## Judges Lesson 7

## Lesson Objectives

- The students will tell one way that Ruth trusted God's plan for her life.
- The students will describe one way that Ruth showed loyalty to her family.
- The students will explain one way they will show loyalty this week.

## **Lesson Text**

Ruth 1-4

# Scripture Memory Verse

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

Ruth 1:16

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Unit Review

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Postcards from Ruth

Craft: Carry On, Ruth!

Scripture Memory: The Song of Ruth

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.









## Judges

#### Unit Review

The students will review the Scripture Memory Verses from Lessons 1-6 of this unit.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

- pencil
- crayons or markers

Reproducible Pages:

• Page A, 1 copy for each student

#### Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

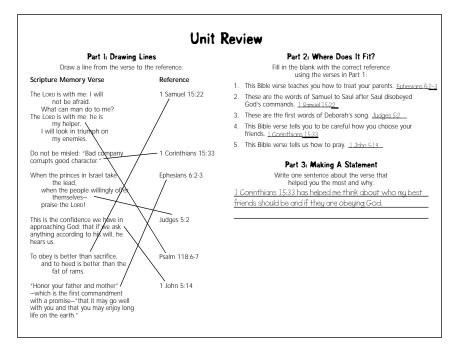
#### Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Tell them that today they will hear the final lesson from the unit about Judges. Explain that today's Preclass Activity is a review of the Scripture Memory Verses they have learned during this unit.

- 2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and the pencils. Encourage the students to work with a partner and to use their Bibles.
- 3. Circulate among the students to offer assistance and encouragement. Check their work with the Answer Key provided on this page.

#### Teacher Tips

• Make sure to refresh your memory of the verses from this unit to be a great example to the students.





#### Postcards from Ruth

The students will learn the story of Ruth as they consider her trust in God and loyal devotion to her family.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

- 1 plain postcard
- pencil
- stamp or sticker (optional)

For the teacher:

- 6 plain postcards
- pen

#### Preparation

- 1. Create six postcards that correspond to the story. Draw a simple picture or write a couple key words on each card.
- 2. Practice presenting this Bible Story with feeling and conviction, asking the questions along the way. Plan to limit the question and answer time so that all the postcards can be read.

#### Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Ruth 1-4. Explain that today's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of Ruth. Tell the students to turn to the New Testament book of Matthew and look in Matthew 1:1-6 to find Ruth's name. Read verses 1-6 out loud to the students. Briefly explain that Ruth is in the genealogy or "family tree" of Jesus. Be sure to note the mention of Rahab in verse 5 as the same Rahab from Joshua 2. Tell the students that today's Bible Story is told in the form of postcards from Ruth to help them imagine the events of this story. After reading each postcard, ask the questions that follow.

#### Presenting the Bible Story

Pass around the first postcard you prepared as you read the text. Do this for each picture and postcard.

Postcard #1: I just got married! My husband's family is from Bethlehem. They worship a different god called the Lord. My husband's family moved here to Moab because there was no food in their land. My husband's brother is married to a woman named Orpah. She is also from Moab. My mother-in-law's name is Naomi. Her husband was Elimelech. He died after they came to Moab. I can see how much she misses him.

Love. Ruth

• Why did Ruth's husband's family leave Bethlehem? Who was Naomi?

Postcard #2: It seems like we were just married and now he is gone. After ten years together, I am alone. But I should not think only of my pain. Orpah is also grieving the death of her husband. Oh, what pain Naomi must feel to have lost her husband and both her sons! She is going to return to Bethlehem. She wants Orpah and me to stay here in our homeland. How can I let her leave alone? What will I do without her? No! I will not leave her. I want to go where she goes and die where she dies. I want her God to be my God, and her people to be my people. Love, Ruth

• Describe Ruth's relationship with Naomi.

Postcard #3: Orpah stayed in Moab, but Naomi could not make me leave. We traveled together to Bethlehem. The people were so surprised to see her. She told them of her bitterness and how she had lost her husband and both of her sons. Now that we are in Bethlehem, I am looking for work. Naomi has a relative who may help me find a job harvesting barley. God has protected us this far, I know he has a plan to help us now. Love, Ruth

• What is Ruth's attitude about being in her new home?

Postcard #4: God has taken such good care of us. Naomi's relative did help me find work. His name is Boaz. He is a very important person in this city. He has many servants who are nice to me. He is so kind to a stranger—I am not even from his country! I have told Naomi all about Boaz' kindness to me. She told me what I should do for him, and I will do whatever she says. Love, Ruth

How did Boaz treat Ruth?

