



Session 2: Ruth, Naomi and Boaz

God's Hope turns despair into joy.
Heroes Of Hope put other people first.



Bible Story

In this In this story, we meet two women who experience tragedy and sadness, but whose love for each other and trust in God help them to discover joy again. The Hero Of Hope in this story is called Ruth.

Part 1: Ruth and Naomi

Background

- ◆ The background to this story is very sad...
- ◆ There was a big famine in Israel, so a man called Elimilek moved from his home in Bethlehem to a different country called Moab. He took with him his wife, Naomi and his two sons. Elimilek died in Moab, leaving Naomi and her two sons.
- ◆ The two sons married local girls in Moab. But then, tragedy struck the family again – and the two sons died. This left Naomi and her two daughters-in-law. One was called Ruth and the other was called Orpah. The three women were very close.

Bible Passage Part 1 - Read Ruth 1:6-18

Read the passage or watch an animated version of the story (link below and on web page).

Part 2: Ruth and Boaz

Background

- ◆ Ruth and Naomi made it safely to Bethlehem.
- ◆ In order to get some food for them to eat, Ruth went to a nearby field where some workers were gathering in the grain. She picked up any grain that they dropped.
- ◆ The man who owned the field was called Boaz (who was the son of Rahab and Salmon). He was a wealthy man and a relative of Naomi's husband, Elimilek.

Bible Passage Part 2 - Read Ruth 2:8-12

Read the passage or watch the rest of the animated version of the story.

The story continues...

- ◆ Even though Rahab wasn't an Israelite, God used her to help His people and bring them hope.
- ◆ Because of Rahab's faith, God welcomed her into His family. She ended up marrying one of the spies, who was called Salmon, and they had a son called Boaz!

Animated Bible Story

If you'd like to watch an animated version of today's Bible story, you may want to click on either of the following links. Both will take you to external sites with suitable versions of the stories.

(CMSI bears no responsibility for the content on these pages).

Flipbuilder Story Book: <https://online.flipbuilder.com/zrww/vmcd/>

'Superbook' (Berean Class): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ke9pdq61D-s>



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Bible Passage Part 1: Ruth 1:6-18 [International Children's Bible]

6 While Naomi was in Moab, she heard that the Lord had taken care of his people. He had given food to them in Judah. So Naomi got ready to leave Moab and go back home. The wives of Naomi's sons also got ready to go with her. **7** So they left the place where they had lived. And they started back on the way to the land of Judah. **8** But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back home. Each of you go to your own mother's house. You have been very kind to me and to my sons who are now dead. I hope the Lord will also be kind to you in the same way. **9** I hope the Lord will give you another home and a new husband."

Then Naomi kissed the women. And they began to cry out loud. **10** Her daughters-in-law said to her, "No. We will go with you to your people."

11 But Naomi said, "My daughters, go back to your own homes. Why do you want to go with me? I cannot give birth to more sons to give you new husbands. **12** So go back to your own homes. I am too old to have another husband. But even if I had another husband tonight and if I had more sons, it wouldn't help! **13** Would you wait until the babies were grown into men? Would you live for so many years without husbands? Don't do this thing. My life is much too sad for you to share. This is because the Lord is against me!"

14 The women cried together again. Then Orpah kissed Naomi good-bye, but Ruth held on to her.

15 Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law is going back to her own people and her own gods. Go back with her."

Ruth Stays with Naomi

16 But Ruth said, "Don't ask me to leave you! Don't beg me not to follow you! Every place you go, I will go. Every place you live, I will live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. **17** And where you die, I will die. And there I will be buried. I ask the Lord to punish me terribly if I do not keep this promise: Only death will separate us."

18 Naomi saw that Ruth had made up her mind to go with her. So Naomi stopped arguing with her.

Bible Passage Part 2: Ruth 2:8-12 [International Children's Bible]

8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen, my daughter. Stay here in my field to gather grain for yourself. Do not go to any other person's field. Continue following behind my women workers. **9** Watch to see which fields they go to and follow them. I have warned the young men not to bother you. When you are thirsty, you may go and drink. Take water from the water jugs that the servants have filled."

10 Then Ruth bowed low with her face to the ground. She said to Boaz, "I am a stranger. Why have you been so kind to notice me?"

11 Boaz answered her, "I know about all the help you have given to Naomi, your mother-in-law. You helped her even after your husband died. You left your father and mother and your own country. You came to this nation where you did not know anyone. **12** The Lord will reward you for all you have done. You will be paid in full by the Lord, the God of Israel. You have come to him as a little bird finds shelter under the wings of its mother."