

Unit 9, Session 1

The Story of Ruth (Ruth)



Dear families,

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

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

FAMILY TALKING POINTS

CHRIST CONNECTION

This is the big idea of how this week's Bible story points to Jesus.

- Babies & Toddlers: God helped Ruth and Naomi. God helped us too. God sent Jesus to save us and rescue us from all our sins.
- Younger Preschool: Like Boaz helped Ruth and Naomi, God sent Jesus to help us. Jesus is like our Rescuer who saves us from all our sins.
- Older Preschool: Ruth was in great need, and God provided Boaz as her family redeemer. We are in great need and unable to save ourselves from our sin. God provided Jesus as our Redeemer.
- Kids: Ruth was in great need and unable to provide for herself. God provided Boaz as her redeemer. We are in great need and unable to save ourselves from our sin. God provided Jesus as our Redeemer.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER

This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.

- Younger Preschool: How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.
- Older Preschool: How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.
- Kids: How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.

KEY PASSAGE

This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.

- Babies & Toddlers: God gives us all we need in Jesus. Philippians 4:19

- Younger Preschool: My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19
- Older Preschool: My God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19
- Kids: My God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

**** Next week:** Samson Was Born and Called (1 Samuel 1-3)