



Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children
Lesson 41

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

Kind Ruth

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

Kind Ruth

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

Kind Ruth

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

A Path to Praise About!

Level E—Bible Bits: Proverbs to Ponder #4/
Topic Treasures— Love and Kindness

Kind Ruth

Naomi travelled to her home country, together with Ruth—who was like a daughter to her.

When they arrived, it was the time when the barley was being harvested and Ruth went to the field to see if there was any spare grain for her and Naomi, as they needed food.

A kind man called Boaz, who was the owner of the field, was a relative of Naomi. He was very generous, and let Ruth gather the spare barley every day of the harvest. He knew that she was a kind lady, and was taking good care of Naomi.

Boaz loved Ruth and married her, and they had a baby who they called Obed. He was a joy to their family, and Grandma Naomi loved caring for him also.

God was taking good care of them all, and everyone was very happy!



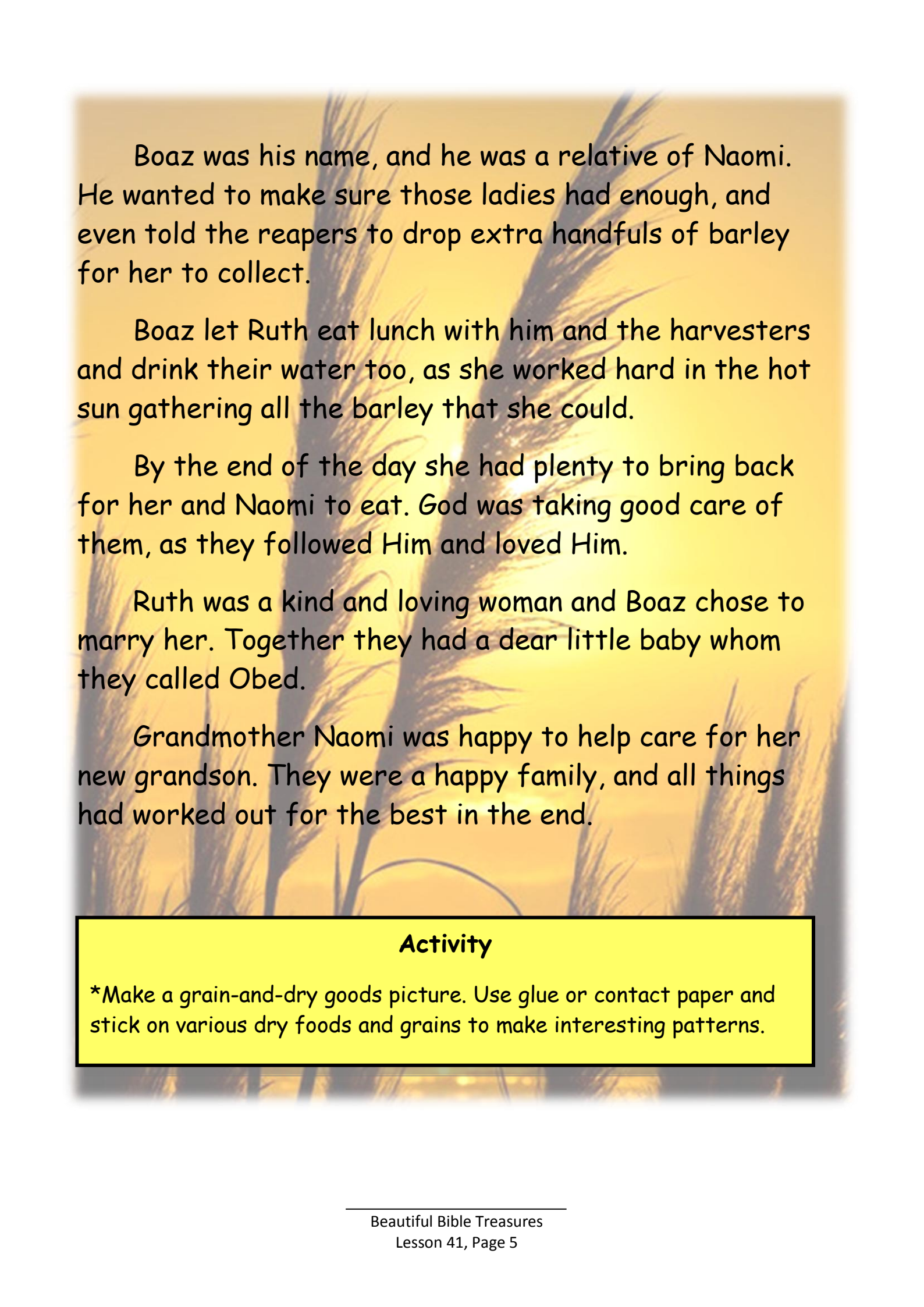
Kind Ruth

Naomi was a woman who loved the Lord and trusted Him through all the difficulties in her life. As she was getting older it seemed she wouldn't have anyone left to take care of her. There was a kind woman called Ruth, who was like a daughter to her.

Ruth said she would stay with Naomi always. Together they travelled to Bethlehem, as they heard there was food there, and it was the time of the harvest.

Ruth went out to a field to pick up any grain that the harvesters dropped, so that she and Naomi would have food to eat. When the man who owned the field found out who Ruth was—that she was the kind lady who was taking care of Naomi, he let her stay in his field and continue to pick up the fallen grain pieces.





Boaz was his name, and he was a relative of Naomi. He wanted to make sure those ladies had enough, and even told the reapers to drop extra handfuls of barley for her to collect.

Boaz let Ruth eat lunch with him and the harvesters and drink their water too, as she worked hard in the hot sun gathering all the barley that she could.

By the end of the day she had plenty to bring back for her and Naomi to eat. God was taking good care of them, as they followed Him and loved Him.

Ruth was a kind and loving woman and Boaz chose to marry her. Together they had a dear little baby whom they called Obed.

Grandmother Naomi was happy to help care for her new grandson. They were a happy family, and all things had worked out for the best in the end.

Activity

