



RUTH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: RUTH

The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

SAMSON'S REVENGE

Supplies:

- smocks or tunics for poor women scavenging in fields
- tunics for harvesters representing farmers
- slips of paper representing 'gleanings' to be picked up by women; baskets to collect "sheaves" in

Have a girl in the class play Ruth.

Begin with Ruth begging in the fields for sheaves of grain. Other children can join her in gleaning. Each child should have a basket to put the grain (slips of paper) into.

Have a teacher play Boaz. Boaz should be guiding the story of what is happening.

The story should include Boaz watching the gleaners collecting leftover sheaves of wheat.

Ruth approaches the group of children collecting the scraps of paper scattered on the floor to ask who owns the field. When they identify Boaz, Ruth asks permission to glean on his field.

Once permission is granted, Ruth and children fill up their baskets with remaining slips of paper.

Ask the children, what do you think happened to Ruth and Naomi?

Read "Happy Endings" from The Children's Bible in 365 Stories (page 124).

After reading the story, explain to the children how the Lord blessed Ruth and Naomi.

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FAMILY TREE

Part 1 - Supplies: prepare a completed family tree for example

Show a tree already labeled with children and parents and grandparents. Explain the tree concept and how it works. Explain that a family tree illustrates who our parents and grandparents and great-grandparents are.

Part 2 – Supplies: make trees with many branches and roots pre-labeled with Dad and Mom on the trunk and Grandmas and Grandpas labeled on the roots, crayons

Hand out pre-drawn trees and have the children write their names on a branch. A teacher can help write siblings' names on other branches. Point out where Dad and Mom are on the tree trunk and where grandparents' names are on the roots.

Part 3 – Supplies: Make a family tree poster of Jesus' family. On the roots could be Abraham to David (350 years / 14 generations). On the lower trunk, show Ruth and Boaz, Obed, Jesse and David. On the middle trunk show King David to King Josiah (350 years / 14 generations). On the top of the tree, but still on the main branches show Jeconiah to Jacob (350 years / 14 generations). On the top of the tree you'll see Joseph, the father of Jesus. At the very top center of the tree show Jesus, Son of God, Son of Man.

Finally, show Jesus' family tree with a large trunk, many branches and roots. Use Ruth 4:18-22 and Matthew 1:1-17 to show how Jesus was related to Ruth, the Moabitess.



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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Ruth lost her husband and father-in-law and served her mother-in-law. She was a very special person in God's plan to bring His Son into the world. We learn in the genealogy of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew that Ruth was one of the great-grandmothers in Jesus' line.

Matthew 1:5-6 "Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David."

In fact, Jesse, her grandson, was the great King David's father. Boaz and Ruth had another tie to Jesus. They lived in Bethlehem the very town where Jesus was born!

Boaz was a type of Christ in the story. Not only did he redeem the blood line of Elimelech but he also redeemed the land sold by Naomi.

Jesus is our redeemer.

Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Peter 1:18-19).

