

# JUDGES

## “Ruth”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The pattern of sin that Israel went through in Judges
- The story of Jephthah’s arrogance
- The story of Ruth’s faithfulness
- The story of Samson’s Nazarite vows

Series Theme Verse: “Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived.” –Judges 2:18

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that Ruth was faithful.

Lesson Passage: Ruth - Chapters 1-4

Materials Needed: Bibles, white board or butcher paper, may want to have questions from The Story Retold part copied on cards for each group to have while they discuss, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan: This lesson will be different than our normal format. The lesson and main points will be developed by the students through group work and whole group discussion. The goal is to encourage students to see that as they read scripture they are responsible for interpreting its meaning and applying it to their lives.

Talking Points:

- Break the students into 4 groups.
- Each group is responsible for reading one chapter of Ruth, retelling the chapter in their own words and sharing what they think is most significant in the chapter.
- Let each group share about their chapter and what they decided as a group that was significant.
- Write the significant portion of each chapter on a white board or butcher paper to create a working story board of the book of Ruth. (Other important aspects or parts of the story can be added after each group presents.)
- As the teacher, use the story board that has been created to retell the whole story of Ruth in your own words.

The Story Retold:

- Have the groups get back together and give them these questions to discuss together:
  1. What part of the story of Ruth that is most incredible to you?
  2. How does the story of Ruth relate to our lives?

3. How can Ruth's faithfulness in her relationships be lived out in our lives with other Christians? Give at least one specific example.

- Have the groups come back and discuss with them what they have just done. They read a passage from the Bible, interpreted what it said and applied it to their lives. This is something we should all be doing every time we read the Bible.

#### The Story and Me:

- Review the memory verse.
- Have the students break up into their groups one last time.
- The students need to pick a simple song like "Mary had a Little Lamb," or any song they choose and try to fit the words of the verse into that tune. 😊
- Remind the students that this is a safe place and we won't make fun of them for singing voices or if the verse doesn't fit perfectly with the song. It's just a fun way to help memorize the verse.
- Give each group a chance to share their song.
- You could also have the other groups try to guess what tune each group used.