

# Ruth and Esther Lesson 2— Ruth 1

## Ruth and Naomi



### *Memorize the TRUTH!*

"But Ruth said, 'Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.'" Ruth 1:16

### **DAY 1: RUTH 1:1-2—Introduction to the Book of Ruth**

1. When did the events in the book of Ruth take place?
2. Read the last verse of the book of Judges (21:25). What was this time in history like?
3. Why did Elimelech and Naomi leave Bethlehem? What would it have been like to move during a famine?

### **DAY 2: RUTH 1:3-5—Naomi Faces Great Loss**

4. What happened to Naomi after she left her home?
5. Who were Orpah and Ruth?
6. What would it have meant to be a childless widow in that day?



### *Learn the TRUTH!*

Sometimes relationships within families can take unexpected turns. We don't know how much time we will have with our spouses or children or parents. Each day is an opportunity to appreciate our families. How can you show appreciation for each person in your family this week? One way could be to pray aloud over them thanking God for them. Plan to talk about your experience in your small group.

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### **DAY 3: RUTH 1:6-13—Naomi Decides to Leave Moab**

7. After Naomi decided to leave Moab, what did she tell her daughters-in-law to do?
8. How did Naomi show care for her daughters-in-law?
9. How would you describe Naomi's attitude toward God?

10. How did Orpah respond to Naomi's instruction to go back to her people?

**DAY 4: RUTH 1:14-18—Ruth Decides to Go with Naomi**

11. How did Ruth respond to Naomi?

12. What do Ruth's words and actions reveal about her feelings for Naomi?

13. What do you think Ruth's faith in God was like at this point?

**DAY 5: RUTH 1:19-22—Ruth and Naomi Arrive in Bethlehem**

14. What did Naomi say about herself to the women of Bethlehem?

15. What did her affliction seem to have done to her faith?

16. What effect has a hardship had on your faith?



***Apply the TRUTH!***

In her difficult time of suffering and great loss, Naomi showed love and concern for others. She was grieving and empty. Yet, she wanted joyful, complete lives for Ruth and Orpah. She selflessly encouraged them to go back to their own families and experience a new start to their lives. The cost to Naomi was more than words easily spoken. Naomi would be completely on her own if they left her. Out of her emptiness, she showed her love and care for them. When you feel depleted and empty, how well do you love others? What are steps that you can take to love others when you feel as if you have nothing to give?

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**DAY 6: Participate in Class**