

Worship Illustration: Script King City Chronicles Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges through Esther Unit 7, Lesson 36

Ruth and Boaz

Ruth 1-4

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The set for Units 7-10 is designed to look like the outside of the King City Herald, a large newspaper building circa 1940's. A door leads to the office. A phone booth provides the place for the superheroes' quick costume changes. The center panel can be removed to reveal the superheroes "Secret Lab," filled with screens and gadgets (similar to Batman's Bat Cave), where the heroes watch over the city. There is a useable fire escape with a door and a ladder down to ground level. There is a ramp on stage right. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

<u>Characters</u>: Scoop Gibson is a street-wise, savvy reporter who hides his secret identity as superhero "Scripture Guy." Kasey Carter is a young, college-educated reporter (can be male or female) whose secret identity is superhero "Kingdom Crusader."

Plot: Scripture Guy and Kingdom Crusader meet to discuss becoming a team. Scripture Guy shares the story of Ruth and Naomi and their Kinsman redeemer, Boaz. We learn that Jesus is the redeemer of the whole world. He paid the price with His own life to redeem us all.

<u>Costumes</u>: Superhero costumes (capes, face masks, body suit, tights, etc.), "SG" emblem on Scripture Guy costume, "KC" emblem on Kingdom Crusader costume.

Props: Clipboard, pencil, Bible

Sound effects (SFX):

- 1. Intro/Outro music
- 2. Heroic music
- 3. Newspaper box: "Good News" or other triumphant song clip. Music plays when box is opened to reveal the Bible.
- 4. Telephone ring
- 5. Siren
- 6. Radio static

Visual effects (VFX):

- 1. Video Intro featuring superheroes is available at ResourceWell.org
- Fallback slide reads "King City Chronicles"
- 3. A newspaper box holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
- 4. Scripture Slide: "The women said to Naomi: 'Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he be famous throughout Israel!" Ruth 4:14
- 5. Strobes, moving lights
- 6. Beacon with cross shape in the center

Adaptations:

- 1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
- 2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
- 3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

Lesson 36
The Story of Ruth
Ruth 1-4

Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)

Dateline: King City, a city devoted to the glory of God. But in her dark underbelly there are villains gathering...evil men who seek to steal God's glory! Will King City find her hero? Can she be saved and restored to her former glory? For the answer to these questions and more, tune in every week to the King City Chronicles!

<u>Scripture Guy</u> (Enters at secret lab with clipboard and pencil.) Hear ye, hear ye! I call to order this first official meeting of the King City Justice League.

<u>Kingdom Crusader</u> (Enters at secret lab.)

I think the name Justice League is taken.

Scripture Guy

It's a working title. Have you got a better name?

Kingdom Crusader

How about "The really good guys with secret identities?"

Scripture Guy

You're not very good at this, are you? Okay, we'll pick our name later. Let's just take roll call.

Kingdom Crusader

Scripture Guy!

Scripture Guy

Present! Kingdom Crusader?

Kingdom Crusader

What?

Scripture Guy

I'm calling your name. Kingdom Crusader?

Kingdom Crusader

Yes?

Scripture Guy

You're supposed to say present! Kingdom Crusader?

Kingdom Crusader

Here!

Scripture Guy

You're supposed to say Present! Present! Present!

Kingdom Crusader

No, thanks. It's not my birthday.

Scripture Guy

Never mind! Let's just get on with the business at hand. The Philistine escaped but we stopped him before he was able to steal all of King City's power.

Kingdom Crusader

Yeah, we used teamwork!

Scripture Guy

Yes, teamwork! That is the key to how we will watch over King City! We will take turns monitoring the view screen, observing the sky for signal beacons, and listening for cries of help. You and I shall be King City's redeemers!

Kingdom Crusader

Redeemers? What's a redeemer?

Scripture Guy

It's a person who pays the price to save someone else from something bad.

Kingdom Crusader

A person like me? Like us?

