

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 *A Loyal Mess* in *Niki Knack's Gritty Audio Journal of Adventuring*.

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



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 **famine**, **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.

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 **Scene Snap**

- 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.
- After 2-3 minutes, invite a student or leader to read the **EBP** out loud again.

7 ■ What's Happening in the Passage?

- Explore the passage.
 - **What do you think Ruth was thinking about during each part of the story? When do you think she was sad? When was she happy?**
 - **Why do you think Ruth chose to go with Naomi back to Israel? Why would that have been a hard choice? What might it have been like for Ruth to move to a new place? What makes leaving home so hard?**
 - **How did Boaz do his job as Ruth and Naomi's family redeemer? What did he do to take care of them?**

8 ■ What's This Say about God?

- Explore what the passage says about God.
 - **How did God take care of 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 things other people do. What do the people in this story do that shows God's love and kindness to others?**

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.





So Much Drama

Script

Cast: Naomi, Ruth, Orpah, Boaz

Naomi and her daughters-in-law Ruth and Orpah walked around alone. They were leaving Moab, and heading back to Israel because the famine there was over. They knelt and cried. Not long ago, their husbands had died. Ruth and Orpah helped Naomi up. They all wiped their eyes. Then, they walked toward Bethlehem. Naomi stopped. She pointed back toward Moab and said, “You two should stay. This is your home.” They all cried again. Then they wiped their eyes again. Orpah waved bye and walked offstage. But Ruth shook her head and said, “I go where you go.” Naomi took her by the arm and they walked on.

Ruth chewed her fingernails, looking worried. They needed food. Ruth knew Naomi’s relative Boaz had a field. Ruth tapped her chin, wondering if she could get food there. But Naomi needed a rest. She sat down and massaged her feet. Ruth walked to the field and started picking grain. That’s when Boaz walked onto the far side of the field. He wiped the sweat off his face. He looked to the right and the left. His eyes stopped on Ruth. Boaz smiled. He wiped the sweat off his face again as he walked to Ruth. He said, “Pick grain anywhere in my fields.” Ruth smiled and wiped the sweat off her own face.

Boaz yawned and laid down for a nap. Naomi got up and walked over to Ruth and said, “He’s our family redeemer.” Ruth said, “Is that good or bad?” Naomi said, “Very good.” Then Naomi whispered something in Ruth’s ear. Ruth tiptoed over and tickled the feet of Boaz. Boaz jumped up. He wiped the sleep off his face. Ruth said, “You can save my family.” Boaz got down on one knee and asked, “Marry me?” Ruth said, “Slow down there big guy.” Boaz said, “Sure thing. How can I help?” Ruth said, “First, you need to buy the family land that Naomi is selling.” Boaz wiped the sweat from his face. Ruth said, “After that, we’ll talk marriage.”

Eureka!
Bible
Passage

Ruth

1–4

- 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, and 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.

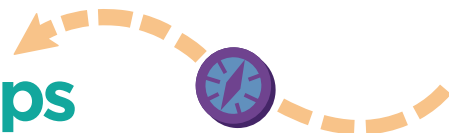
Before You Explore

Like using a force field to make pancakes, 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



- Niki's journal can be a fun warm-up activity. Read it to your kids or listen to Niki 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 hidden 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**. This group is just for those using **Eureka!** Share ideas, ask questions, get all the latest **Eureka!** news, and connect with others using **Eureka!**
- It's important to allow time for your kids to share their peaks and pitfalls of the week. Take notes on what they said as a reminder to ask them about it next week.
- Moab was located in what is now the country of Jordan, east of the Dead Sea.

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!

Scene Snap

Re-create a snapshot of three different scenes from the passage.

1. As a class, discuss how to best divide the story into three main scenes to illustrate the entire passage.
2. Make a note of what will be in each scene so you don't forget.
3. Select someone for each role needed. You can even cast some actors to act as props.
4. Begin with the first scene. Kids who aren't acting can give ideas for positioning the actors and evaluate the scene to make sure it's accurate.
5. After final tweaks and the scene is set, take a picture of the scene with a phone or tablet.
6. Move on to the next two scenes. Use the same actors for the primary roles, but swap out prop actors if more kids want to join in.
7. After scene snapping your three scenes, look over the pictures together. Celebrate your success!