

Ruth: Chance or Divine Appointment

Discussion & Application Guide



The purpose of this take-Home sheet is to be a tool to assist you and your family as you build faith in your homes. At Jericho Ridge Community Church we want to equip you with resources to continue the conversation and growth at home. We recognize that, one, parents are the primary influence in building faith in kids. After all, as Mark Holmen says in his book *Building Faith at Home*, research has shown that mom and dad “are two to three times more influential [in faith development] than any church program.” Two, that faith is not just a Sunday morning dress that gets tossed after church but influences and speaks into every aspect of our lives.

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. What is your favorite game that relies mostly on chance?
2. Why does it seem that Ruth meeting Boaz was not by chance? How important was this meeting?
3. Describe one time in your life where some “chance” meeting really made a difference for you.
4. Are there some people in your life (e.g., neighbours, kids from school or work) that you sense might not be in your life “by chance”? You might want to list some of them by name.
5. What might happen this week if you tried to see these people as not there by chance but by divine appointment? What would you want to do differently?



Teaching Notes



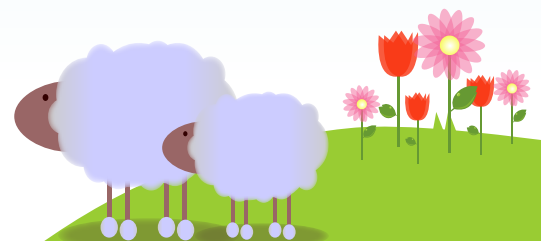
Table Talk: Over dinner one night this week, take the initiative to tell a story from your life experience about a time you had to move. If your kids have experienced a move then ask them what it was like. Talk about how you think God may be using those moves in your lives.



Game Time: Take an empty box or clean bin and fill it with packaging peanuts or other filler. Then mix in peanuts (or chocolate covered peanuts for a treat). Set a timer and have the contestants see how many peanuts they can ‘glean’ from the box.



Craft and Story Time: cut out 4 circles for faces and make eye holes in each. Draw/decorate them to look like Ruth, Naomi, Boaz, and a gleaner. Glue or tape a popsicle stick or pencil to the bottom so you can hold up your masks to your face. Now read the story as your kids hold up their masks and act it out as you read.



Be sure to check out the following YouTube video for a fun and quick review of the book of Ruth!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tLLpVV7XT0>

Ruth & Naomi Word Search

Notes:

B Y U D T M L M C M N C Q B F
 B E T F R I E N D S H I P T A
 D A T L P P H E D N W F R D M
 I L R H A W D V I O P A T E I
 M O E L L Y T A E S V R D I L
 S K F I E E O E D E O R M R I
 B O A Z F Y H L L P O O O R E
 T S E V R A H E P P A W Y A S
 R E H T O M D U M N T F E M J
 H T U R M X S W O R K I N G K

barley
 Bethlehem
 Boaz
 died
 drop
 families
 field
 friendship
 harvest
 leave



loyalty
 married
 mother
 Naomi
 Ruth
 sons
 support
 traveled
 two
 working

Word Scramble!

- haOrp : _____
- frrmae : _____
- aNimo _____
- eObd _____
- efmina _____
- mrayr _____
- iwowd _____
- Beehmlhet _____
- kngi _____
- ivdDa _____
- garin _____
- tuhR _____

