

Lesson 10: Ruth – Part 2

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Look at the book of Ruth and see an example of a family during the time of Judges
- 2) See that not everyone is bad, even in an evil time like the period of Judges
- 3) See that God cares about every person including ordinary people and families
- 4) Understand that kind loving people like Naomi, attract loyal companions like Ruth

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for idea

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Spoon Puppets Craft Instructions – one per student
- Plastic spoon – one per student
- 9 x 12-inch piece of construction paper – one per student
- Construction paper scraps in skin tone of your choice – some for students to share
- 8 x 8-inch tissue paper – one per student who chooses to make Ruth or Naomi
- Masking tape – to share
- Rulers – to share
- Scissors – to share
- Yarn or thin ribbon – one 12-inch piece per student
- Yarn scraps – enough for each child to use for hair for puppet
- White glue and/or Glue sticks – to share
- Clothespins – 2 per student
- Hole punch – to share

Optional:

- Song of Ruth – one for each student or to share as class (see lesson 9 for sheets)
- Ruth Color Pages – one for students who chose color page or word search and/or for visual aid (there are two on a page so have scissors to cut the page in half)
- Ruth Word Search – one for students who choose
- Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Snack:

- Something made of wheat or barley ex: bagels enough for each child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied).

Say to students:

Today we are going to continue to study the book of Ruth. Can anyone tell me what we studied in Ruth last week? We studied that Ruth and Naomi left Moab to return to Bethlehem after their husbands had died. We learned that even though Naomi told her two daughters-in-law to stay in Moab, Ruth refused and said she wanted to follow Naomi and the God of Israel.

Does anyone have any questions from last week?

The book of Ruth was written during that time of the Judges when most people were not following God. The story of Ruth though will show us many wonderful things. Some of them being that:

Not everyone is bad, even in an evil time like the period of Judges

God cares about every person including ordinary people and families

Kind loving people like Naomi – attract loyal companions like Ruth her faithful daughter-in-law

And we'll see that faithful people like Ruth get noticed by others for their kindness

Let's get our Bibles and turn to Ruth Chapter 2 now.

2) Ruth

15-20 minutes

Optional: Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed help and someone came and helped without you even having to ask? How did you feel? Did you appreciate the person? God sends people into our lives everyday to help us and take care of us. Sometimes it is our parents or family, sometimes it is people in the church, sometimes it is people we may not even know. God is good and wants us to look for opportunities to help others. We are going to read about Ruth and Boaz and see an example of how God provides for us through people in our lives and how we can and should learn to look for opportunities to help – without waiting to be asked.

Can I get volunteers to read four verses each of Ruth Chapter 2? Or read yourself.

Discussion Questions:

Who was Boaz? A relative of Naomi's husband

What does it say about him in verse 1? He was a man of standing, meaning he was a man of strength or wealth.

How did he treat his workers? Well - he greeted them and knew that Ruth was a new worker. He even greeted them with a blessing – “may the Lord be with you.”

When we are at school and at work, what are ways we should greet our friends and co-workers?

In a similar way – with kind words and with acknowledgement of the Lord.

After reading about Ruth in Chapter 2 what characteristics do you see in her? Hard-working, kind to Naomi, humble, grateful, not given to complaining, etc.

God had directed Moses when writing in the law for landowners, to leave some grain in their fields for the poor to “glean”. Glean means to gather bit by bit over time. (You can take students

to **Leviticus 19:9-10 or 23:22** and or **Deuteronomy 24:19-21** for the law on this) **This was God's way of providing for the poor.**

What did Boaz say about Ruth in verse 11-12? That the news of her kindness to Naomi and her willingness to come to a foreign land to help her mother-in-law had reached him and that he wished that the Lord repaid her for her willingness to help.

When Ruth returned back to Naomi that day she had gathered an ephah of barley - that would have been enough to feed a person for several weeks, much more than a gleaner would usually get! Boaz, thanks to God, was very kind towards Ruth and Naomi.

What did Naomi ask Ruth and why? Where did you glean today? Because of the large amount Ruth had brought back!