*Make a grain-and-dry goods picture. Use glue or contact paper and stick on various dry foods and grains to make interesting patterns.

Kind Ruth



Elimelech, his wife Naomi and their two sons had hit hard times. A famine was in the place where they stayed, in the land of Judah, so they moved elsewhere. This was to be a special family, and God was watching over them, and they had what they needed in Moab.

Sometimes things seem very difficult, or like they aren't going just the way you imagined that they would, but for those who love Him and are following Him, God can do some wonderful things for you in the end. Sometimes things seem to get worse at first, but that's just because it's paving the way for the best things that are yet to come.

There is also something that is hard for people who are still on Earth to see any good in, and that is when those they love pass away, and are no longer around to be a friend, a help or a support. Often things can seem harder without them around, and it makes people sad.

It is good to realise that this life on Earth is just a very small part of your real life! It's just a little trip, or like a life study course. Your spirit and eternal soul lives on forever. So when people naturally pass away, it just means that their trip is over, and they can finally return home—to live with Me in Heaven!

For those that don't know Me when they pass away, well, God loves them too, and still looks after them and puts them in the place that is best for them. They can still learn about Me and learn whatever lessons they need to, even after they pass from this earthly life. Isn't that amazing?

Of course those who have learned about Me and have received My gift of love and forgiveness while on Earth will have the free entry into Heaven's open doors right away. So that's why it's very important that as many people as possible are given the chance to be told about Me and My wonderful love, and to be taught how to accept Me, Jesus, as their Saviour and way to Heaven.

When those you love and are close to are no longer in this world with all these hard times and troubles, you can be glad for the peace and beauty that they can have at last. It's easy to just think about your loss and how sad you feel, but for them, it may be the happiest day of their life!—Especially those who love Me and have done their best to use what time they had on Earth to do as I wanted them to, and showed love.

Those who were generous will receive a generous reward. Those who were mainly trying to gain things for themselves while on Earth will see in the end that it didn't bring as many wonderful things their way in the Heavenly life to come.

This story tells of a time of sorrow and loss, but ends with the very wonderful results of a life lived in love, to help others.

