RUTH: Week 1

July 8, 2018

STUDY **RUTH** WITH YOUR KIDS!

Use this simple [guide](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5buQHtL1aJbZDc0MlRfYkVrWDQ/view) from [The Summit Church](https://www.summitrdu.com/) in the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina.

MEMORY VERSE: **Ruth 1:16-17** ***“Where you go, I go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus, may the Lord do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me.”***

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: the entire book of **Ruth** (chapters 1-4)

REFLECT: What are your first impressions of the characters and the story being told? What surprises you? Confuses you? Write down any questions you have as you begin this month of study of the book of Ruth. Ask God to give you wisdom and understanding as you read His Word.

PRACTICE: Write Ruth 1:16-17 on a notecard and say the verses aloud several times to start memorizing them. Think about the meaning and weight of Ruth’s words as you learn them.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: “[How to Read Ruth](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/VideoElement/182906)” from the Gospel Project on Right Now Media. (If you don’t yet have a RNM account, email sarah@whoisgrace.com)

Day 2-

READ: **Ruth 1:1-22** and **Judges 21:25**.

REFLECT: Who are the characters of this story? What action do they take? Where is the setting of chapter 1? Describe the circumstances and conflict.

PRACTICE: Break **Ruth 1:16-17** into smaller phrases and practice memorizing each phrase aloud. If Ruth were your friend, what would she learn from you about “your God”?

Day 3-

READ: **Ruth 1:1-22**

REFLECT: The book is titled “Ruth” but it is really Naomi’s story. Why does she change her name (verses 19-22)? Who does Naomi blame for her losses?

PRACTICE: Try a Scripture memory app (RememberMe, for example) to help you learn **Ruth 1:16-17**. Ask God to give you joy in as you follow Him and learn His Word.

Day 4-

READ: **Ruth 1:1-22** and **Hosea 6:1; Zechariah 1:3**

REFLECT: The theme of “returning” is prominent in this first chapter of Ruth. List every mention of return or a similar idea in this chapter. How does that theme shape the introduction to this story? Considering man’s fall in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3, the circumstances of life in the time of Ruth and Naomi and the words of the prophets Hosea and Zechariah, why is “return” important for our lives as Christians?

PRACTICE: Say **Ruth 1:16-17** out loud a few times. Thank God for the gift of His Word!

Day 5-

READ: **Deuteronomy 28-30**

REFLECT: The book of Ruth takes place during the time of the Judges, when the Israelites have turned from God. These chapters in Deuteronomy, written by Moses before the Israelites settled the Promised Land, give greater context to Ruth chapter 1. Where do you see the theme of “return” in Deuteronomy? The book of Ruth is an exciting story of God’s faithfulness and redemption. Stay tuned for more!

PRACTICE: Share **Ruth 1:16-17** with someone you love and tell them something you have learned from Ruth chapter 1.

RUTH: Week 2

July 15th, 2018

STUDY **RUTH** WITH YOUR KIDS!

Use this simple [guide](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5buQHtL1aJbZDc0MlRfYkVrWDQ/view) from [The Summit Church](https://www.summitrdu.com/).

MEMORY VERSE: **Ruth 2:12 “*The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”***

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: **Ruth chapters 1-4**

REFLECT: As you reflect on the book of Ruth, is God’s presence obvious or subtle? Is there any doubt in your mind that Naomi’s and Ruth’s story is God’s story? Reflect on your own life- where do you see God’s hand?

PRACTICE: Use the memorization tips from the week 1 reading plan (found below) to help you as you work to memorize **Ruth 2:12**. Praise God that He is your refuge!

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LEARN: “[How to Study the Bible](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/240001)”- Found on Right Now Media, this is a series of short videos from The Bible Project that will enhance your understanding of Scripture. (If you do not yet have a RNM account, contact sarah@whoisgrace.com!)

Day 2-

READ: **Ruth 2:1-23** and **Proverbs 16:9**

REFLECT: God’s presence may not be obvious in this chapter, but what are some of the “coincidences” that reveal His hand working in the lives of Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz?

“Providence is the intersection of God’s sovereignty and God’s goodness. Providence is God’s work in the seemingly coincidental events in our lives.”

PRACTICE: Reflect on your day, week, month, year. If we’re not careful, we can live as if we don’t need Him or don’t see Him. Spend time in prayer today committing yourself to His hands. Continue to memorize Ruth 2:12.

