

## Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

### Beginner Lesson One Hundred Three: Ruth Turns to God

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges  
Bible Reading & Discussion: Ruth 1:1-10, 13c-22; Judges 10:6  
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Christ's Work  
Learning Objectives: (1) Elimelech and his family moved from Bethlehem to Moab due to a famine in Judah. (2) Elimelech's sons married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth. (3) Elimelech and his sons died. (4) As a Moabite, Ruth served other gods. (5) When Ruth vowed to go with Naomi back to Bethlehem, Ruth turned from the Moabite gods to follow the one true God, the Lord, the God of Israel. (6) Christ reveals God the Father to us.
- Opening** Get students' attention by using a pre-planned silence signal.  
Have students sit in rows or a semi-circle facing you.  
Open in prayer asking God's blessing upon the time.
- Bible Facts** Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed  
5-10 minutes Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate  
Instructions: Lead students to sing songs about the Bible & the Judges. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Ask students to help lead songs, including actions and visuals.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use  
15 minutes Strategies: Emotion Motions  
Scripture: Ruth 1:1-10, 13c-22; Judges 10:6  
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads aloud, students make motions that portray the emotions depicted in the passage (sadness, kindness, love, bitterness, etc.). Leader guides students by introducing the emotion motions that will be used and by stopping occasionally to discuss the probable emotion and to allow students time to respond.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster #2; add "prophet"  
10 minutes Strategy: Popcorn  
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. The leader asks a question and students that want to answer the question "pop" up, share their answer, and then sit down. Set a limit of pops per person.  
Questions:
- Where did Elimelech originally live? (Bethlehem)
  - Why did Elimelech move to the country of Moab with his family? (There was a famine.)
  - Elimelech died; his two sons married Moabite women. What were their names? (Orpah, Ruth)
  - Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Naomi encouraged her daughters-in-law to return to their mothers' homes instead of going to Bethlehem with her. Which daughter-in-law returned to her mother's home? (Orpah)
  - Naomi said to Ruth, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her *blank*..." (gods)
  - Did the people of Moab serve Yahweh, the true God, the God of Israel? (No)
  - When Ruth declared that she would go with Naomi, she said, "Your people shall be my people, and your *blank* my *blank*..." (God, God)
- Transitional Thought: As a Moabite, Ruth served other gods. When she vowed to go with Naomi back to Bethlehem, Ruth turned from these gods to follow the one true God, the Lord, the God of Israel. Hundreds of years later, Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. Through His perfect life as the God-man, Jesus revealed the God of Israel, the true God, to mankind.

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Show students word poster #2 and have them act out the words – Roles of Jesus Christ: High Priest (Move hand as though sprinkling blood), Mediator (Move hand from self toward heaven), Savior (Stretch arms out to the sides), Intercessor = advocate (Clasp hands as though pleading), King (Place hands on head like a crown); Perfect Sacrifice (Fold hands over heart and bow head); Prophet = God revealer (Cup hands around mouth as though calling loudly)

**Group Prayer** Through prayer, praise God for Who He is and for the work of Jesus Christ.

**Bible Memory** Strategy: Erase-a-Word

10-15 minutes Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following passage written on it:

*Question: How does Christ do the work of a prophet?*

*Answer: Christ reveals God the Father to his people.*

*Verse: "...I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works."*

*John 14:10*

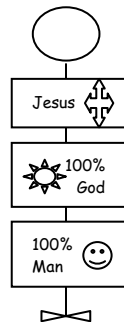
Read in unison. Have students cover their eyes. Erase random words from the board. Ask students to open their eyes and tell you what words were erased. Read again, saying the missing words from memory. Repeat several times until quoting rather than reading.

**Bible Craft** Materials: Paper, markers, scissors, yarn, glue/tape/stapler, sample project

As time allows Activity: Doorknob hanging

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students cut out three shapes. On each shape have students copy or glue one of the following: "Jesus" "100% God" "100% Man." Give each student a length of yarn and assist students to attach their shapes vertically onto the yarn. Leave enough room at the top of the yarn to make a loop that will slip over a doorknob. Encourage students to decorate their hanging. Discuss with students that because Christ Jesus is God the Son, He can reveal God the Father; because Christ Jesus is man, He can assist man to see the Father.

Example



**Closing** Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.

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### Questions About Christ's Work

*Question: What work does Christ do for his people?*

*Answer: He does the work of a prophet, a priest and a king.*

*Verse: "He is the radiance of the glory of God...After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high." Hebrews 1:3*

*Question: How does Christ do the work of a priest?*

*Answer: Christ offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for his people.*

*Verse: "... Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all..." 1 Timothy 2:5-6a*