Elimelech and his family lived in the land of Moab for several years, and there his grown-up sons got married. God wanted a kind lady from that land to be a part of their family, and she married one of Elimelech and Naomi's sons. Another nice lady called Orpah married the other son.

Then the clouds of sorrow came, at least that's the way it felt for this family, as some of them passed away—the father and both the adult sons. There was only Naomi, Ruth and Orpah left. What was meant to happen then?



Naomi had heard that the famine was over and there was food again in the land of Judah, and since she had relatives there as well, she decided to move back there. Naomi told Orpah and Ruth to return to their families and parents. After much convincing, Orpah did that. But Ruth couldn't imagine leaving Naomi alone and she was determined to stay with Naomi, who was like a mother and friend to her. She wanted to take care of Naomi, since she was getting older.

Naomi and Ruth travelled to Bethlehem, and it was at the time of the harvest. There was a tradition that the poor could pick up any scraps and bits and pieces that the harvesters dropped. So Ruth went to where a field was being harvested and began to gather the bits and pieces that were left over. That way she and Naomi would at least have some food to eat.

Boaz was the name of the man who owned the field, and he asked the reapers if they knew who this woman was. When he found out that she was Ruth, the kind woman who had chosen to take care of Naomi, and that she was actually a relative of his, he was glad to meet her.

Boaz wanted extra kindness shown to Ruth. He even told the reapers to drop extra barley on the ground for her to gather, so that she and Naomi would have what they needed. When it was time for the harvesters to stop for lunch he invited Ruth to come eat with them, and said that during the day as she gleaned and picked up the grain, she could drink water from the water jars that were filled for the reapers. Ruth was so very grateful and also surprised, as she was from another country, but was being treated so well.

By the end of the day she had gathered a lot of grain to bring home and cook. Naomi was so pleasantly surprised and wondered what great field she had gathered grain from. When Naomi found out that it was the field of Boaz, her relative, she was very encouraged. God had led them to just the right place and was providing for them. And every day of the harvest Ruth was allowed to gather grain in the field of Boaz.

Boaz loved Ruth and chose to marry her. They were blessed with a cute little baby who they called Obed. Naomi was a happy grandmother to

the little one, and loved holding baby Obed and caring for him. They were a happy family. God had cared for them well and given them the best. And there was something extra special about this family as well.

Ruth was to be the great-grandmother of King David—for he was Obed's grandson. And they were also the ancestors of My father on Earth, Joseph the carpenter. So Ruth was like My Earthly great-great, and many more greats, great-grandmother! A humble and kind woman was chosen to be that.

So you see, the people whom I consider important and who I use to do noteworthy jobs aren't necessarily those that are big and famous and rich and well-thought of in the eyes of the world. I look on people's hearts, and choose who to give honour to according to the choices of love and faith and obedience that they make.

People who did wonderful jobs and are well-thought of today, or were well thought of in the Bible times, weren't well-thought of or rich or famous or strong or important at the time. Most of the time things weren't so glamorous and they were given quite a bit of trouble by those who knew them at the time, as they led difficult and humble lives. But they chose to obey My call to them, to do what I needed them to do, no matter what others said or did and in spite of how hard things were for them at the time.

Who knows what your acts of simple faith in My words and love for others will lead to, and what you or your children will be called on to do later on as a result.

When Olympic champions are training all those years before they take part in the Olympics there are no shining gold medals given day-after-day for their hard effort.



There is no big announcement and great acclaim made across the world about how they worked hard that day to gain strength and stamina. It's just a bunch of tough work, while they keep focussing on the goal in mind. If they happen to win the gold or silver or bronze medals at the final competition then many people hear about them. But if it wasn't for all those years of training and keeping up the hard work they would never have received it.

What loving deed do you think I want you to do today? Who do I want you, personally to help? It will never make you feel very glorious, nor will you be famous for it—not yet. But for those who have the faith to love Me anyway, to love and care for others anyway, to have faith that what I say is true no matter what, then one day I, Myself, will give you a spectacular heavenly reward, and many will eventually hear about your wise and wonderful choices.

