

# Ruth 1-4



## Ruth

Where's the burning bush, guiding star, or 5000 loaves? Where's the explosive God moment? Most of life is like Ruth's story. It's not full of "pillar of fire" moments. Let's help kids see God in our "normal" life experiences.

- Kick off class and get in the exploring mood. Listen to *Time to Jet* in *Sir Neil's Audio Journal of Feats and Braveness*.

## Exploring Supplies

- Bibles
- *Discovery Guides*
- *Eureka! DVD or CD*
- DVD or CD player
- Pens and markers
- Before you explore, check out the back page for some expedition extras.

Digital resources  
available at  
**FoundryLeader.com**  
Password:



### 1 Remember Verse

- Play the verse video for **Psalm 100:5**.
- Ask for volunteers to try and say the verse from memory.
  - **"For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100:5 (NIV)**
- Check out a variety of **Remember Verse** games and activities on FoundryLeader.com.

### 2 What's That Word?

- Decode the words in the **Discovery Guide (DG)** individually or as a class.
- Decoded words are **gleaning**, **family redeemer**, and **loyalty**.
- Invite a kid or adult to read the definition for each word.
- Invite kids to ask questions or share anything else they know about these words.

### 3 Peaks and Pitfalls

- Invite kids to share something not so great (pitfall) and something great (peak) that happened this past week.
- Pray together. There's a place in the **DG** for kids to record prayer requests.

## 4 ■ Hear It

- Have an adult read the **Eureka! Bible Passage** on page 3.
- Ask if there are any words that need a quick explanation before moving to Step 5.

## 5 ■ Tell It **So Much Drama or Action Statues**

- As a class, choose one of these two **Tell It** methods to tell the story.
- Instructions for each are on page 4. The **So Much Drama** script is on page 3.

## 6 ■ Embrace It

- Invite kids to quietly read and reflect on the passage on their own using the **Eureka! Bible Passage (EBP)** or their own Bible. There's space on page 3 of the **DG** for kids to write down any thoughts or questions that come to mind.
- After 3-5 minutes, invite a student or leader to read the **EBP** out loud again.

## 7 ■ What's Happening in the Passage?

- Explore the passage.
  - How might Ruth have felt during each part of this story? What about Naomi?
  - What might it have been like for Ruth, moving to a new land? Moab and Israel were enemies with a long history of war. What challenges do you think that gave Ruth, a Moabite, going to live in Israel?
  - It was understandable for Orpah and Ruth to stay behind. Moab was their home. So, why do you think Ruth insisted on going with Naomi back to Israel?
  - How do we see Boaz fulfill his duty as family redeemer?

## 8 ■ What's This Say about God?

- Explore what the passage says about God.
  - How did God provide for Ruth and Naomi in this story?
  - Ruth was born in Moab. She wasn't Jewish. But, Ruth tells Naomi, "Your God will be my God." Why might Ruth have wanted the true God to be her God?
  - Sometimes we can see God at work in the actions of other people. Where do you see God at work in the people in this story and in their choices?

## 9 ■ Record Your Discovery

- Discuss faith discoveries made today.
- Give kids time to write or draw a faith discovery on their **Discovery Relic** on page 2 of their **DG**. Make your own relic while kids make theirs.
- Invite kids to share their completed relic.
- Close class in prayer.





# Ruth 1-4

Eureka!  
Bible  
Passage

- A.** Naomi was a follower of God. She lived in Bethlehem with her husband and their two sons. A famine came to Israel, so they moved to Moab. Her sons married Moabite women named Orpah and Ruth. Years passed, and Naomi's husband and sons died.
- B.** When the famine was over, Naomi decided to return back to Bethlehem. Orpah and Ruth wanted to go, but Naomi said, "No, stay with your families."
- C.** Orpah stayed, but Ruth said, "I won't leave you. I'll go where you go. I'll stay where you stay. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." So Ruth went with Naomi to Israel.
- D.** They needed food, so Ruth went into a field to gather grain the workers left behind. The field belonged to a man named Boaz, a relative of Naomi's husband. He saw Ruth working hard. His men told him how loyal she was to Naomi. Boaz gave Ruth extra food and told her to only gather grain from his field so he could make sure she was safe.
- E.** When Ruth told Naomi about Boaz, Naomi was happy. She said Boaz was their close relative. He was one of their family redeemers. It was his job to make sure they were taken care of.
- F.** One day, Naomi sent Ruth to see Boaz at the threshing floor. Ruth told Boaz he was their family redeemer, and Boaz promised to take care of them. Boaz married Ruth. They had many descendants, and God blessed their whole family.