Naomi said Boaz was a close relative and a "kinsmen redeemer" – a kinsmen redeemer was a relative who could help a childless widow back in the time of the Israelites. (See Deuteronomy 25:5-10) A kinsmen redeemer could marry the childless widow of his deceased/dead relative so that she might bear a child to carry on the name of her deceased husband. He would also provide for her and love her and the child and any other children they had.

How do you see God working in Naomi and Ruth's lives? Providing someone that is willing to help feed them and be kind to them. Blessing them with food and care and a safe place to work. Providing for all their needs through the care of others.

How does God help us today? He brings people in our lives that can help us when we need it and He helps others by sending each one of you, so that you can help them! God wants us to help others, just like Ruth and Boaz helped. Ruth helped Naomi and Boaz helped Ruth.

Let's make sure we do our part and are willing to help others in our neighborhood and church family when they need something – as we represent God!

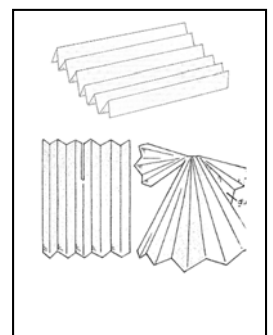
3) Spoon Ruth, Naomi, or Boaz Puppets

15 minutes

Before class: Gather supplies

Say, " **To help us remember this story, we are each going to choose to make a puppet – either Ruth, Naomi or Boaz. I am going to hand out a sheet of paper to each of you with instructions and I will read the instructions allowed and help all of you make a spoon puppet.** Hand out instructions and supplies to the students and ask them to think of who they want to make as a puppet. Go through the directions and help them to make their own spoon puppet of Ruth, Naomi or Boaz! If glue does not dry before end of class, keep the puppets for students and then hand back out next week.

*Use scrap paper of skin toned colors to make a circle (1 inch) approximately for each student to use as a head. Use scrap yarn for hair.



4) Optional Color Page or Word Search

20 minutes

Hand out one word search sheet or color page to students along with pencils or crayons. Read the instructions and words aloud that they are to find. Help students as needed find the words and while they are

searching, ask them;

Why is each word important as it relates to our lesson?

What does the word (pick a word) have to do with what was learned today?

*If you would like to give “homework” ask the children to read Ruth Chapters 3 and 4 on their own (or with parents) to hear the complete account of Ruth.



5) Optional – Snack: Something made of Barley or Wheat (like a bagel piece)

*Check for allergies.

Hand out snack to each child along with a glass of water or juice. Explain that: **Today we continued the study of Ruth. Last week we saw that Naomi’s family had to leave Bethlehem. Why? Famine. What is a famine?** A time when there is no food because the crops stopped producing usually do to an infestation of insects, hail, heavy rains, or drought that damage crops and can cause livestock to die.

This week we saw that Naomi returned with Ruth – instead of being hungry, what was Ruth able to provide thanks to God? Three weeks worth of food!

Let’s talk about all the ways God provides for us and let’s remember how blessed we are to be able to eat food while we have our snack made of the same wheat or barley that Ruth was gathering. Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands.

Discuss any questions while snacking.

6) Optional – Songs

5 minutes

Have children sing songs with you. An example: **Song of Ruth** – See sheet attached for lyrics.

7) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Dear God, help us as we study Your perfect Word in the Old Testament to understand it, use it and see the examples of faithful people that followed You. Help us to remember that Your commands are important and need to be followed to live a life that is pleasing to You. Help us all too always love You with our whole heart, mind, strength and soul!

Help us this week as we go from our church family – we pray that you will be with us and our families, help us share the good news of Your love to every one we meet and help us to remember to pray and study the Bible every day. Help us to look for and see opportunities to help others and help us thank others and You God, when we receive help.

Thank you for the book of Ruth that shows us faithful examples of godly women and men who put their faith and trust in You especially in difficult times. Thank you for showing us that there are good people always following You even if most people around them are not. Help us to be grateful for all You provide us and help us never forget that all good things come from You!

We pray for those who could not be here today. We pray you will bring them back safely next week.

Thank you God for Your love, thank you for Your Son Jesus, thank you for caring for us and providing such a beautiful world for us to live in, and thank you for giving us Your Word – the Bible so we can know how to live and learn what pleases You. In Jesus precious name, Amen.