Can I count on you to be a winner, in the end? I hope so! Just do the little jobs, the kind and humble deeds; pray the little prayers; give others the best, and love Me with all your heart and strength. Then greater joy will be yours—more than you ever dreamed was possible. I know you'll feel it was worth it.

Let's Talk About It

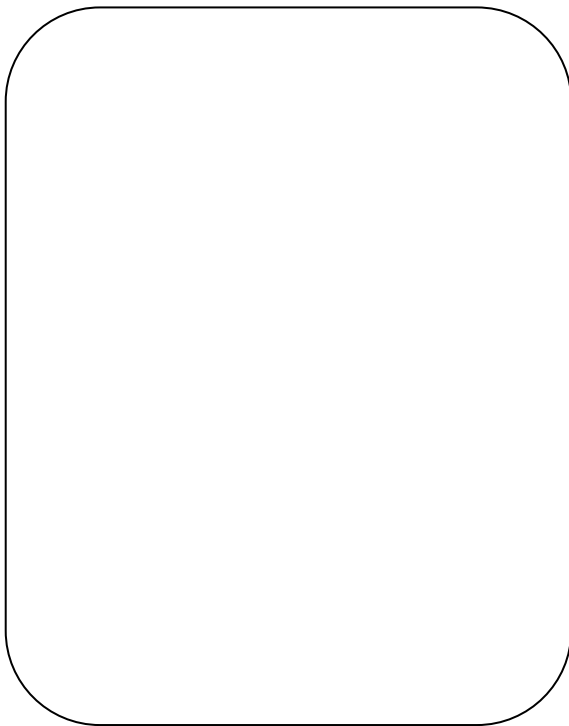
*Which of your relatives, besides your immediate family, do you feel the closest to and feel you can talk with easily and enjoy being around? If you had to choose only one person in this whole world, to go on a trip with, who would you like it to be?

*How does each one in your family, or those you are related to, show kindness? What do you do to try to make your home and family a happy loving one? Do you feel those who take care of you and provide for you as you are growing, are shown plenty of appreciation for their kindness to you and to those of your family?