Postcard #5: I am so excited I can hardly write these words. Boaz and I were married! He told me that he heard about me, and that I was a woman of noble character. Boaz went



and met with the elders of the land—they are the spiritual leaders. They met together and agreed that Boaz should take over the property of his relative Naomi to honor her dead husband. And he chose to marry me! God has given me a great man of God as a husband. I am so happy.

Love, Ruth

• Why is Ruth so happy?

Postcard #6: I am writing this final note while I have a guiet moment. Naomi is watching my baby! Yes, I am a mother of a beautiful little boy. We named him Obed. I know that God has great plans for him. Even Naomi can see all the ways that God has blessed our lives. I know that no matter how hard things may be, all we have to do is trust God.

Love, Ruth

• What is the name of Ruth's baby?

#### Sharing with Others

Distribute the plain postcards and pencils to the students. Tell them to think of someone they can share the story of Ruth with. Have them write a short note about Ruth and give it to them this week. If you are using decorative stamps or stickers, let them put these on their postcards. Close with a prayer for the students to trust God the way Ruth did.

#### Teacher Tips

- Pray that the students will be moved in their hearts by your presentation of this remarkable story.
- For extra ambitious teachers: handwrite the contents of each postcard onto the six you prepared.





# C

# R







## Ruth

## Carry On, Ruth!

The students will make a carrying case to remind them that Ruth trusted God enough to carry on with her life.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

- 1 manila file folder or expandable pocket file
- 2 pipe cleaners, 12" long
- scissors
- glue stick
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- stapler
- masking tape

Reproducible Pages:

• Page B, 1 copy for each student

#### Preparation

- 1. For each student, punch two holes, three inches apart, through each side of the file folders, as shown in Figure A.
- 2. Staple the sides of each file folder together, as shown in Figure B. Staple near the edge to allow papers to fit inside.
- 3. Make a sample craft to show the students.

#### Instructions

- 1. Introduce today's activity: In today's Bible Story, you learn about a very courageous woman named Ruth. Ruth had many difficult things happen to her, but she trusted God. Ruth was a very loyal daughter and God blessed her. Ruth trusted God and carried on with her life instead of giving up. Show the students the sample craft you made. Tell the students that they will make a carrying case to remind them that Ruth trusted God and she could carry on.
- 2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page B, scissors, glue sticks, file folders and crayons. Have the students color and cut out the different stickers from their copies of Reproducible Page B and glue them to one side of their file folders, as shown in Figure C.

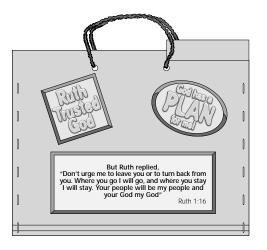
- 3. On the other side of the folders, have the students write their names in big letters.
- 4. Distribute the pipe cleaners to the students and help them attach them to make handles for their carrying case, as shown in Figure D.
- 5. Have the students color or decorate their file folders.

#### Conclusion

Tell the students to use their carrying cases to bring their worksheets home from Bible Class. (They can bring them each week with their Bible.) Encourage them for their work. Close with a prayer for the students to trust God the way Ruth did.

#### Teacher Tips

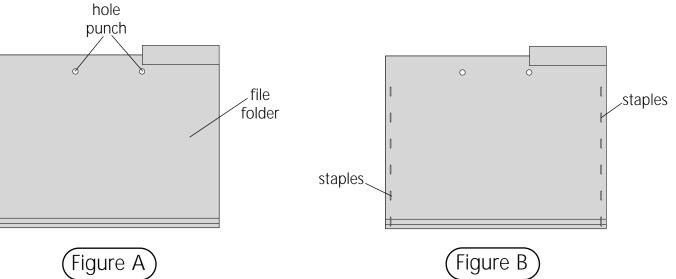
• Cover the backs of the staples with masking tape to avoid sharp edges.

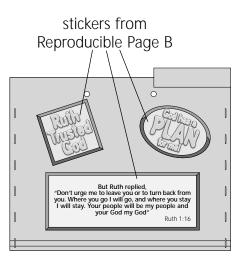




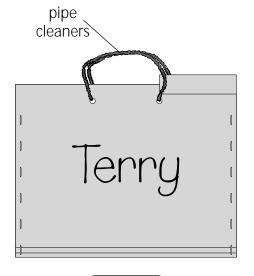




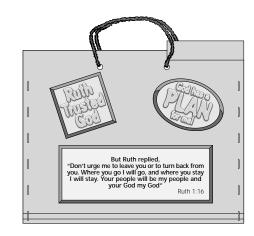








(Figure D)



Finished Craft





#### The Song of Ruth

The students will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse as they consider Ruth's deep trust in God and loyalty to her family.

