

# Adventures with GOD!

## OBEY GOD (A.2.Winter.4)

Biblical Reference	Ruth 1:16-22, 2:1-4, 8-9, 17-18, 4:13-17
Key Verse	Ruth 1:16
Key Concept	God asks us to obey because God has wonderful plans for our lives.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: 1. Give examples of how to obey God 2. Tell the story of Ruth 3. Say the Bible verse by memory

### Life Application

We obey God because we love God. God asks us to obey as a way of showing our love and because God has good things for our lives and wants us to experience life in all its fullness. As seen in stories in the Bible when people don't obey, things don't go well for them. Not only do they suffer, but those around them unfortunately suffer consequences as well. We can help the children learn that God loves them and wants good things for their life, so we obey out of love.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Review	Figures/illustration	10 minutes
Opening prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible exploration	Bible, illustrations	10 minutes
Craft	Paper, crayons, glue	15 minutes
Prayer and snack		10 minutes
Closing prayer	Candle	1 minute

# Adventures with GOD!

## INSTRUCTIONS

**Review:** It's important to remind students of what they've already talked about and learned. Obeying God is our way of showing God our love and following God's ways. To do the review, as children arrive they can make a pair of sandals (see illustration), then when everyone has arrived they can look for the figures of Ruth and Naomi, following a path you've already made. While they are walking, talk about the love that Ruth showed for Naomi. Talk about what it means to leave your home and move far away. Help them think about things they would take with them if they had to move.

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle.

**Prayer:** "God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen." (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Bible exploration:** The story today is wonderful because we see how people obey God and follow God's ways and God takes care of them. Not only does their obedience benefit them, but many other people. Simply remind the children what they learned from the story last week. Have three figures ready: Ruth, Naomi and Boaz. You can make the figures out of the examples found in this lesson. In your own words tell the story of Ruth, Naomi and Boaz. The story is found in Ruth chapters 2-4, which is summarized below.

"When Ruth lost her husband, she decided to live with her mother-in-law, Naomi. After Naomi decided to go back to her hometown of Bethlehem, she told Ruth to stay in her country. But Ruth didn't want to leave Naomi and decided to go with her. Once they arrived in Bethlehem they were confronted with a difficult situation. They had nothing to eat. It was difficult for them, but Ruth decided to show her love for Naomi and went to the field to pick up the left over grain. In the town there was a field that belonged to Boaz. The poor people in town could go there to pick up the leftover grain. When he saw Ruth he told his workers, "Make sure there is enough grain left over for her to pick up." Then Ruth had more grain and they could make more bread. Even though they were poor, God took care of them, using Boaz's generosity to feed them. After a few days, Boaz fell in love with Ruth and decided to marry her. Isn't it amazing! Ruth left everything to be with Naomi and God gave her a new husband. Later they had a baby and you know what, Ruth would become great-grandma to King David."

# Adventures with GOD!

Ask questions about the story, “Where was Ruth willing to move to obey God?” “What was Ruth collecting on the fields?” “Who did Ruth meet?” Repeat the Bible verse several times, as well as talk about the application for their lives. Finish the story with a big round of applause for Ruth and for others who obey God and help other people. If you have time, have the children tell the story using the figures/illustrations.

**Craft and Bible verse:** Give each child a drawing of the road that Ruth and Naomi took and while they are coloring, ask them what they remember of the story. After they’ve colored, help them say the verse using movements and gestures. Children will learn the verse easier with actions. Remind them that these were the words that Ruth said to Naomi.

**Prayer and snack:** During the snack today, ask for some helpers to serve, pick up, etc. Help them see that one of the ways that we show love to others is by helping them. Don’t forget to give thanks to God for each child in your class and for the example of Ruth and Naomi.

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for making us, Thank you God for making the world. Amen

# Adventures with GOD!

## CRAFT

With the help of the teacher, find the route that Ruth and Naomi took towards Bethlehem where they met Boaz. Then color the picture.



RUTH 1:16

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ILLUSTRATION

Naomi



# Adventures with GOD!

ILLUSTRATION

Ruth



# Adventures with GOD!

ILLUSTRATION

Boaz



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ILLUSTRATION

Ruth and Boaz





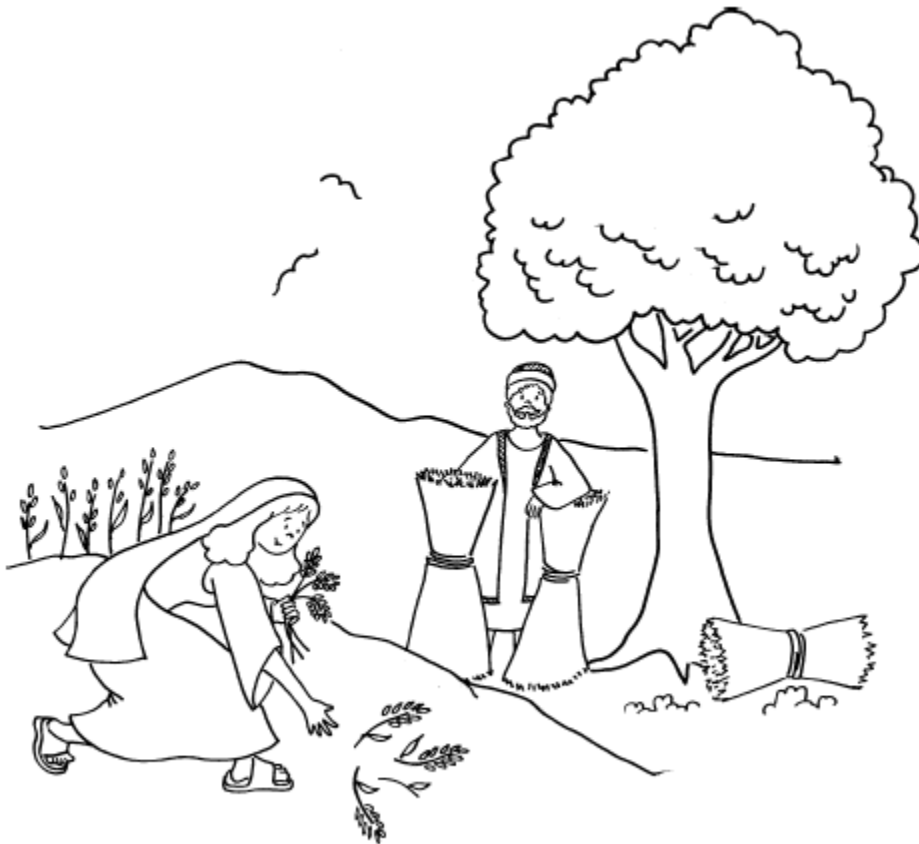
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## CRAFT

Ruth wasn't an Israelite, but she married a man from Israel who lived in her country. When Ruth's husband died, her mother-in-law, Naomi, decided to go back to Israel and Ruth went with her.

Ruth was very kind to Naomi. She went to the fields and gathered grain so that they would have something to eat. Ruth met an Israelite named Boaz and later they were married. She later became King David's great-grandmother.

Can you find the 10 grains of wheat in the drawing below? Circle them and color the picture.



RUTH 1:16