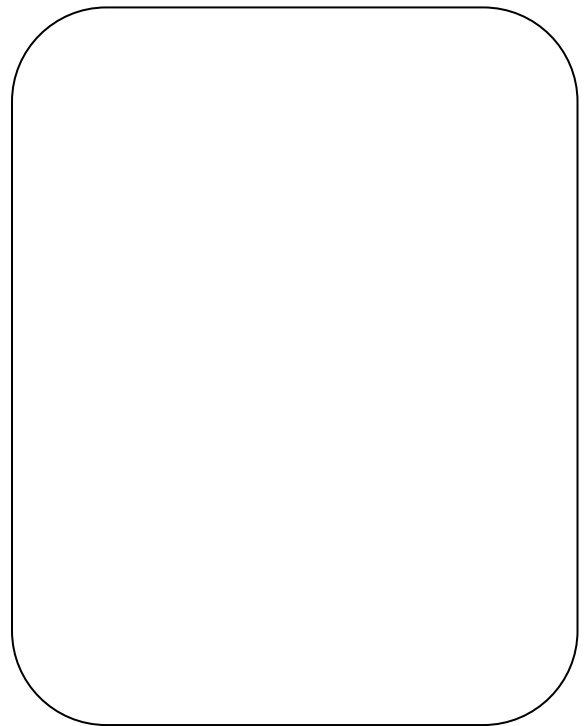


Activity

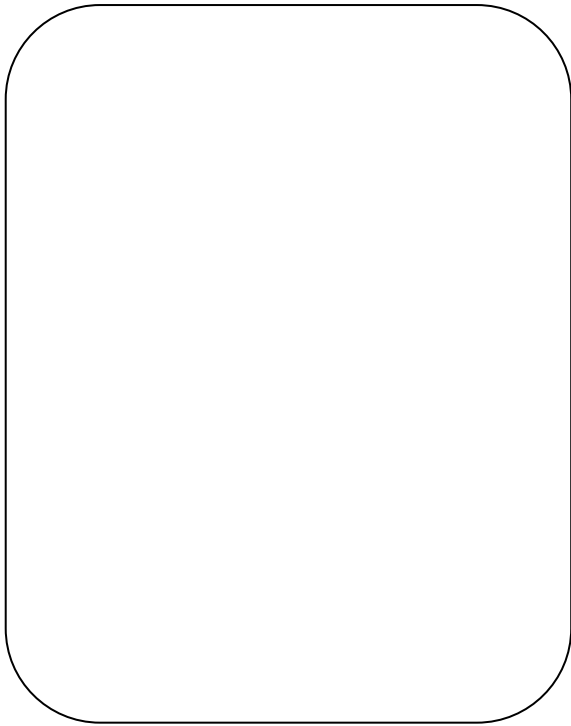
*Make a simple illustrated story together. Cut each of these boxes out below and give them out to each one—or if everyone wants to illustrate the whole story then both pages can be printed for each one. Drawings can be very simple and can even just show one item that represents what the sentence talks about. For example, a ring to show that Ruth and Boaz were married, or a tool used for reaping, etc.



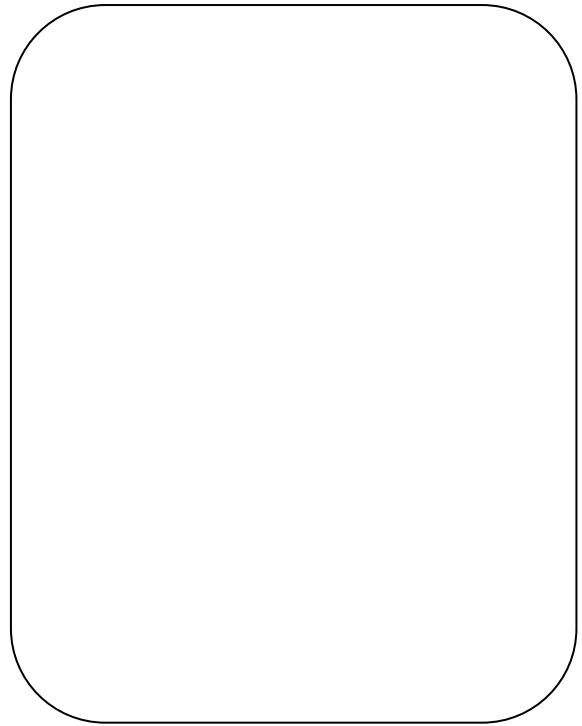
Naomi and Ruth travel to Bethlehem.



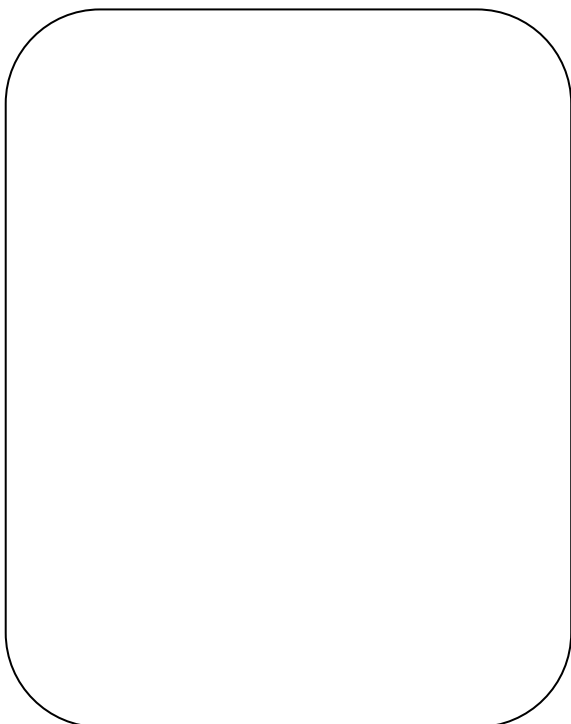
Ruth gathers barley.