#### Scripture Memory Verse

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16

#### **Materials**

No additional materials needed.

#### Preparation

- 1. Learn the Scripture Memory Verse by heart.
- 2. Practice leading this activity at home.

#### Instructions

- 1. Introduce today's activity: In today's lesson, you learn about an amazing woman named Ruth. Ruth had some very difficult and sad things happen to her, but she still kept her faith strong and trusted God's plan for her life. Ruth was devoted to her family. After her husband died, Ruth begged her mother-in-law (the mother of her husband) to let her stay with her. Ruth worked hard to take care of her mother-in-law and God blessed Ruth in many ways. Today's Scripture Memory Verse is very special because it tells the words that Ruth spoke to Naomi.
- 2. Show the students the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card and read it to the students three times as they follow along silently. Ask them to read it with you three times together. Ask each student to read it alone to the group. Ask for volunteers to say it from memory.

- 3. Tell the students that when Ruth said these words she was weeping and pleading with Naomi to not send her away. Ruth could not bear the thought of being separated from Naomi. Ask the students to imagine how they would feel if their best friend had to move away. What could they say to beg them to stay. Ask each student to stand up and say this verse as if they were Ruth pleading with Naomi. Do this once for the students as an example.
- 4. Divide the students into two groups. Ask each group to put the words of this verse into a rap or a song. Give them a few minutes to think of a creative way to say or sing the verse from memory, and call it "The Song of Ruth." Have both groups present their songs to each other.

#### Conclusion

Tell the students that Ruth gives us a great example of what it means to be devoted. Ask them if they can think of someone in their lives that they love the way Ruth loved Naomi and encourage them to share this verse with that person this week. Close with a prayer thanking God for Ruth.

#### Teacher Tips

• To enhance the student's creative and dramatic presentations, bring in props that could be used for simple costumes and/or rhythm instruments.





But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

Ruth 1:16



5-7-8



### Lesson Objectives

- The students will tell one way that Ruth trusted God's plan for her life.
- The students will describe one way that Ruth showed loyalty to her family.
- The students will explain one way they will show loyalty this week.

#### Lesson Text

Ruth 1-4

### Scripture Memory Verse

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16

Lesson	P	lan
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Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Most Wanted Posters

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Devoted to You

Game: Ruth in Pictures

Bible Skills: Person, Place or Thing?

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

#### **Most Wanted Posters**

The students will review the people of this unit through a poster display.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

pencil

For the teacher:

- 7 pieces of poster board, 22" x 28"
- heavy, black marker Reproducible Pages:
- Page C, 1 copy for each student

#### Preparation

- 1. Across the top of each piece of poster board, write: Wanted: Then fill in each blank with one of the following: Deborah; Gideon; Samson; Hannah: Eli and Sons: Samuel and Saul: Ruth.
- 2. Number the left side of each poster from

one to ten with a line beside each number where the students will write. Leave a space of about six inches at the bottom for the students to draw pictures.

#### Instructions

- 1. Greet the students as they arrive. Explain that in today's Preclass they will create a set of posters describing each of the people they have learned about in this unit.
- 2. Show them the posters you have prepared. Tell them that they will use their Bibles and a review sheet to help them complete the posters. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page C containing the main ideas from each lesson.
- 3. Tell the students to go to as many posters as they can and write one important thing they learned each lesson. For example: Under "Wanted: Deborah" a student

- could write, "God will give me courage if I trust him." Tell the students to sign their names beside their statements.
- 4. For students who prefer to draw, show them the space at the bottom of each poster where they can draw a scene from that Bible Story.
- 5. Circulate among the students to offer help and answer questions. Pair new or visiting students with a student who is familiar with the stories.
- 6. Display the posters where students and parents can see them.

#### Teacher Tips

• Offer the posters to students to take home after class as a souvenir of this unit.



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#### Devoted to You

The students will write a letter to someone special, expressing their devotion and loyalty.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

- 1 blank note card and envelope
- pencil
- crayons or markers
- decorative stickers or stamps (optional)

For the teacher:

• large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

• Page D, 1 copy for each student

#### Preparation

- 1. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D.
- 2. Practice leading this activity at home.

#### Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Ruth. Remind the students that the story of Ruth comes from the Old Testament book of Ruth. Ruth was a remarkable woman who showed amazing loyalty and devotion to her family. When Ruth's husband died, she trusted God and remained faithful. Ruth worked very hard to help support her mother-in-law and as a result, God blessed Ruth and her family. Ruth teaches us some very important lessons about faith and trust in God today.

