



Ruth and Naomi

Lesson Aim: To know God gives us special friends who worship Him with us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Watches Over Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Ruth 1:8-18

What He has done: God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Where you go, I go."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Unit 7: The King Who Watches Over Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
33	Deborah, the Judge, Judges 4:4-5; 5:7	God gave the Israelites a judge named Deborah.	To know God gives us judges.
34	Gideon Goes to Battle, Judges 7:17-21	God gave Gideon and His people a victory.	To know we can trust God's plan.
35	Samson and the Gate, Judges 13:5; 16:2-3	God made Samson strong.	To know God makes us strong.
36	Ruth and Naomi, Ruth 1:8-18	God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship.	To know God gives us special friends who worship Him with us.
37	Samuel and Eli, 1 Samuel 3:1-10	God called Samuel.	To know we should listen to God.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Isaiah 44:24-28. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord for the relationships You give us. Help the children understand the picture that the story of Ruth gives us of godly relationships and of the role of a redeemer. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of friends or two hearts
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Where you go I go."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Can Do Everything" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "It's Praise Time" "I Will Listen" "I Am with You" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" "I'm in the Lord's Army" "How Great Is Our God" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarhurst Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 36
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Ruth 1:8-18	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Ruth 1:16 Visual: Heart-shaped rock or paper
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Ruth and Naomi Magnets	Sturdy flesh-colored and white paper, felt or cloth, two magnets (peel-and-stick recommended), glue or glue stick, crayons or markers
		Game: Traveling Friends	Chalk or tape, blue cloth, blanket or towel
		Game: Lead Me	Favorite worship songs (CD and player or teacher leads)
		Snack: Traveling Treats	Trail mix
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 36 Color This Story: "Ruth Goes with Naomi"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Ruth 1:8-18	None
	Up to 10	Game: Jesus Gives Me Strength!	Soft ball for rolling
	Up to 10	Game: "God's Strength" Memory Pass	Bible open to Philippians 4:13, wood block or small toy
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about friendship

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Where you go, I go **THE WELCOME**

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of friends or two hearts. **Let this sticker help you remember we can love God together. Today's Whisper Verse is "Where you go, I go."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Where you go, I go."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with four hand motions:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| "(Where) you" | The index finger of the right hand points forward as the arm moves forward from body at waist level. |
| "go" | The right hand begins with the fingertips at the right side of the forehead with the four fingers open and the thumb tucked into the palm. The right hand moves away from the forehead as the four fingers come together which represents a figure getting smaller as it moves away into the distance. |
| "I" | Point to self. |
| "go." | The right hand begins with the fingertips at the right side of the forehead with the four fingers open and the thumb tucked into the palm. The right hand moves away from the forehead as the four fingers come together which represents a figure getting smaller as it moves away into the distance. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Where you go, I go," Ruth 1:16. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The King who watches over us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “It’s Praise Time!” as children move to that designated area.



It’s Praise Time! It’s time to praise God who watches over us and gives us friends who stay with us. Friends like to go places together. That reminds me of today’s Whisper Verse, “Where you go, I go.” Let’s whisper it together. Review Whisper Verse together: “Where you go, I go.” Include sign language.

Together with our friends, we can give our offering to God. While our offering is collected, let’s sing about how God has promised to watch over us. Sing: “I Am with You” while collecting the offering.



God watches over us and gives us friends like Delbert and Lello. Let’s call them both to come out for a visit. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 36.



Naomi and Ruth traveled a long way together to reach Naomi’s home. God made them both strong for the long trip. Sing: “I Can Do Everything.”

Ruth and Naomi were friends who praised God together. Look around at the friends God has given you. You can always praise our great God together with your friends here. Sing: “How Great Is Our God.”

There are friends all over the world who praise God together. He watches over each and every one of them. Sing: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.”



Ruth and Naomi

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

Point to eyes.

My mouth quiet as can be,

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

I will listen to hear,

Cup hand around ear.

How God loves you and me.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned how God made Samson strong. Today, we will hear how God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Ruth 1:16.