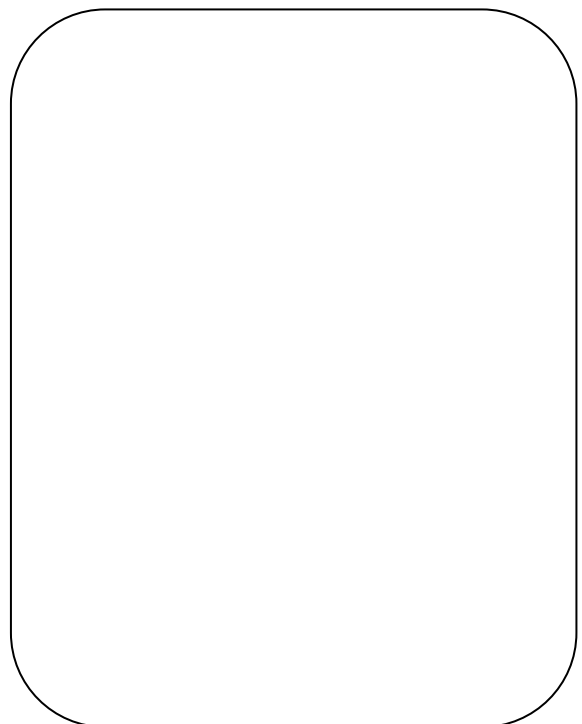
Boaz instructs the reapers.



Boaz marries Ruth.



Baby Obed is born



Naomi loves and cares
for Obed too.

Kind Ruth

Connect and Communicate



- * Take turns telling of a time Jesus showed His loving care and did something special for you or others—like making the sun shine rather than the forecasted rain for an outing, or helping you find something you'd been looking for, or supplying the ingredients or the means to make a favourite meal, etc.

Study Fun

Highlight: Any words that talk about food or crops.

Copy: And write out the names of the people mentioned in these passages onto separate little pieces of paper as you come across them. Then at the end, arrange them in genealogical order of who was born first, and who was married to whom, etc. (The first name on the list would be Elimelech and the last name would be King David.)

Count: How many examples, sentences or phrases there are that tell of kindness being shown or spoken by the people in these Bible verses below.

Ruth

1:12 (Naomi said:) Turn again, my daughters, go your way.

1:14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.

1:16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: 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:

1:18 When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.

1:22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

2:1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

2:2 And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.

2:3 And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.

2:4 And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, The Lord be with you. And they answered him, The Lord bless thee.

2:5 Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers, Whose damsel is this?

2:6 And the servant that was set over the reapers answered and said, It is the Moabitish damsel that came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab:

2:7 And she said, I pray you, let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves: so she came, and hath continued even from the morning until now, that she tarried a little in the house.

2:8 Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearst thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens:

2:9 Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn.



2:10 Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

2:11 And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.

2:12 The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.

2:13 Then she said, Let me find favour in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, though I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens.

2:14 And Boaz said unto her, At mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar. And she sat beside the reapers: and he reached her parched corn, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left.

2:15 And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not:

2:16 And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.

2:17 So she gleaned in the field until even, and beat out that she had gleaned: and it was about an ephah of barley.

2:18 And she took it up, and went into the city: and her mother in law saw what she had gleaned: and she brought forth, and gave to her that she had reserved after she was sufficed.

2:19 And her mother in law said unto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee. And she shewed her mother in law with whom she had wrought, and said, The man's name with whom I wrought to day is Boaz.

2:20 And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the Lord, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.

2:23 So she kept fast by the maidens of Boaz to glean unto the end of barley harvest and of wheat harvest; and dwelt with her mother in law.



* * *

3:1 Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee, that it may be well with thee?

3:2 And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor.

3:15 Also he said, Bring the vail that thou hast upon thee, and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six measures of barley, and laid it on her: and she went into the city.

3:16 And when she came to her mother in law, she said, Who art thou, my daughter? And she told her all that the man had done to her.

3:17 And she said, These six measures of barley gave he me; for he said to me, Go not empty unto thy mother in law.