#### A Defining Moment

Loyality and devotion are things we do to show we love someone. A loyal friend is always there for you. A devoted husband helps and serves his wife. Who can give me an example of loyality? (Take responses.) Who can give me an example of devotion? (Take responses.)

#### Life Application

Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D and pencils. *To whom does God want you to show loyalty and devotion?* (parents; grand-parents; teachers; coaches; friends; etc.) Write their answers on the large writing surface. Have them write the responses on their papers next to "who." *What can you do to show your loyalty and devotion* 

to these people? (respect; obey; work hard; great attitude; support when others won't; etc.) Write their answers down. Have them write the responses on their papers next to "what."

Distribute the blank note cards, crayons, stickers (if available) and envelopes. Tell the students to choose one of the people from their "who" list and write them a note to express their loyal devotion. Read the following example: Dear Aunt Edith, I want you to know that I love you very much. I see all that you have done for my family. I know you have helped my mom and dad a lot. I hope I can be like you when I grow up. Love, Danny. Tell the students to think about what they want to say before they write it, to avoid mistakes.

Circulate among the students to help with spelling. Write frequently asked words on the large writing surface. Encourage the children to decorate their cards with the crayons and stickers.

#### Conclusion

Gather the students together to read their letters. Encourage them for expressing themselves. Remind them that not only should they say how they feel, but they should show how they feel. Tell them to deliver these notes this week. Suggest they ask their parents for help if their notes need to be mailed. Close with a prayer asking God to help the students show their loyalty and devotion to the people they have written to.

#### Teacher Tips

• Bring extra note cards for students who want to write more than one, and for students who make mistakes.













#### Ruth in Pictures

The students will review important ideas from the Bible Story of Ruth through this "draw and guess" game.

#### **Materials**

For the teacher:

- timer or watch with second hand
- small container
- paper
- pencil
- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

#### Preparation

- 1. Cut out the pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page E and fold them so that the students cannot see the images.
- 2. Place the folded pictures in the container and mix them up.
- 3. On the large writing surface, write the fifteen picture words from the back of this Lesson Card.
- 4. Practice playing this game at home.

#### Instructions

- 1. Introduce today's activity: This week you learned about a remarkable woman named Ruth. Ruth was a devoted wife and daughter. When her husband died, she devoted herself to her husband's mother Naomi. She worked hard to provide for Naomi. Ruth trusted God to take care of them and he did! Not only did Ruth find a new husband named Boaz, but God blessed her family. Ruth became the great grandmother of David—which was the family from which Jesus came! In your game today, you are going to see some pictures and try to guess what words they represent from this story. Refer the students to the list of words on the large writing surface.
- 2. Divide the students into two teams. Tell each group that they will take turns choosing a picture from the container and guessing the word it describes. Explain that each picture is worth either ten, fifteen or twenty points. Tell them that they must guess the word in the same number of seconds as the points. For example, they have ten seconds to guess the word from a

- picture worth ten points. If the team does not guess the word correctly, the other team may try to guess. If neither team guesses correctly, no points are given.
- 3. If a team guesses the word correctly, they may earn five bonus points if they can explain how the word relates to the story of Ruth. For example, with the picture "cry" the students could say that Ruth and her sister-in-law Orpah cried when Naomi told them to return to their homes without her. If the students use the words accurately, they will receive the five bonus points.
- 4. Choose the team that begins. Have one student choose a paper from the container and show it to you. Tell the team how many seconds they have to guess the word. Give them the picture and begin timing. Using the Answer Key on the back of this Lesson Card, make sure to note their points received for guessing correctly within the time limit, as well as any bonus points.
- 5. The teams will take turns until all the pictures have been guessed. The team with the most points at the end wins. Encourage the students for their knowledge of the story as much as for their ability to guess the words.

#### Conclusion

Remind the students that Ruth trusted God even when some very difficult things happened to her. Ask the students to share one thing about Ruth that they would like to imitate. Close with a prayer thanking God for Ruth's example of trusting God.

#### Teacher Tips

- For a more challenging variation, write the words out on a piece of paper for the students themselves to draw or to act out.
- Review the Bible Story text to be familiar with the ways in which the words from this game are used in the story.









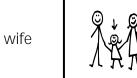
## Ruth in Pictures - Answer Key



10 points



15 points



20 points

daughter



10 points

kiss



15 points





20 servant



10 points



15 points



20 points

marry



10 points



15 points

people

go

fields



20 points

leave

kind



10 points

dead



15 points



20 points



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#### Person, Place or Thing?

The students will test their knowledge and memory of key events from this unit.

