

Lesson: God Provides

Response: I Will Trust Him

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What She Had	What She Received	
No husband	Ruth 4:9-10	
No family	Ruth 4:22	
Foreigner in the land	Matthew 1:1, 5, 16 Ephesians 2:12-13	
No money	Ruth 2:1	
No food	Ruth 3:16-17	

Fill in the missing names in the family of Boaz and Ruth (4:16-24)

Boaz and
Ruth







Verse: _____

Ruth

Lesson: God provides

My response: I trust Him

Verse: The Lord is able to give you much more than this. 2 Chronicles 25:9

Introduction:

Review of what God does in the lives of Abraham/Sarah and Rahab (mobile)

Short story – [George Mueller](#). The same God is alive today and is able to meet our needs. The problem is always with us and our lack of faith.

- Look at a woman who gave up everything because she trusted God – see what she ended up with.
- Story starts in the city of Bethlehem – “House of Bread” (write list of meaning of names). Jewish people (descendants of Abraham) living here – this is where God has told them to live. A famine occurs
- One family, Elimelech “My God is King” and Naomi have two sons – feeding a family is difficult. **What should they do?**
- They head to Moab (review names) – **Is God pleased?** Read Ruth 2:3-5
 - Elimelech dies
 - Mahlon dies
 - Chilion dies
- Naomi is left – a foreigner in the land with 2 daughters-in-law – she hears that the famine in Bethlehem has passed – she has reason to return (family, familiar culture, hometown).
- What about her daughters-in-law – **Do they have any reason to return?**
- Returning for them will mean (review handout)
 - No husband (Jews were not to marry foreigners, Naomi emphasizes it)
 - No family (family remains in Moab)
 - Foreigner (looked on as different, often despised)
 - No money (who would employ a Moabitess?)
 - No food (no record of a famine in Moab)
- Orpah decides to stay in Moab (Ruth 1:15), Ruth decides to go with Naomi. **Why?** Read Ruth 1:16-17
- Ruth’s confidence is greater than her mother-in-law’s. Naomi tells the neighbours to call her Mara, meaning “bitter” because the Almighty has dealt bitterly with her.
- They return at the time of barley harvest – when we trust the Lord He provides – they have returned at exactly the right time!
- Ruth finds work in the field of Boaz, a wealthy (2:1) relative of Elimelech’s.
- The law allowed the poor to gather the extra grain that was left behind by the reapers. Boaz shows kindness to her – tells her not to go to any other field, offers her drink, lets her glean close to the reapers, tells the reapers to leave extra.
- Ruth cannot understand why he is doing this when she is a foreigner. Boaz explains Read Ruth 2:11-12. Boaz sees her trust in the Lord – he too believes that the Lord will meet her needs.
- When Naomi hears where Ruth has found work and obtained food she at last praises God (Ruth 2:20)

- In Jewish law, if a man died and left a widow with no children, a close relative was to (but didn't have to) marry the widow so that the family name could be maintained and the land be kept in the family. **Was Ruth a good choice?**
 - No: disdain from friends and family, cost, land would go to Ruth's heirs
 - Yes: a woman who trusts in God
- Ruth approaches Boaz and asks him if he will be her kinsman redeemer – he agrees but tells her that there is a relative who is closer to the family of Elimelech than he. This man, however, when asked is not willing to face the cost of having Ruth as his wife.
- Boaz takes Ruth as his wife and they have a son – is God able to provide?
- Fill in worksheet to show what Ruth gains by giving up everything.
- Jim Elliot: “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose”.
- Verse: Game if time.