

# *Upper Elementary*

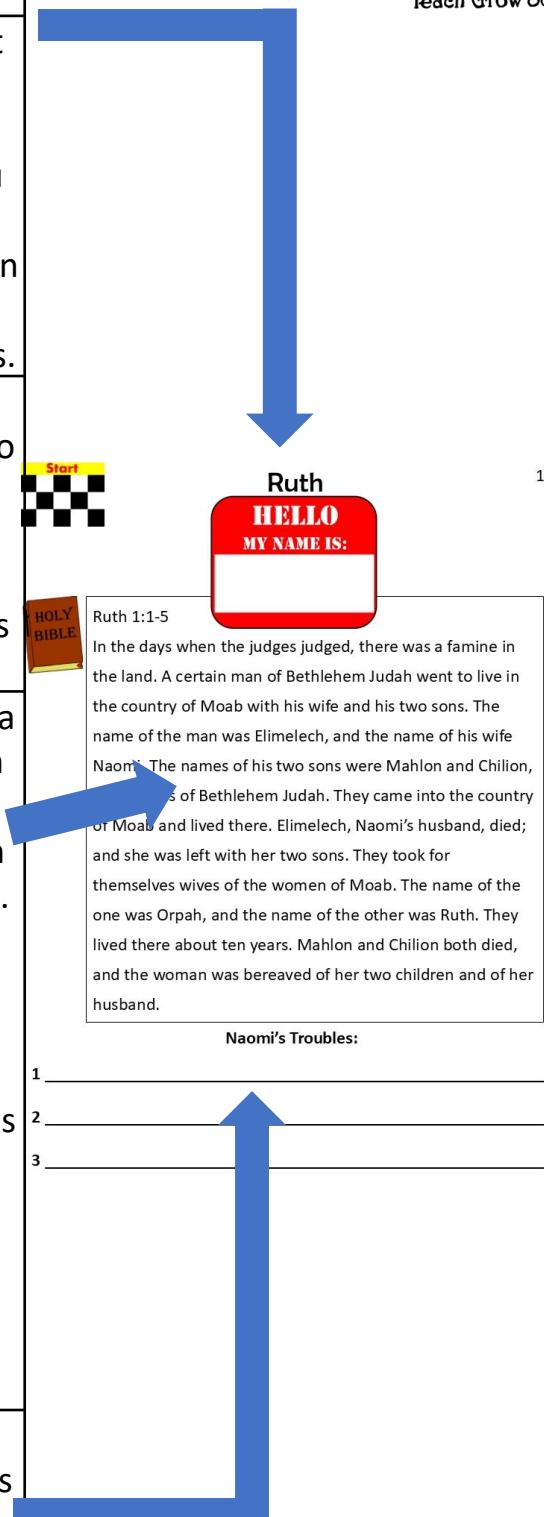
## *Ruth*

All scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible, 2020.

## Checklist

- magnets
- magnetic objects
- dry spaghetti
- nametags

Topic:	Ruth
Intro:	<p>Give each child a name tag and ask them to put their name on it. Underneath their name have them write "of" and under that they should write the name of their mom or dad. Today you will be known as _____ of _____ (David of Laura). Today's story comes from a time when people were known by what family they belonged to more than they were as individuals.</p> <p>Have you ever been introduced as "_____ 's kid" or "_____ 's student?" How does it feel to be recognized by your family or group rather than yourself? Are there times you do or don't want to be known as part of your family or group? Has your family ever been introduced as "_____ 's family?</p>
Ruth 1:1-5	<p>In the days when the judges judged, there was a famine in the land. A certain man of Bethlehem Judah went to live in the country of Moab with his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi. The names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem Judah. They came into the country of Moab and lived there. Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left with her two sons. They took for themselves wives of the women of Moab. The name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other was Ruth. They lived there about ten years. Mahlon and Chilion both died, and the woman was bereaved of her two children and of her husband.</p>
	<p>How many bad things happened to Naomi? (crops failed, husband died, sons died) How was Naomi's life going? Can you imagine so many bad things happening to you? Who else in the Bible lost everything? (Job)</p>



**Ruth**  
**HELLO**  
**MY NAME IS:**

**HOLY BIBLE**

**Start**

**Ruth 1:1-5**

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**Naomi's Troubles:**

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

Ruth 1:6,  
15-16

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law, that she might return from the country of Moab; for she had heard in the country of Moab how Yahweh had visited his people in giving them bread....She said, "Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her god. Follow your sister-in-law." Ruth said, "Don't urge me to leave you, and to return from following you, for 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 1:6, 15-16

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The Moabites did not worship God. They worshipped statues like all the other nations around them. How do you think Elimelech and Ruth felt about this? Does it sound like Naomi was loved by her daughters-in-law? Does it sound like she was loving toward them? You will know many people in your life who do not believe in God. Showing kindness to them helps them to see what God is like. Not everyone you are kind to will choose to believe in God, but they will still see you as a good example of how God's followers behave. We can't know ahead of time who will want to follow God because of us, we just have to show kindness to everyone and see what happens.