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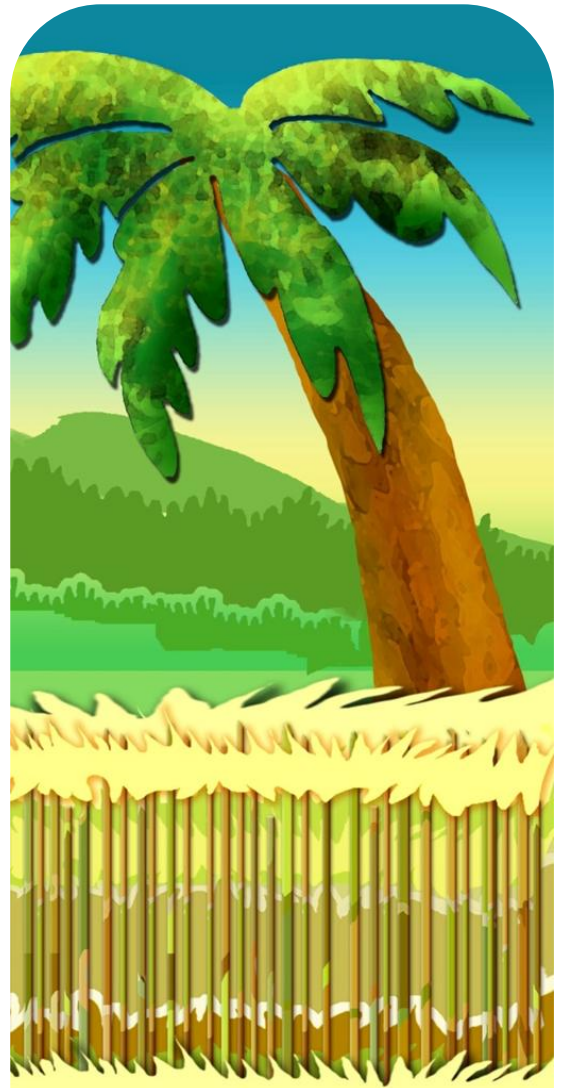
4:13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and the Lord gave her conception, and she bare a son.

4:14 And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel.

4:15 And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.

4:16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

4:17 They called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.



Activity

*Play a "Who said it?" quiz with different things that people in these verses said. For example, "Who said, 'Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman?'" (Some women). Or, "Who said, 'Go not empty unto thy mother in law?'" (Boaz)

Fountain of Faith

2Samuel 22:19-20

They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the Lord was my stay. He brought me forth also into a large place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me.



2Samuel 22:26 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful, and with the upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright.

Proverbs to Ponder #4

Praise

Psalms 21:13 Be thou exalted, Lord, in thine own strength:
so will we sing and praise thy power.

*Have one person leave the room and the others decide together on one thing that they all are thankful for—something that can be acted out. When the person comes back in he has to guess what everyone is acting out. Another person can then choose to leave and get a turn to guess. Take as many turns as the players wish.

Proverbs

4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

4:8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

4:9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

4:13 Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.

4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

6:6-7 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:
Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

6:8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

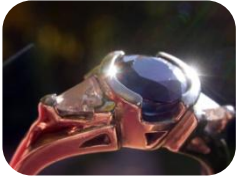
8:10 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.

8:11 For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

Activity

*Look at pictures of gold, jewels, gems, pearls, jewellery and so forth. This is what King Solomon compared wisdom to. Talk about what "wisdom" means. Look up words in the dictionary that are mentioned in these verses to gain a better understanding.





Topic Treasures

—Love and Kindness

Study Fun

Highlight: The verse you'd like to remember the most.

Copy: The words and phrases that express love and kindness that you find in these verses on to a big heart-shaped piece of paper.

Count: How many times the words "love" and "kind/kindness" are mentioned in the verses below.

Proverbs 3:27 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Zechariah 7:9b Shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother.

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

1 Peter 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.



Romans 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Philippians 2:4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

2 Corinthians 6:4-6 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, ... in labours, ... by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned.

Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.



Daily Diary

*Think about some of the many ways there are to show love. What way is one of the hardest for you to do? (Give, share, forgive, be patient, not get angry, to be kind even to those who aren't kind to you, work hard to help others, compliment others, etc.)