a. How did Boaz act as a guardian-redeemer in contrast with the closer relative?

- b. In what ways might we act as a guardian-redeemer for someone?

5. 1 Peter 1:17-21

- a. What does it mean to be redeemed in Christ?

- b. What are we redeemed from, and how was this accomplished?

- c. Why and how are we foreigners on this earth?

I wonder about...

6. Galatians 3:10-14

a. What does this passage say about our redemption in Christ?

For discussion ...

b. How is our standing before God changed through Jesus, our Redeemer?

Taking It Home

Discuss how Jesus is the ultimate Guardian-Redeemer.

How does Christ become our Guardian-Redeemer?

How is our life different when Christ is our Guardian-Redeemer?

For Further Study

Genesis 1:28-29; 2:15; 12:2-3; 38:1-11

Leviticus 19:10, 33-34; 23:22; 25:35-55

Numbers 15:15-16

Deuteronomy 10:12-22; 24:17-22

Isaiah 2:1-5; 25:6-8; 42:6-7; 53:4-6; 66:17-19

Matthew 5:17-48

Luke 2:27-32; 23:42-43

John 3:16; 8:34-36; 10:10-16, 27-30

Romans 3:9-31; 7:4-8:17

Galatians 3:10-14; 4:4-7; 5:17

Ephesians 1:7-8; 2:1-3

Titus 2:11-14

James 2:10-11

1 Peter 1:14; 4:2-3

1 John 1:8-10

Revelation 21:1-5

Prayer of Commitment

Here is a prayer of commitment recognizing Jesus Christ as Savior. If you long to be in a loving relationship with Jesus, pray this prayer. If you have already committed your life to Jesus, use this prayer for renewal and praise.

Dear God, I come to you simply and honestly to confess that I have sinned, that sin is a part of who I am. And yet I know that you listen to sinners who are truthful before you. So I come with empty hands and heart, asking for forgiveness.

I confess that only through faith in Jesus Christ can I come to you. I confess my need for a Savior, and I thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross to pay the price for my sins. Father, I ask that you forgive my sins and count me as righteous for Jesus' sake. Remove the guilt that accompanies my sin, and bring me into your presence.

Holy Spirit of God, help me to pray, and teach me to live by your Word. Faithful God, help me to serve you faithfully. Make me more like Jesus each day, and help me to share with others the good news of your great salvation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Evaluation Questionnaire

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As you complete this study, please fill out this questionnaire to help us evaluate the effectiveness of our materials. Please be candid. Thank you.

Was this a home group ___ or a church-based ___ program?

What church? _____

1. Was the study used for

___ a community evangelism group?

___ a community faith-nurture group?

___ a church Bible study group?

2. How would you rate the materials?

Study Guide: excellent very good good fair poor

Leader Guide: excellent very good good fair poor

3. What were the strengths?

4. What were the weaknesses?

5. What would you suggest to improve the material?

6. In general, what was the experience of your group?

Your name (optional) _____

Address _____