

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

QUARTER

Unit 2, Session 5

CONNECTION POINT:

Commit to pray for the salvation and spiritual growth of others.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Spiritual gifts abound in the church. Believers are gifted in different ways and are called to exercise their gifts in different ways; one ministry we can share in is praying for each other. It's natural, easy, and appropriate to go to God with our own personal needs, but we are also called to intercede for the needs of others. Furthermore, a commitment to pray for others brings the joy of seeing how God answers and works in others' lives.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Ruth 1–4

Live It Out: After reviewing the Bible story, explain that God wants family members to love and help one another. Help your child think of ways she can be helpful in your family.

Naomi was sad when her husband and sons died. She decided to return to her hometown. She told her son's wife, Ruth, to go home to her own family. Ruth loved Naomi and stayed with her.

Ruth and Naomi went to Bethlehem. To provide food, Ruth went into the fields to gather grain. She walked behind the workers and picked up any grain they left on the ground.

Ruth was in a field that belonged to Boaz, a relative of Naomi. Boaz saw her and made sure she had plenty of grain. Boaz knew Ruth was kind and helpful to Naomi.

Later, Boaz and Ruth were married. Ruth had a baby boy. Boaz and Ruth named the baby Obed. Naomi helped to take care of the baby. Ruth, Boaz, Obed, and Naomi were a happy family.

KIDS

Scripture: Ruth 1–4

Live It Out: Review the story of Ruth and how she helped her family. Help your child decide how to do something that shows God's love for a family member.

Naomi's husband and sons died. She decided to move back to Bethlehem. Naomi told her daughters-in-law to return to their families. Orpah went home, but Ruth stayed with Naomi.

In Bethlehem, Ruth went to the barley fields to pick up leftover grain in the fields. Ruth worked in a field belonging to Boaz, a relative of Naomi. Boaz told Ruth to stay in his field and keep close to his workers. He shared his food with Ruth. Ruth saved some of her food for Naomi. Boaz told his workers to leave behind extra grain for Ruth.

When Ruth told Naomi about Boaz, Naomi knew Boaz would take care of them.

Later, Boaz and Ruth married. Ruth had a baby boy named Obed. Boaz, Ruth, Obed, and Naomi were a happy family. Obed was the grandfather of King David.

STUDENTS

Scripture: Colossians 1:3-12

- When have you been encouraged by the prayers of others?
- How can we be intentional about following through when we say, "I'll pray for you"?
- How does praying regularly and specifically contribute to our spiritual growth?

Live It Out: Jesus sits at God's right hand and continually intercedes for believers as our advocate, mediator, and high priest. Because Jesus longed to live in close relationship with the Father, He prayed continually while He was on the earth. If we want to have a close relationship with Christ, we must do the same.

Discuss prayer life with your student. If he or she indicates that it is not as committed as they would like, consider some different techniques you can use to build up your prayer muscles. A few examples include breath prayers, prayer journaling, memorizing Scripture, or simply setting an alarm as a reminder.