Day 3-

READ: **Ruth 2:1-23** and **Leviticus 19:9-10, 33-34**

REFLECT: How does Boaz go beyond the instructions of God’s law in Leviticus to provide for Ruth and Naomi? What does the example of Boaz teach us about God’s provision?

PRACTICE: Thank God for His provision in your life. How do you reflect God’s goodness in the way you provide for family, friends, others? Is there a step you can take toward greater generosity? Don’t forget to practice Ruth 2:12!

Day 4-

READ: **Ruth 2:2, 10, 13** and **Exodus 33:3-23** and **John 3:16-17**

REFLECT: “Finding favor” is a key element of Ruth 2 and of the Old Testament. Moses found favor in God’s eyes and what was the result (Exodus 33)? Ruth found favor in Boaz’s eyes and how did he act toward her and Naomi? Just as the “stiff-necked” Israelites and the foreign Moabitess could not *earn* favor, it was freely given. How has God shown us favor?

PRACTICE: Sometimes it is hard for us to fully understand God’s favor toward us. Listen to “Who You Say I Am” by Hillsong as you pray a prayer of praise for who God is and thanksgiving for what He has done. And continue practicing Ruth 2:12!

Day 5-

READ: **Genesis 22:1-18, John 3:16** and **Philippians 4:19**

REFLECT: In Genesis 22:14 Abraham calls God by the name “The Lord Will Provide” (Yahweh Yireh/ Jehovah Jireh). How did God specifically provide for Abraham? How does this story point to Jesus? Reflecting on all you have learned this week, how have you grown in your understanding of Scripture and of God?

PRACTICE: Share Ruth 2:12 with someone you love and share something you have learned this week about what it means that He is your refuge and provider.

RUTH: Week 3

July 22, 2018

STUDY **RUTH** WITH YOUR KIDS!

Use this simple [guide](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5buQHtL1aJbZDc0MlRfYkVrWDQ/view) from [The Summit Church](https://www.summitrdu.com/).

MEMORY VERSE: **Ruth 3:9 *He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer*.”**

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: **Ruth chapters 1-4**

REFLECT: How do you see the theme of redemption in this story? A brief definition of redemption is to save or buy back something that was lost.

PRACTICE: Use a scripture memory app (example: Remember Me) to help you learn Ruth 3:9 this week. Or check out these “[10 Tips for Memorizing Scripture](https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2013/03/ten-tips-for-memorizing-bible-verses/)” from [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com).

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LEARN: In four chapters the book of Ruth paints a picture of God’s redemptive work. Are you hungry to learn more about God’s incredible story of redemption? David Platt’s “[A Chronicle of Redemption](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/182620)” will take you from Genesis to Revelation with a message for each week of the year. Find it on Right Now Media. (If you don’t yet have a RNM account, contact sarah@whoisgrace.com!)

Day 2-

READ: **Ruth 3:1-18**

REFLECT: In this chapter we begin to see God’s resolution of Naomi’s story. Yet reading this chapter raises eyebrows! Naomi takes the lead- what do you think her motive was? Ruth obeys Naomi’s instructions and Boaz responds as a good, kind man. But what, exactly, just happened? Try writing a brief summary of the events in your own words, followed by a list of questions you have.

PRACTICE: Sometimes reading the Bible seems hard because we don’t understand everything the first time we read it. This story is of a particular group of people in a particular culture at a particular time in history, so many of their customs and practices are unfamiliar to us as 21st century, western Christians. Take heart! Identify what you can understand and ask God for wisdom to see His story unfolding. (Do some digging on your own to discover more about the “kinsman-redeemer”: **Deuteronomy 25:5-10; Leviticus 25:25-28, 47-49**.)

Day 3-

READ: **Ruth 3:1-5; 16-18**

REFLECT: How does this chapter reflect Naomi’s renewed hope and faith in God? Remember, Ruth is a Moabitess, she does not know or understand everything about the Hebrew culture or about the Hebrew God. Clearly, Ruth trusts Naomi. What is Ruth learning from the older woman?

PRACTICE: What trusted people have taught you about God and His ways? Who are you learning from now? Who are you teaching? Over and over again in God’s Word we see older, mature believers mentoring and guiding younger believers. Usually, this requires intentionality, especially in our busy culture. Who can you invite into an intentional mentoring relationship with you?