WATCH THE WORD: RUTH 1:8-18

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a heart-shaped rock or paper. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Ruth grew up in Moab.
- Naomi came from Bethlehem.
- Naomi missed her home and family.
- Naomi and Ruth were friends.

- When Naomi went back to Bethlehem,
- Ruth wouldn't let her go alone.
- "Your people will be my people,"
- Ruth said, "Where you go, I go."



Did Ruth want to go with Naomi? (Yes.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Ruth 1:16 from the teacher's Bible.

What did Ruth say to Naomi? ("Where you go, I go.") That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it together: "Where you go, I go." Include sign language or hand motions.



God gives us friends

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: RUTH AND NAOMI MAGNETS

Purpose: To remind the children Ruth and Naomi stayed together.

Supplies: Sturdy flesh-colored and white paper, felt or cloth, two magnets (peel-and-stick magnets recommended), glue or glue stick, crayons or markers

Prepare: On flesh-colored paper, draw and cut out a 3-inch tall Ruth and a 3-inch tall Naomi. From sturdy white paper, cut a 5-inch x 2-inch banner. Print or write on the banner: **“Where you go, I go.” Ruth 1:16.** From felt or cloth, cut two rectangles or triangles as clothes for Ruth and Naomi.

Directions:

1. Color Ruth and Naomi.
2. Glue clothes onto Ruth and Naomi.
3. Glue Ruth and Naomi on opposite ends of the banner so the Bible verse is between them.
4. Stick or glue a magnet on the back of Naomi.
5. Stick or glue a magnet on the back of Ruth.

Craft Discussion:

- **Where was Naomi going?** (To her home in Bethlehem, Israel.)
- **Who wanted to go with Naomi?** (Ruth.)
- **What did Ruth say to Naomi?** (“Where you go, I go”.)
- **That’s our Whisper Verse! Let’s say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.
- **God gave Ruth and Naomi to each other to be friends. They stuck together just like these magnets do!** Show children how to put their magnets next to their friends’ magnets to make the magnets attract.
- **Ruth and Naomi loved God together. Do you have a friend that loves God?** (Children respond.) **Can you love God together?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: TRAVELING FRIENDS

Purpose: Children will experience the story of Ruth traveling home with Naomi.

Supplies: Chalk or tape, blue cloth, blanket or towel

Prepare: Use chalk or tape to outline a winding road around and through the play area.

Ruth and Naomi walked a long way. They must have had to start and stop many times. Pretend you are walking down the long road from Ruth's home in Moab to Naomi's home in Bethlehem.

Directions:

1. Divide children into pairs.
2. Each pair will take turns traveling the road together.
3. One pair of children at a time will try to follow the directions below as the teacher instructs.
4. Continue to play with the same directions until all pairs have arrived home.
 - **Start walking!** (Walk on road.)
 - **Stop for lunch!** (Sit, pretend to eat.)
 - **Start walking!** (Walk on road.)
 - **Stop to sleep!** (Lie on floor.)
 - **Start walking!** (Walk on road.)
 - Teacher: Lay down blue cloth in front of pair.
 - **Stop at edge of the sea!** (Stop.)
 - **Start swimming through the sea!** (Pretend to swim.)
 - **Stop! The sea is too big to cross.** (Stop.)
 - **Start swimming back to shore.** (Pretend to swim.)
 - **Stop swimming! You are on shore.** (Stop.)
 - Teacher: Pick up cloth.
 - **Start walking!** (Walk to end of road.)
 - **Stop! You are home!** (Cheer.)

GAME: LEAD ME

Purpose: Children will travel together as friends to worship God.

Supplies: Favorite worship songs (CD and player or teacher leads)

Ruth went with her friend Naomi. What did Ruth say to Naomi? ("Where you go, I go.") Ruth and Naomi were special friends who worshipped God together. You can worship God with your friends, too.

