



# UNIT 2: GOD BLESSES THE FAITHFUL

## LESSON 2: RUTH



## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God blesses us when we are faithful.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that faithful obedience leads to blessings from God.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Ruth 1-2 – Ruth Meets Boaz

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Where you go I'll go. Where you stay I'll stay. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." Ruth 1:16b (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

Ruth lost her husband, but instead of going back home, she chose to stay faithful to her mother-in-law, Naomi. Through this choice, she became part of the lineage of Jesus, becoming the great-grandmother to David.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Help us to make choices that help us stay faithful to following You.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

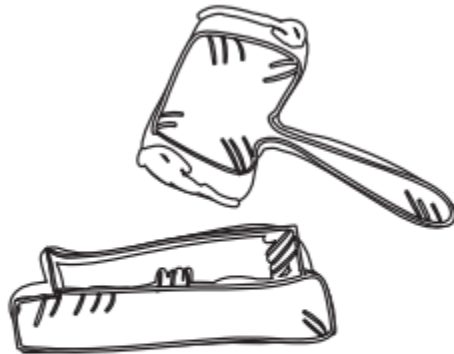
## MEMORY VERSE

*"Where you go I'll go. Where you stay I'll stay. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." Ruth 1:16b (NirV)*

*"Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16b (NIV)*

*"Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God." Ruth 1:16b (NLT)*

*"For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." Ruth 1:16b (KJV)*



**"Where you go I'll go. Where you stay I'll stay.  
Your people will be my people. Your God will  
be my God." - Ruth 1:16b (NirV)**

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God blesses us when we are faithful.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that faithful obedience leads to blessings from God.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Ruth 1-2 – Ruth Meets Boaz

**INTRO:**

What does it mean to be faithful? Take responses from kids. The dictionary says faithful means being loyal and steadfast. That means you are committed to something or someone.

Think about which animals might be the most faithful? You might think first of a dog, and many people would agree. Dogs are very loyal and will try to find their way back to their owners if they get lost. There are some more unusual animals who are very loyal and faithful.

A swan is one of those animals. They are said to be the symbol of eternal love. When they choose a mate, they stick with them for their whole lives! A wolf is another faithful animal. Even though we may think of them as frightening, they are loyal to their family. Their packs are usually made up of a male, female, and offspring – so they're a lot like a human being family. A sea eagle is very committed to its nesting place. This kind of eagle is found in coastal areas and can fly many miles away from home, but even after a long time they remember their nest and come back over and over throughout their whole life.

Being faithful to friends and family is a very good quality to have. We are going to read about Ruth today, who was a great example of being loyal.

**READ RUTH 1:3-5, 8, 14-16, 22; 2:1-12**

**MAIN POINT:**

As we continue learning about God's big story, we are still in a time when the people had judges to help them settle arguments.

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

There was a woman named Naomi who had moved with her family to the country of Moab because there had been a famine in her land of Bethlehem. While they were there, Naomi's husband and two sons died. She had no family left except for her two daughters-in-law, the women who had married her sons. The likely thing for them to do would be to go back to their own families, which is what one of them, Orpah, did. But the other one, Ruth, promised to stay with Naomi.

This didn't make sense to Naomi. She had nothing to offer Ruth. She urged her to go back to her own family and to her own gods. Ruth's loyal heart wouldn't hear of it. She told Naomi that she would go wherever Naomi went. Naomi's people and God would now be Ruth's people and God.

The famine was over and so Ruth and Naomi traveled back to Bethlehem. Remember, this was Naomi's home, but it wasn't Ruth's. It must have been hard for her to be with a new group of people, to figure out her place, and also to be learning about the one true God. Ruth was not afraid of the challenge.

When they arrived, it was the beginning of the barley harvest. Workers were out every day in their fields harvesting the grains. Because she had no job or income, Ruth went into the fields after the workers and picked up the leftovers. This gave them food. It was while she was doing this, that she had the opportunity to meet Boaz. He was a distant relative of Naomi's. He noticed Ruth and asked about her.

Boaz was so impressed with Ruth and her faithful heart to her mother-in-law that he invited her to eat with him. He also let her continue to get grains from his fields, making sure she got plenty.

### **DRIVE IT HOME:**

In the end, Boaz asked Ruth to become his wife. She and Naomi were well taken care of. And that's not all. Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David. This put her in the direct line for the most important person we will learn about in the big God story, Jesus!

If Ruth would have been selfish and left Naomi, who knows what would have happened. Because she remained loyal, God blessed her faithful heart. She was given a new family, she learned to love and trust the one true God, and she became a part of the lineage of Jesus.

We have to make choices daily. We choose how we will act and how we will treat others. If we choose to be unkind, consequences can follow. When we choose to treat others fairly and to be faithful to our friends and family, God can use us. We may not see it right away, but the choices we make now will determine things in our life next week, next year, and even when we're all grown up.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

God wants us to choose well. He wants us to choose to remain faithful to Him.

**CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Help us to be faithful to You. Help us to be faithful to our family and friends.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

Who is your best friend? What makes them such a good friend to you?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Leader will say the initial part of the verse, and the kids will say the latter part of the verse:

**Leader:** *Where you go*

**Kids:** *I'll go*

**Leader:** *Where you stay*

**Kids:** *I'll stay*

**Leader:** *Your people*

**Kids:** *will be my people*

**Leader:** *Your God*

**Kids:** *will be my God.*

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

You will need several pom-poms, a bucket, and a clothespin for each kid. Spread out the pompoms all over the floor. With a clothespin, kids will pick up one pompom at a time and put it in the bucket. Explain that the pompoms are like grains, so they are being like Ruth and picking up grains from the field. Optional: time kids to see how quickly they can pick up the grains.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What were the names of Naomi's two daughters-in-law? (Ruth 1:4)
- What did Naomi tell Orpah and Ruth? (Ruth 1:8)
- What did Ruth say to Naomi? (Ruth 1:16)
- What did Ruth do in the fields? (Ruth 2:3)
- Who asked about Ruth? (Ruth 2:5)
- Did Boaz let Ruth continue to get grain from his fields? (Ruth 2:8)
- What did Boaz tell Ruth? (Ruth 2:11-12)

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us a faithful and loyal heart.*

*In Jesus' name, Amen*

## CRAFT ACTIVITY

### Items needed:

5 strips of paper for each kid (1 inch by 8 ½ inches), markers, tape or stapler

Students will create a friendship chain out of the strips of paper.

In our story today, Ruth was a faithful friend. She stuck close to Naomi. We will make a friendship chain by attaching strips of paper together. First, write the memory verse on the strips.

Strip 1 - Where you go I'll go.

Strip 2 - Where you stay I'll stay.

Strip 3 - Your people will be my people.

Strip 4 - Your God will be my God.

Strip 5 - Ruth 1:16b (NirV)

Take the first strip of paper and loop it in a circle. Tape or staple it together. Interlock the second strip with the first one and tape or staple it together. Continue until all 5 strips of paper are looped into one paper chain.

# RUTH

## Supplemental Week 6 Readings

Ruth's Journey Ch. 1

Ruth's Service Ch. 2

Ruth Surrenders Ch. 3

Ruth Marries Again Ch. 4

