

JUDGES

“Ruth and Naomi”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The story of how God used Deborah to save God’s people
- The story of how Samson defeated the Philistines
- The story of Ruth and Naomi
- The story of Ruth and Boaz

Series Theme Verse: “The Lord will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.” –Psalm 96:13

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of Ruth and Naomi and that Ruth displayed love and kindness.

Lesson Passage: Ruth 1:1-19 & 22

Materials Needed: Bibles, slips of paper for Charades, pen, bowl or bag to put slips of paper in, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points:

- Ruth’s story is happening during the time of the judges.
- What is going on in the first verse of Ruth? (There is a famine in the land.)
- What is a famine? (not enough food for people)
- We are introduced to several characters in the 2nd verse. Who are they? (A family from Bethlehem. Elimelech, the dad, Naomi, the mom, two sons, Mahlon and Kilion)
- What does this family do? (moves to Moab)
- What happens while living in Moab? (Elimelech dies, the sons get married to Orpah and Ruth, then 10 years later the sons die too vs3-5)
- Now Naomi is alone with only her daughters-in-law. How do you think Naomi feels? (sad, alone, etc.)
- Why does she decide to move back to Bethlehem? (heard the Lord provided food vs6)
- What does Naomi tell her daughters-in-law? (Go home and find another husband. I am too old to have any more sons to provide you.)
- How does Orpah respond? (She is sad, kisses Naomi goodbye and goes back to her family. vs14)
- How does Ruth respond? (She doesn’t leave Naomi. She promises to stay with her. vs16-17)

- What are some of the promises that Ruth makes to Naomi? (where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; your people will be my people; your God will be my God; where you die, I'll die; nothing will separate them)
- Why do you think Ruth chose to stay with Naomi? How do you think Naomi felt when Ruth chose to stay with her?
- Ruth showed Naomi love and kindness by choosing to stay with her. She remained faithful to Naomi and kept her promise. We will continue Ruth's story next week to see what happens in Bethlehem.

The Story Retold:

- Ask the students how do we show love and kindness to the people in our family? to strangers? to friends?
- As the students are giving their answers, write them down on slips of paper. You might have some already prepared beforehand. When the discussion is over, fold all the slips of paper in half and place into a bowl or bag.
- Then let students break up into partners or teams. Select one team to go first.
- They must choose a slip of paper out of the bag and act it out for the rest of the class like Charades.
- The class is trying to guess what they are acting out. The ones who guess correctly, then chooses a slip of paper and acts it out.
- Continue until everyone has had a chance or until you have run out of paper ideas.
- Challenge your students to try and do at least one of these things this week to show love and kindness to others.
- Ask them what they are going to try to do.

The Story and Me:

- Review the memory verse.
- Break the students into two groups: boys and girls or whatever works best.
- Have each group come up with motions to help remember the verse.
- Once each group is done, let them share their motions with the other group.