Directions:

1. Divide children into pairs that will travel together to worship God.
2. Choose a place on the opposite side of the room as a destination. (For example: a toy box.)
3. Whisper to one child in the pair: **"Go and worship at the 'name of destination.'"**
4. That child says to his or her partner: **"I'm going to worship God."**
5. The partner says and signs: **"Where you go, I go."**
6. The first child leads his or her partner to the destination.
7. After all pairs have traveled together, lead them in singing a favorite worship song.
8. Pick another destination and song and play again.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: TRAVELING TREATS

Purpose: Children will enjoy trail mix to remind them of the travels of Ruth and Naomi.

Snack Suggestion: Trail mix (any mix of nuts, dried fruit, and/or chocolate pieces)

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Some people like to eat trail mix as they travel. Let's eat some trail mix to remind us of Ruth and Naomi's travels.**
 - **God gives us friends to do things together. What do you like to do with your friends?** (Children respond.)
 - **Who did you travel with to worship today?** (Children respond.)
 - **It is great to worship together! We can sing and listen to Bible stories and bless our food together!**
 - **Let's say our Whisper Verse together.** Children say and sign motions to Whisper Verse: "Where you go, I go." **You can say our Whisper Verse to your friends!**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank you for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank you for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Ruth and Naomi Magnets" craft. Tell someone how God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how you can worship God with your friends.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Ruth Goes with Naomi." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Can Do Everything" as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: RUTH 1:8-18

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Ruth grew up in Moab.** (Point far away.)
- **Naomi came from Bethlehem.** (Point in opposite direction.)
- **Naomi missed her home and family.** (Make a sad face.)
- **Naomi and Ruth were friends.** (Place hands on heart.)

- **When Naomi went back to Bethlehem,** (Walk in place.)
- **Ruth wouldn't let her go alone.** (Shake head "no.")
- **"Your people will be my people,"** (Point to others and then to self.)
- **Ruth said, "Where you go, I go."** (Whisper Verse sign language.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

GAME: JESUS GIVES ME STRENGTH!

Purpose: Children will realize Jesus gives them strength.

Supplies: Soft ball for rolling

The Bible says, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

Directions:

1. Have children sit in a circle.
2. Teacher rolls the ball to a child.
3. The child holds the ball and says an activity that is hard for that child to do. (Tying a shoe, riding a bike, sharing toys, counting, reading, swimming, etc.)
4. Everyone says to the child with the ball, "**Jesus can give you strength to child's activity.**"
5. Child rolls the ball to another child. Continue playing until each child has a turn.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: "GOD'S STRENGTH" MEMORY PASS

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Bible open to Philippians 4:13, wood block or small toy

Teacher Tip: If there are more than 10 children, begin each new round with the child who finished the last round to make sure each child has a turn holding and passing the block. For very large groups, divide into two circles that play simultaneously.

Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Now, let's take turns saying it one word at a time until we've said the whole verse.

Directions:

1. Have children sit in a circle.
2. Give the wood block to the first child.
3. Teacher says, "**I**." As the children repeat the word, "**I**," the child holding the wood block passes it to the next child in the circle.
4. Teacher says, "**can**." As the children repeat the word, "**can**," the child holding the wood block passes it to the next child in the circle.
5. Continue passing the block until the children have repeated the entire verse.
6. Play again. Each time you play, try to pass the block and say the Bible Memory Verse faster.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about friendship.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 7, Lesson 36: Ruth and Naomi

PONDER! Read Ruth 1:8-18 with your family. Why did Ruth want to go with Naomi? God gave Ruth and Naomi to each other. They loved God together. Who has God given to you as family? Who has God given to you as friends? What do you like to do together? How can you love God together?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for giving us family and friends so we can do things together. Help us love You together. Amen."

PLAY! Play the "Traveling Friends" game. Use tape or chalk to make a path on the floor or sidewalk. Travelers stand at the beginning of the path. The leader stands at the end. The leader stops and starts the travelers on their journey and adds directions and detours at each stop. For example: skip in a circle, take a nap, swim in the sea, etc.

Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse: Philippians 4:13

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."