When I show kindness to others, it helps them to see what is like.

Ruth 2:4-7

Behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said to the reapers, "May Yahweh be with you." They answered him, "May Yahweh bless you." Then Boaz said to his servant who was set over the reapers, "Whose young lady is this?" The servant who was set over the reapers answered, "It is the Moabite lady who came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab. She said, 'Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.' So, she came, and has continued even from the morning until now, except that she rested a little in the house."

 Ruth  
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spaghetti	<p>Spread spaghetti on the table. Ask everyone to pick up all the whole pieces (if you break it, don't take it). See who collected the most.</p> <p>There are still small bits left over. In God's law, after the harvest workers had grabbed big handfuls of crops, whatever was left over on the ground was for poor people to pick up. This was how God made sure that no one would go hungry. Imagine doing this all day just to make enough bread to not go hungry. When Ruth picked up leftover grain, she had a lot of work to do just to make bread for her and Naomi.</p>
Ruth 2:8-12	<p>Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen, my daughter. Don't go to glean in another field, and don't go from here, but stay here close to my maidens. Let your eyes be on the field that they reap, and go after them. Haven't I commanded the young men not to touch you? When you are thirsty, go to the vessels, and drink from that which the young men have drawn." Then she fell on her face and bowed herself to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take knowledge of me, since I am a foreigner?" Boaz answered her, "I have been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you have left your father, your mother, and the land of your birth, and have come to a people that you didn't know before. May Yahweh repay your work, and a full reward be given to you from Yahweh, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."</p>



After the harvesters grabbed big chunks of grain, little pieces would be left over. God commanded the Israelites to leave these for the poor, immigrants, orphans, and widows to pick up, so they could make bread to eat, too. This was gleaning.



Ruth 2:8-12

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How did Boaz show kindness to Ruth? (he had her join the other women, he told the men not to bother her, he offered her water) Why did this surprise Ruth? (she was an immigrant) Some people did not trust Moabites because Israel had fought battles against Moab and they had been enemies in the past. But the Bible commanded the Israelites to show kindness to everyone. Why was Boaz impressed with Ruth? (she had left everything she knew to help Naomi; she worked very hard)

Because Boaz had been so kind to Ruth, Naomi suggested that they should get married. Ruth talked to Boaz and he was happy to say yes. Back then land was divided up so that no family had more than any other. To make sure they were following the rules correctly, Boaz first had to check with some other relatives.

**Ruth 3:10-11**  
He said, "You are blessed by Yahweh, my daughter. You have shown more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning, because you didn't follow young men, whether poor or rich. Now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do to you all that you say; for all the city of my people knows that you are a worthy woman."



Moab was in an area in the mountains to the east of the Dead Sea. The Moabites were the descendants of Abraham's nephew, Lot. They fought many battles against Israel. Not everyone would treat someone from Moab nicely, but Boaz did, because he was a kind man.



Ruth 3:10-13

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Loyal (adjective)  
1. Faithful to a person  
2. Follows through on promises



	What does Boaz say about Ruth? (she is loyal, respected) How does he react to Ruth's proposal? (he blesses her, praises her, wants to do the right thing)
Ruth 4:13-17	<p>So, Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife; and he went in to her, and Yahweh enabled her to conceive, and she bore a son. The women said to Naomi, "Blessed be Yahweh, who has not left you today without a near kinsman. Let his name be famous in Israel. He shall be to you a restorer of life and sustain you in your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." Naomi took the child, laid him in her bosom, and became nurse to him. The women, her neighbors, gave him a name, saying, "A son is born to Naomi". They named him Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.</p>
	<p>This story is mainly in the Bible so we know about King David's family. But it also shows us how everyday people showed kindness to each other in Bible times. Ruth showed kindness to Naomi, and God blessed her for it. Boaz showed kindness to Ruth by watching out for her. Naomi's kindness to Ruth is probably what made her want to stay with her and worship God.</p>
<b>Note to Teacher:</b>	<p>Since the early church period, many bible scholars have believed that the genealogy found in Luke is for Mary's side, as there was no word in the original language for son-in-law versus son.</p>
Closing:	<p>Spread out magnets &amp; magnetic objects. Have children play with them. Ask them to share what they already know about magnets. Ruth stuck by Naomi like a magnet. She was loyal and kind to her. What are some ways we can stick by our friends when they are going through hard times?</p>



Ruth 4:13-17

5

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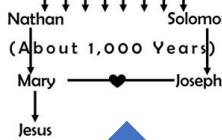


Boaz — Ruth

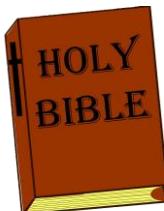
Obed

Jesse

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## Ruth

**HELLO**  
**MY NAME IS:**

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**Naomi's Troubles:**

1

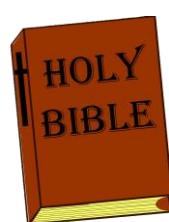
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2

