

## MAY 18, 2025 THE STORY OF RUTH RUTH

#### CHRIST CONNECTION

Like Boaz helped Ruth and Naomi, God sent Jesus to help us. Jesus is our Rescuer who saves us from all our sins.

#### **BIG PICTURE QUESTION**

How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.

#### MEMORY VERSE

My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

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#### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The book of Ruth weaves a redemption story that begins with one family from Bethlehem and points toward the Messiah born in the same city. In the story of Ruth, we see how God sees and cares for His people, even demonstrating His love for the nations through a Moabite woman who became a part of Jesus' lineage. God's provision for not only Ruth, but all people is revealed through the theme of a redeemer.

What does Ruth's story teach us about our need for redemption? How does faith play a role in this book of the Bible?

In the time of the judges, famine overtook the land of Judah. So, a man named Elimelech traveled with his family to the land of Moab. Eventually, Elimelech and his two sons died, leaving his wife Naomi and her two daughters-in-law seemingly without provision or protection in their time of need. Naomi granted her late sons' wives to return to their homelands, yet Ruth swore to remain with Naomi and declared that Naomi's God would be her God too.

Ruth remained faithful to Naomi and took to the fields to glean grain for them both. It was there she received kindness from the field's owner Boaz, whom she soon learned was their family redeemer. Boaz had the power to bring Ruth and Naomi back into Elimelech's family so their lineage would continue. He took Ruth as his wife to provide her with the food and protection she needed. Like Ruth, we need provision, but our need goes even further: salvation from sin. The kindness of Jesus led Him to the cross to redeem us amid our sinful state.

Lead kids to see that this story goes beyond mere physical provision to reveal a God who made the way to offer us salvation. Pray that the children in your class would see God's sovereign hand at work in this story and that they would trust in Jesus as the perfect and final Redeemer.

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# OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities

## WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

#### ACTIVITY #1: SING A SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of "This is the Way":

My God, my God will supply all your needs, supply all your needs, supply all your needs. My God, my God will supply all your needs, all your needs in Christ Jesus.

(Repeat)

#### CONNECT THE DOTS

Our memory verse phrase says, "My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus." In our story today, God took care of Ruth and Naomi by providing them with grain and someone to help them. We need help, too. We need God to save us from our sins. God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us and save us forever.

#### CONNECT THE DOTS

Ruth and Naomi did not have much food. Ruth went to a field to collect some grain. The owner of the field where Ruth collected grain was a man named Boaz. Boaz saw that Ruth was very kind to Naomi. Boaz made sure Ruth was safe and had enough food. God took care of Ruth.

#### ACTIVITY #2: SERVE DINNER

Display the provided toy food, dishes, napkins, and placemats on a table. Demonstrate how to set a table using placemats, napkins, and dishes.

Then, encourage children to play with the toy food and pretend to cook dinner. When they're done, guide them to place the toy food onto the toy dishes.

#### THE STORY OF RUTH

Naomi lived with her family in the land of Judah, but there wasn't enough food there. So, Naomi, her husband, and their two sons decided to move to a different place called Moab where there was more food.

In Moab, Naomi's husband died, and then her sons died too. Naomi was very sad. She had two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth. Orpah decided to go back to her family, but Ruth wanted to stay with Naomi no matter what. Ruth said, "I will go where you go, and your people will be my people."

So Naomi and Ruth went back to Judah together. They didn't have much food, so Ruth went to a field to collect some leftover grains. The owner of the field, Boaz, saw Ruth and saw she was very kind to Naomi. Boaz made sure Ruth was safe and had enough food.

Naomi thought Boaz would be a good husband for Ruth. Boaz agreed to marry Ruth and take care of Naomi, too. They got married and had a baby boy named Obed. Obed grew up to be the grandfather of a very special king named King David.

#### **CHRIST CONNECTION**

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# SNACK & CLOSING

### SNACK & DISCUSSION

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the story as needed.

- 1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
- 2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
- 3. Who did God use to help Ruth and Naomi?
- 4. How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.

#### **CLOSING ACTIVITIES**

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

#### **BEFORE YOU GO...**

# Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

- 1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
- 2. Spot sweep if needed.
- 3. Return toys to closet, close door.
- 4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
- 5. Return storage cubes to **Rm 108**.

#### THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!

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