



RUTH



THE BOOK OF RUTH

Instructions

The curriculum we use for elementary aged children goes through the Bible chronologically. Currently we are finishing up the book of Deuteronomy. So that your child can continue their journey through the Bible we will be putting together VERY basic Bible lessons for you to do at home. Below you will find a summary of this week's Bible passage. All you have to do is read it with your kids. Then you will see two different sets of discussion questions. One for older kids (3rd-4th grade range) and one for younger kids (Kinder-2nd grade range). Read the discussion questions with your kids. Remember, discussion is not one sided, it's different people talking together. Give your kids the opportunity to think and speak. I pray the Lord speaks to you and your family as you dive into His word together.

Tell the Bible Story

Naomi lived in Judah with her husband and their two sons. There was a famine in the land, so it was difficult to find enough food to survive. Naomi and her family decided to go to Moab.

While they were in Moab, Naomi's husband died. Naomi's sons married women from Moab, Orpah and Ruth. They all lived in Moab for 10 years, and then Naomi's sons died. Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth were all alone. The famine was over, so Naomi decided to go home.

The women were very sad to leave each other. Orpah returned home, but Ruth clung to Naomi. Ruth said, "Wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God." So Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem together.

Ruth went into the fields to gather fallen grain. She happened to go to the field of Boaz, a good man from the family of Naomi's late husband. Boaz saw Ruth in his field. He had heard how



kind Ruth was to Naomi, so Boaz told Ruth to stay in his field where she would be safe. Boaz made sure Ruth had enough food.

Ruth returned to Naomi and told her about Boaz. “Boaz is one of our family redeemers,” Naomi replied. A family redeemer was someone who would help his close relatives if they were in trouble. Naomi knew Boaz would take care of Ruth, so she encouraged Ruth to stay in his fields.

Naomi wanted to make sure Ruth had a husband to care for her, so she gave Ruth special instructions. Ruth put on her best clothes and laid down near Boaz’s feet. In this way, Ruth showed Boaz that she hoped he would marry her. Boaz was surprised to find Ruth at his feet. “You are a family redeemer,” Ruth said.

Boaz promised to redeem Ruth, which meant he would buy back the land that Naomi lost after her husband died, and he would marry Ruth.

Ruth and Boaz had a son named Obed. Naomi took care of Obed. When Obed grew up, he was the father of Jesse, who was the father of King David.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Boaz was a family redeemer. He helped his close relatives who were in trouble. Boaz cared for Ruth and Naomi because their husbands had died. In a similar way, Jesus is our Redeemer. We need help because we sin. Jesus bought our salvation for us by taking our punishment when He died on the cross.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Older

Guide your kids to open their Bibles to Ruth 1. Tell kids that today’s Bible story comes from the Book of Ruth. Explain that the Book of Ruth is the third book of Old Testament History. It follows the Book of Joshua. Challenge kids to name the first eight books of the Old Testament. Read aloud Ruth 1:1-2. Remind kids that Naomi’s family was from Bethlehem. Because of the famine, they moved to Moab. That’s where they met Ruth and her sister Orpah.



Lead the group to discuss:

1. Why do we need Jesus to be our Redeemer?

Guide your kids to recognize that without Jesus, we are slaves to sin and need someone to redeem us, or pay the price to set us free. Jesus paid the penalty for sin by dying on the cross. He rose from the dead. Everyone who trusts in Him is freed from sin and death.

2. Why do you think Jesus loves all people?

Remind your kids that God created all people in His image, and Jesus does not want anyone to be separated from Him.

3. What evidence of God's grace have you seen in your own life?

Lead your kids to recall that grace is God's goodness toward those who deserve only punishment. As sinners, we deserve death but God—by His grace—provides salvation through His Son, Jesus. God also graciously and freely gives us good gifts.

SAY:

The events of Ruth happened during the time of the judges, sometime after Joshua died.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Younger

Help your kids find the Book of Ruth. Ask which division of the Old Testament Ruth is part of. (History) Remind kids that Bible divisions help us understand what some books in the Bible have in common.

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. Where was Ruth from originally?

Moab, Ruth 1:4

2. What did Boaz do for Ruth?

Invited her to stay in his fields, offered her protection and water, married her and redeemed her and Naomi; Ruth 2:8-9; 4:14

3. Boaz and Ruth were the great-grandparents of whom?

David, the eventual king of Israel and an important ancestor of Jesus; Ruth 4:17-22

4. How does Boaz point us forward to Jesus?

Guide your kids to discuss the fact that Boaz bought back the land of Naomi and Ruth's family. He redeemed the women and gave them a new life. Through Jesus, we can be redeemed from sin, protected from death, and given new life with God forever.

5. How did Jesus redeem us?

Guide your kids to understand that we are born in sin. We cannot earn God's love, so we needed Jesus to save us. Jesus came to earth to live the perfectly obedient life we never could. He died the death we deserved and rose again to prove that His sacrifice was enough. He defeated sin and death so we could have new life with God.

6. How does God's great love for us change the way we behave toward others?

Help your kids to see that when we love God, we will want to obey Him and love the things He loves. That includes loving other people. We will want to see those in need comforted and cared for. Obeying God means taking care of other people and showing them His love.

SAY:

God provided a redeemer for Ruth. In an even greater way, God provided a Redeemer for you and me through Ruth's family line. Jesus came to save us from sin and give us eternal life with God.