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3

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Ruth 1:6, 15-16

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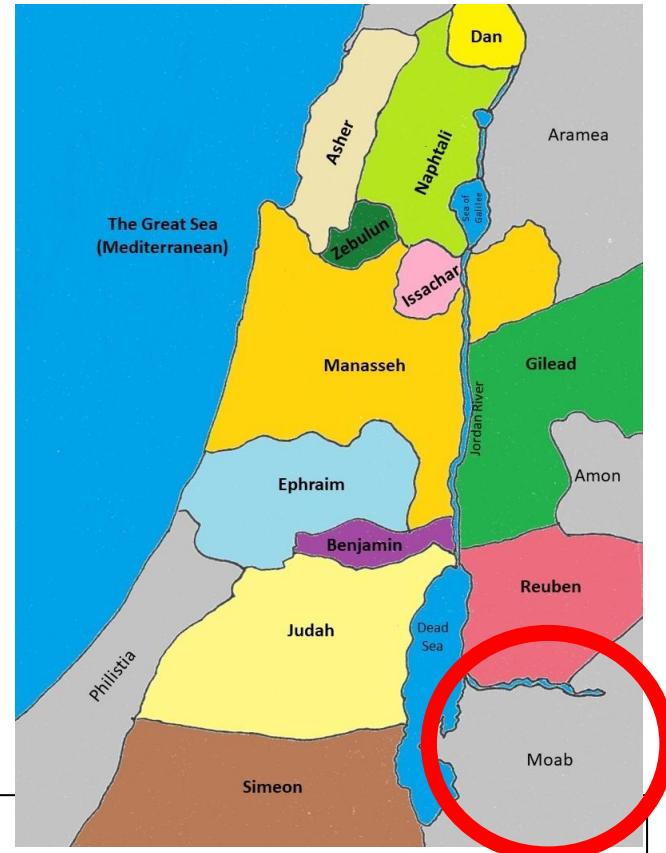
**HOLY BIBLE**

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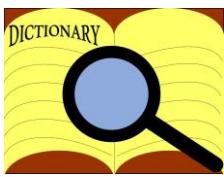


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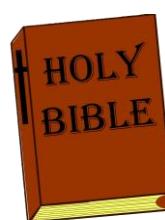
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Loyal (adjective)

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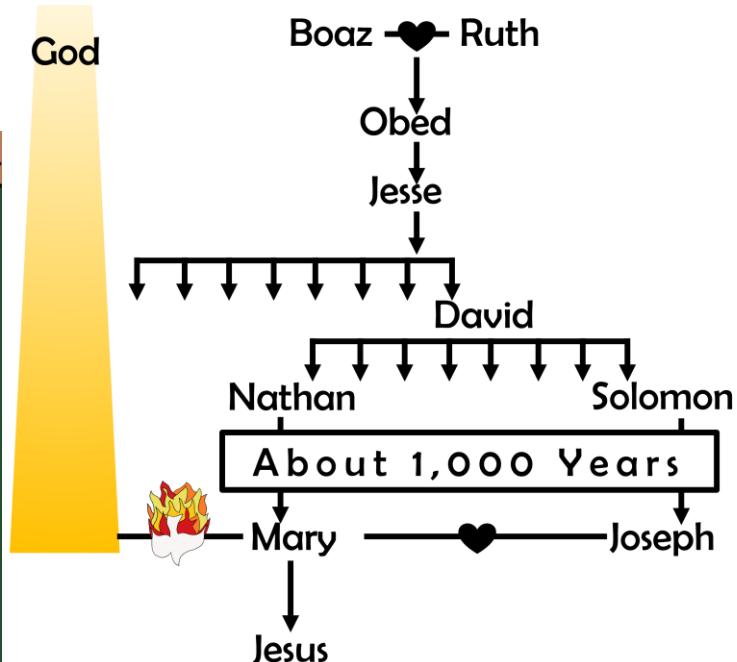




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# Ruth



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

F	A	M	I	L	Y	I	O	P	L
I	Q	R	E	D	E	E	M	E	R
E	W	D	F	G	H	J	K	N	U
L	E	M	L	M	A	R	A	I	T
D	R	N	A	O	M	I	E	M	H
S	T	A	K	A	E	S	W	A	L
C	Z	A	O	B	R	R	Q	F	M
V	Y	S	J	P	T	A	A	K	N
B	U	D	H	O	Y	E	Z	J	B
N	I	F	G	I	U	L	X	C	V
M	O	E	G	A	I	R	R	A	M

RUTH  
NAOMI  
MARA  
MOAB  
BOAZ  
ISRAEL

FAMINE  
REDEEMER  
MARRIAGE  
FAMILY  
FIELDS