Day 4-

READ: **Exodus 19:4; Psalm 36:7, 57:1, 63:7, 91:4; Ruth 2:12, 3:9**

REFLECT: God uses the image of “the shadow of His wings” throughout the Old Testament to describe how He cares for His people. What does this mean to you personally? This phrase is rarely used to describe a person, but in **Ruth 3:9** it is used to describe Boaz (“corner of your garment” is the from the same Hebrew word). How is God using this story as an example of His love for His people?

PRACTICE: Use **Psalm 57 or 63 or 91** to guide your prayer time today. Praise God for His love and care for you. Confess your lack of trust in Him. Thank Him for what He has done and will do in and through your life. Ask Him for His will to be done in the specific needs and burdens on your heart.

Day 5-

READ: **Ruth chapters 1-3; Genesis 12:1-3**

REFLECT: If you didn’t know the end of the story, how do you think you would feel as chapter 3 ends? Now, imagine Abraham and all the generations descended from him living in expectation, sometimes in despair, but ultimately in hope of the day when the Messiah, the Redeemer, would come. You and I live on the other side of the story- we know Jesus is the Savior. Let us never forget that!

PRACTICE: Praise God for Jesus, our redeemer, who is Immanuel, God *with* us! Share **Ruth 3:9** with someone today and express your joy over knowing the One who redeems us to Himself!

RUTH: Week 4

July 29, 2018

STUDY **RUTH** WITH YOUR KIDS!

Use this simple [guide](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5buQHtL1aJbZDc0MlRfYkVrWDQ/view) from [The Summit Church](https://www.summitrdu.com/).

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: **Ruth chapters 1-4**

REFLECT: As you read through this book one more time, mark the places where you see God working (write in His Name, highlight, mark it with a star, draw pictures- don’t be afraid to write in your Bible!) so that the next time you read this book you will remember that it is the story of Naomi and Ruth and Boaz, but it is ultimately God’s story.

PRACTICE: Similarly, trace the story of your life- sometimes it isn’t until we look back that we see God working. Write a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for His willingness to be part of our stories- that He uses our lives as part of the bigger story He is writing. Don’t forget to review and continue memorizing **Ruth 1:16-17, 2:12, 3:9**.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: “[Redeemed Perpetuate the Name](https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/jared-c-wilson/redeemed-to-perpetuate-the-name-3/)” from The Gospel Coalition.

Day 2-

READ: **Ruth 4:1-22**

REFLECT: This is the dramatic conclusion to an incredible story. How are the themes of returning, faithfulness, redemption, restoration fulfilled in this story? Where do you see glimpses of Jesus in this story?

PRACTICE: In your own words, write the story of Naomi, Ruth and Boaz (or draw it!). Then, take time to write your story… though you don’t know the full ending, be confident that God writes His story on your life!

Day 3-

READ: **Ruth 1:19-22 and 4:13-22**

REFLECT: Contrast Naomi’s life in these two passages. How did God restore her life from *Mara*, “bitterness,” to *Naomi*, “pleasant”? The path to joy is often filled with despair. How has that been true in your life?

PRACTICE: Where are you on the path from despair to joy? Naomi’s story is our story- what was her hope? Who is our hope? How can you encourage someone who may be despairing today?

Day 4-

READ: **Genesis 12:1-3; Ruth 4:5; Hosea 2:18-23; Matthew 1:5, 28:19**

REFLECT: Ruth is a Moabitess, a foreigner. Ruth is part of the genealogy of David and of Jesus. How do these facts open our eyes to the impact of God’s promise to Abraham that His descendants will be a blessing to the whole world and Jesus’ commission to make disciples of *all nations*? Is anyone excluded from God’s redemptive plan?

PRACTICE: Download the Operation World app (or check out their [website](http://www.operationworld.org/)) to receive daily prayer prompts for specific nations and peoples around the world.

Day 5-

READ: **Ruth chapters 1-4; 1 Peter 1:18-20**

REFLECT: God’s people had turned from Him, yet all the while He is faithfully preparing a way back to Himself. How does Naomi’s story reflect the nation of Israel (rejecting God- returning to God- exile- return) and God’s redemptive plan (Genesis to Revelation- a plan for a Savior)?

PRACTICE: Praise God for His faithful love, for His amazing plan to save us! Consider how Naomi and Ruth were women who lived and struggled and triumphed, just as we live and struggle and succeed. God used their story as part of His Story. Your story is part of His Story too! How can you more fully follow and trust our faithful God?

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: Review all you have learned with “[How to Read Ruth](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/VideoElement/182906)” from the Gospel Project on Right Now Media. (If you don’t yet have a RNM account, email sarah@whoisgrace.com)