Scripture Guv

Yes, like us and like Boaz was for Ruth.

Kingdom Crusader

Who?

Scripture Guy

Ruth, you know, Ruth. She was the lady from Moab who left her own land to be with her mother-in-law, Naomi, and become an Israelite. She's in the Bible. There's a whole book named after her.

Kingdom Crusader

Really? What's it called?

Scripture Guy

The book of Ruth! Go get the Good News and I'll show you.

Kingdom Crusader

Out there? (Sneaking to news box.)

Scripture Guy

Of course...be careful! Don't draw attention to yourself.

Kingdom Crusader

Right, chief. (Pulls handle.) It's stuck.

Scripture Guy

Use your super powers!

Kingdom Crusader

It won't budge.

Scripture Guy

Let me try. (He opens box. <u>SFX</u>: "Good News," <u>VFX</u>: Beam of light shines from box.)

Kingdom Crusader

I must have loosened it up for you.

Scripture Guy

Right, here we are. Ruth was married to Naomi's son. But when he died, she followed Naomi all the way back to Israel because she loved her and still wanted to be part of her family.

Kingdom Crusader

I bet they made a great team!

Scripture Guy

They did, but they were two poor widow women left all alone with no one to take care of them.

Kingdom Crusader

If we were there we could have watched over them.

Scripture Guy

Don't worry, God was watching over them. He brought good out of their hard times and He sent someone else to watch over Ruth as well.

Kingdom Crusader

Was it a superhero?

Scripture Guy

In a way. There was a very rich man named Boaz. Every day Ruth would go to his fields and pick up the leftover grain so she and Naomi could eat.

Kingdom Crusader

Did Boaz watch over her?

Scripture Guy

He did. Boaz heard how kind Ruth was to her mother-in-law, Naomi and he told his workers to drop some extra wheat in front of her. Naomi told Ruth the news that Boaz was a close relative.

Kingdom Crusader

Was that (sings) "Good News?"

Scripture Guy

Yes, it meant Boaz had the power to redeem her.

Kingdom Crusader

There's that word again! Did God send Boaz to save Ruth and Naomi?

Scripture Guy

You could say that. Boaz was their kinsman-redeemer. According to Jewish law, he had the right to buy Naomi's land and marry Ruth.

Kingdom Crusader

Then both women would be taken care of! What a great plan God had! So, did Ruth marry him?

Scripture Guy

He sure did, and then they had a baby—a son!

Kingdom Crusader

She had a baby, hooray!

Scripture Guy

Yes! And it was such great news that Naomi's friends praised the Lord. (VFX: Scripture Slide) The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!" Ruth 4:14

Kingdom Crusader

Wow-that baby brought a happy ending!

Scripture Guy

I'll say! You see this was not just any baby! His name was Obed and he had a son named Jesse and do you know who was Jesse's son?

Kingdom Crusader

King David! God saved Ruth and Naomi from a hard and lonely life and He allowed them to be an important part of His family!

Scripture Guy

That's how it is when your part of God's Redeem Team!

Kingdom Crusader

Scripture Guy! That's it! That's what our name should be, "The Redeem Team!"

Scripture Guy

I like it! The Redeem Team—saving and protecting those whom God loves!

Kingdom Crusader

That's just what Jesus did!

Scripture Guy

Jesus was the true Redeemer. A close relative who paid the price with His own life and saved us all! I pray we can be more like Him! (SFX: phone rings)

Kingdom Crusader (Picks up phone.)
Redeem Team, hello? What? Where?
We're on the way! (Hangs up.) (SFX: Siren)
There's an electric power line blocking
traffic downtown. (SFX: static, VFX: lights dim
and brighten)

Scripture Guy

This must be the work of the Philistine!
The city needs us. (<u>SFX</u>: "Heroic Music") Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

<u>Both</u> (Exit through audience.)

Redeem Team to the rescue! We give
everything to honor our King! (VFX: strobes,
moving lights, beacon light)