# So Much Drama Script

**Cast:** Ruth, Naomi, Boaz

Ruth and Naomi walked onto the stage and plopped down to rest. They didn't notice Boaz on the other side of the stage. He was busy hand-plucking grain one piece at a time. Ruth wiped her brow and said, "What a walk!" Naomi panted and replied, "Moab to Bethlehem is no joke!" Naomi did some sit-down stretching. She said, "Thanks again for sticking with me." Ruth pulled on her toes and counted "1-toe, 2-toe, 3-toe," and so on. Ruth said, "I've got your back." Naomi got startled by a growly sound and yelled, "What was that?!"

Ruth said, "I'm hungry. My stomach's growly." Both women held their tummies. Naomi said, "We need some vittles." Ruth said, "McAbraham's Burger Barn!" Naomi made a sad face and said, "Nope, out of business." Ruth pointed at the field where Boaz was still plucking grain. Ruth asked, "Grain field?" Naomi nodded with approval, yawned, and laid back to take a nap.

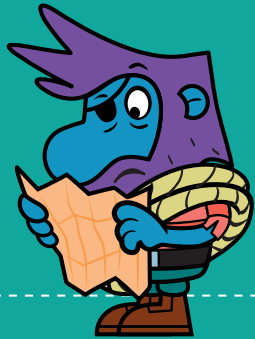
Ruth walked onto the grain field, making a soft *OUCH!*-sound with every step. Grain fields can be prickly! Boaz didn't notice Ruth. He sipped some lemonade. Ruth picked up some left-behind grain stalks and counted them. She said, "1-grain, 2-grain, 3-grain," and so on. Boaz set down his lemonade and picked up binoculars to see who was in his field. He grabbed a bag of grain and trotted over to Ruth. He said, "Howdy!"

Ruth dropped the grain on the ground. She said, "Oh. Hi there. Naomi sent me to gather food." Boaz laughed and said, "Ruthie, it's all good. Just ask." He heaved the bag of grain into her arms and said, "Take this back to Naomi. Come back anytime." Ruth muscled the bag of grain over her shoulder. Boaz said, "I'm headed to the threshing floor." Ruth said, "Naomi also said something about you being a family redeemer." Boaz stopped in his tracks. He said, "That's next level commitment. Let's do it."

# Before You Explore

Like crocheting messages on festive blankets, explorers do things a little differently.

That's why we put this **Before You Explore** section on the very last page. We know you understand.



## Expedition Tips



- The **Eureka! Bible Passage** is a very short summary of Ruth and Naomi's story. Older kids may enjoy reading the full story of Ruth in the Bible to see what other details they can turn up.
- Moab was located in what is now the country of Jordan, east of the Dead Sea.
- September 4 was World Beard Day. Obviously, this is Sir Neil's favorite day of the year.
- Neil's journal can be a fun warm-up activity. Read it to your kids or listen to Neil tell the story on the CD, DVD, or at FoundryLeader.com. Or, use it at the end of class while kids are getting picked up. Of course, you can skip it and let kids enjoy it on their own at home. There's something in each story to remind us about the day's Bible passage or **Remember Verse**.
- Explore with the **Eureka!** community. Join us in the Facebook group **Eureka! Kids Curriculum Teachers & Leaders**. Share ideas, get all the latest **Eureka!** news, and connect with others using **Eureka!**

## So Much Drama

Act out a lighthearted telling of the story as it is read by an adult narrator.

1. Select an actor for each role on the script.
2. Don't practice or rehearse. It's totally okay for kids to be hearing the script for the first time as you read it for the performance.
3. Actors stay offstage until their character is mentioned. As you read the script, pause when moments of action or dialogue are required.
4. If an actor misses a cue, gently repeat the line until the actor follows the script. Keep it lighthearted.
5. When reading dialogue an actor repeats, say the line with emotion. For example, say whispered lines with a whisper voice, and angry lines with an angry voice.
6. If you need to give direction, keep it in the context of the storytelling method. Stay in character as the narrator.  
**Don't:** "Say that again with more excitement."  
**Do:** "Then he said it again like a cheerleader!"
7. Everyone applaud after the drama!

## Action Statues

Create an array of one-person statues to capture the action of each scene.

1. Ask for a volunteer to come to the front of the class.
2. Read the first section of the **Eureka! Bible Passage**.
3. As a class, decide on the main character of that section. Then decide on a pose that best describes what that character is doing and/or feeling in the section.
4. Have the volunteer assume the decided pose and freeze in place.
5. Call up a new volunteer and resume steps 2-4 with the next section of the **Eureka! Bible Passage**. Continue until all sections have a statue in place. Challenge the statues not to move while new statues are added.
6. Once all statues are in place, read through the story. Statue may "unfreeze" and take a seat after their section is read.
7. Got a small class? Reduce the number of statues by combining sections, or assign more than one statue to each volunteer.