



Make it count!  
Make it fun!

*The Book of Ruth (Lesson 1)*  
**Following On Faith**  
by Craig

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### LESSON OBJECTIVE

With this introduction to the wonderful story of Ruth, children will learn that even during times of uncertainty, they can always follow the path of truth when they put their faith and trust in the Lord  
Bulletin Board Idea: [Basketful of Joy](#)

**Topics:** Faith, Trust, Knowing God

### AS KIDS ARRIVE ( 20 minutes )

**Trust in the Lord (Word Puzzle)** [Click Here](#)

**OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISES ( 5 minutes )** Further info? [Click Here](#)

### MEMORY WORK ( 12 minutes )

**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3: 5-6 NIV**

Children will already be familiar with these verses from the opening activity. Have them find the verses in their own Bible and read them several times. Then have the kids see if they can say it without looking.

### CLASS EXERCISES (10 minutes)

**Turning To God (Game)** [Click Here](#)

### SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION ( 15 minutes )

#### Introduction:

Our Bible story today is about a young woman named Ruth, and her mother-in-law Naomi. Ruth was from Moab, a place where they worshiped all kinds of idols. But her mother-in-law as a Jewish woman from Bethlehem. As we read our story, you will discover that Ruth had a big decision to make. Should she stay in Moab and hopefully find a husband, or go with her mother-in-law to Bethlehem where she would most likely live a difficult life? Would she turn to God and follow the truth, or take the easy path? Let's listen to what Ruth did.

#### Ruth 1: 1-23 (Ruth and Naomi)

Read this passage to the kids with feeling. If possible, use slightly different voices for the characters.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. How many years did Naomi live in Moab with her daughters-in-law Orpah and Ruth? (Ten years)
2. Why was Naomi able to return to Bethlehem? (The famine there was over)
3. At first both Ruth and Orpah decided to go with Naomi. Why did Orpah change her mind? (Naomi convinced her that it would be easier for her if she stayed in Moab.)
4. What did Ruth do instead of staying in Moab? (Clung to her mother-in-law and went with her to Bethlehem.)

5. What did Ruth say in verse 16 that tells us she wanted to worship God?  
("Your people will be my people and your God my God.")

#### **CLASS EXERCISES (10 minutes)**

**Following on Faith (Bible Research Activity)** [Click Here](#)

Also compare the stories in this activity with how Ruth followed Naomi on faith.

#### **ALTERNATE CLASS EXERCISE (5 minutes)**

**Being Close to God (Activity)** [Click Here](#)

#### **APPLICATION ( 4 minutes)**

In our lesson today, we learned that following the truth is not always easy, but God will be there to help. Ruth was born a Moabite woman, but after living with her mother Naomi for several years, she learned the truth. She chose to give up her own heritage and go with her mother back to Israel to worship the one true God. She knew it would be difficult, because both women were widows, without a man to look after them. But Ruth knew it was more important to follow God. Sometimes the path of truth is not easy. It can be filled with hardships and uncertainties. But God will take care of us if we simply put our trust in him. In the weeks to come we will see how Ruth trusted God and became obedient to the customs and laws of the Israelites. And God will work wonders in both of their lives. If we are obedient to God's word and trust Him in all things, He will work wonders in our lives too.

#### **NEXT WEEK**

What would happen if you were caught taking an ear of corn from a farmer's field? Come back next week to learn about an old law that let people to take all the corn they could carry right from under the farmer's nose.

**CLOSING PRAYER ( 2 minutes)** Further info? [Click Here](#)

#### **TAKE HOME PAGE**

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home. Click here for [NIV](#) or [KJV](#)