#### **Materials**

For each student:

pencil

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- timer or watch with second hand

Reproducible Pages:

• Page F, 1 copy for each student

#### Preparation

- 1. Number the large writing surface from one to fifteen.
- 2. Practice leading this activity at home.

#### Instructions

- 1. Introduce today's activity: In this week's lesson, you learned about Ruth—a woman who trusted God. In this unit, you have learned about several remarkable men and women who all led God's people during the period of when Judges ruled. Today, you are going to test your skill and memory to see how well you remember where these different people and events are located in the Bible.
- 2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and pencils. Tell the students that for each question, you will give them a clue of a "person," "place" or "thing" and a Bible reference. Then you will time them to see how quickly they can find the verse and what it is. Once they have found the verse, they should raise their hands and write their answers on their papers. You will call out their times and they can record them in the spaces provided. After all the students have located the answer, choose one student to read their answer to the group. The students can correct their answers as a group.

- 3. Using the list on the back of this Lesson Card, do #1 together as a group for practice and not for time. For example, say: *Person in Judges 4:4* and write it on the large writing surface. Have the students look up this scripture and raise their hands and give the answer. The correct answer is Deborah. Begin with #2 and time the students.
- 4. If necessary, have the students work in pairs and take turns looking up the passages.
- 5. Do not allow students to criticize other students for their times. Encourage all the students' efforts.

#### Conclusion

Ask the students to share about one of the people from this unit and something they learned personally. Encourage the students to continue working on their accuracy with the Bible at home. Suggest that they do this activity with their parents or friends at home. Close with a prayer thanking God for the Bible.

#### Teacher Tips

• For students who have learning difficulties with this kind of activity, encourage them to work with a partner or in small teams.





# BIBLE SKILLS

## Person, Place or Thing?

#### Example:

- 1. Person in Judges 4:4. (Deborah)
- 2. Person in Judges 6:12. (Gideon)
- 3. Person in Judges 15:20. (Samson)
- 4. Thing in Judges 16:22. (hair on Samson's head)
- 5. Person in Ruth 1:16. (Ruth)
- 6. Person in Ruth 1:15. (Naomi)
- 7. Person in 1 Samuel 1:9. (Hannah)
- 8. Place in 1 Samuel 1:9. (Shiloh/Lord's temple)
- 9. Person in 1 Samuel 1:12. (Eli)
- 10. Thing in 1 Samuel 2:17. (sin-of Eli's sons)
- 11. Thing in 1 Samuel 4:5. (ark of the covenant)
- 12. Person in 1 Samuel 9:2. (Saul)
- 13. Person in 1 Samuel 10:1. (Samuel)
- 14. Thing in 1 Samuel 10:1. (oil—poured on Saul's head to anoint him as king)
- 15. Place in 1 Samuel 15:5. (the city of Amalek)



## Unit Review

#### Part 1: Drawing Lines

Draw a line from the verse to the reference.

#### **Scripture Memory Verse** Reference The LORD is with me: I will 1 Samuel 15:22 not be afraid. What can man do to me? The LORD is with me: he is my helper. \ I will look in triumph on my enemies. Do not be misled: "Bad company 1 Corinthians 15:33 corrupts good character." When the princes in Israel take Ephesians 6:2-3 the lead, when the people willingly offer themselves praise the LORD! This is the confidence we have in Judges 5:2 approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. To obey is better than sacrifice, Psalm 118:6-7 and to heed is better than the fat of rams. "Honor your father and mother" 1 John 5:14 —which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well

with you and that you may enjoy long

life on the earth."

#### Part 2: Where Does It Fit?

Fill in the blank with the correct reference using the verses in Part 1:

	3
1.	This Bible verse teaches you how to treat your parents.
2.	These are the words of Samuel to Saul after Saul disobeyed God's commands
3.	These are the first words of Deborah's song
4.	This Bible verse tells you to be careful how you choose your friends.
5.	This Bible verse tells us how to pray.
	Part 3: Making A Statement Write one sentence about the verse that helped you the most and why.









But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

Ruth 1:16





## Most Wanted Posters



0	Loyalty and Devotion
Who	
What	9







10 points



15 points



20 points



10 points



15 points



20 points



10 points



15 points



20 points



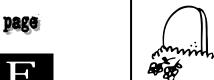
10 points



15 points



20 points



10 points



15 points



20 points





## Person, Place or Thing?

Example:	
1	
2	Time:
3.	Time:
4.	Time:
5	Time:
6.	Time:
7	Time:
8.	Time:
9.	Time:
10	Time:
11	Time:
12	
13	
14	<del>_</del> .
15	



