

Friends forever

Bible Story

Ruth

Scripture

Ruth 1:1-4:22

The Scene: a field

The Simple Setup: You'll need no furniture on the stage; an open area works best.

For Extra Impact: Scatter the stage with plastic greenery for the characters to "glean."

The Characters

narrator: a friendly storyteller

Ruth: a girl

Naomi: a girl

Boaz: a guy

Orpah: a girl

Chorus: kids willing to make happy or sad faces

The Skit

Assign the roles of Ruth, Naomi, Orpah, and Boaz. Assign the rest of your children to be in the Chorus.

As the skit begins, the stage is empty. The Narrator is offstage or at one side of the stage throughout the skit. Ruth, Naomi, and Orpah are offstage left, and Boaz is offstage right. The Chorus stands upstage, center stage.

narrator: Long ago, when the judges ruled in Israel, there was a TERRIBLE famine. NO one had enough to eat. It was very sad...

Chorus: (Making sad faces) It was sad. Very, very sad.

narrator: A man named Elimelech and his wife Naomi took their two sons to another land. Here they come now. See how Naomi is carrying a huge sack of their belongings? See how she's BENT OVER with the weight?

naomi: Hey, you boys—come help your poor mother CARRY this stuff! Where did those boys GET to? Every time there's work...

narrator: The family settled in Moab. See how Naomi is setting up a tent?

naomi: Notice it's NAOMI setting up the tent! Where ARE those boys?

narrator: Then another terrible thing happened: Naomi's husband died.

Chorus: (Making sad faces) It was sad. Very, very sad.

narrator: But life went on. Naomi's two sons got MARRIED, so Naomi had two new daughters-in-law. One was named ORPAH, and the other was named RUTH.

naomi: I think I like Ruth best, because her NAME is easier to say! I have two new daughters—how lovely!

Chorus: (Making happy faces) It was happy. Very, very happy.

narrator: Then another terrible thing happened.

naomi: There seems to be a LOT of terrible things happening lately. Can I get a new Narrator?

narrator: Naomi's two sons died.

Chorus: (Making sad faces) It was sad. Very, very sad.

narrator: NAOMI was upset!

naomi: First my husband dies, and THEN my two sons. I think I'll go back to Judah where I came from. I hear the famine's OVER.

Ruth: We'll come with you.

Orpah: Yes, we'll go together.

naomi: That's very kind, but you girls should stay here in your homeland. I'll be fine by myself.

Orpah: Well...see ya! I like that plan! I'm outta here! (Orpah leaves stage.)

Ruth: Naomi, I'm not going to leave you. I'll go where you go, and your God will be my God.

naomi: Are you sure? It's going to be a LONG trip. And I'm not carrying everything MYSELF this time!

narrator: Ruth and Naomi hugged each other.

Chorus: (Making happy faces) It was happy. Very, very happy.

narrator: Then Ruth and Naomi trudged back to Judah. Uphill...and downhill. With the wind blowing against them...and the wind at their backs. On and on they went. When they got to Judah, they had to figure out a way to get food.

Naomi: Ruth, maybe you could go out to the fields and pick up the grain the workers leave behind for poor people.

Ruth: Would that really be fair to the poor people? For us to take their grain?

Naomi: Ruth, look around: We ARE the poor people!



Start the "Ruth" track on The Humongous Book of Bible Skits for Children's Ministry CD (track 14). Set your CD player on "repeat" so the track repeats.

Narrator: So RUTH went out to the fields to pick up leftover grain. She bent over to pick up grain until her back hurt. See how she's holding her aching back?

Chorus: (Making sad faces) It was sad. Very, very sad.

Narrator: While she was working, the owner of the field came over to talk to Ruth.

Boaz: I've been watching your hard work. Why don't you come over and eat lunch with us?

Ruth: Me? But I'm a foreigner! NOBODY eats lunch with foreigners!

Boaz: I know. But I ALSO know how nice you've been to your mother-in-law.

Narrator: So Ruth ate lunch with Boaz and his workers.

Chorus: (Making happy faces) It was happy. Very, very happy.

Narrator: They ate and ate... then they ate some more. They ate until they were full. That night, Ruth showed Naomi how much grain she'd gathered.

Naomi: Wow! That's a LOT of grain! Where'd you GET all that?

Ruth: I worked in the fields of a man named Boaz.

Naomi: Boaz? You're KIDDING! He was related to my husband! Hey, maybe he'll marry you because your husband died.

Narrator: And that's exactly what happened!

Chorus: (Making happy faces) It was happy. Very, very happy.

Boaz: Ruth, I'd like to marry you and take care of you and Naomi.

Ruth: Well...OK. Sounds GREAT!

Narrator: So Boaz and Ruth got married. Naomi was so happy she cried—see her tears of joy? Later, Ruth and Boaz had a baby boy. See Ruth rocking the baby? The baby was named Obed. Obed was the father of Jesse, and Jesse was the father of the great King David.

Chorus: (Making happy faces) It was happy. Very, very happy.



To Talk About

- ◆ Ruth could have left Naomi, but she didn't. When was a time you stuck by a friend even though it was hard?
- ◆ Ruth went out to the fields to gather food for herself and Naomi. When was a time a friend did something nice for you?
- ◆ When Ruth decided to stick by Naomi, she didn't know how things would turn out. But God took care of them. When was a time God took care of your family?

Topical Tie-Ins: Friendship, Loyalty, Trusting God