

PPT Guide: The Book of Ruth

“Whither thou goest, I will go”



1. In what land is this story initially set? _____
2. What “religion” did people of this land observe?

3. The Book of Ruth appears to be a work of fiction. What particular types of fiction?

4. Who is Ruth, the Moabitess?

5. How many chapters are in The Book of Ruth? _____

Chapter 1:

6. What does the word *Bethlehem* mean? _____
7. What does the word *Judah* mean? _____
8. How is Moab described? _____
9. How is this use of names ironic? _____
10. What does the name *Elimelech* mean? _____
11. What does the name *Naomi* mean? _____
12. What does the name *Mahlon* mean? _____
13. What does the name *Chilion* mean? _____
14. The two sons, Mahlon and Chilion take Moabite wives. Name them. _____
15. How long had they lived in Moab?
16. Define apostasy. _____
17. What does the name *Orpah* mean? _____
18. What does the name *Ruth* mean? _____
19. What does Naomi tell her two widowed daughters-in-law about the difficult lives they would face in Bethlehem?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
20. What does Orpah decide to do? _____
21. And Ruth? _____

22. Why is Ruth's decision to follow Naomi so radical? _____
23. Naomi tells her friends to call her *Mara*. What does *Mara* mean? _____
24. When the two (Naomi and Ruth) arrive in Bethlehem, it is what season? _____

Chapter 2

25. Who is the hero of this story? _____
26. What does his name mean? _____
27. Describe him. _____
28. Define the term "gleaning" as it was used in ancient times. _____

29. How much grain was "accidentally" left in the field for the gleaners? _____
30. Why was this system NOT considered charity? _____
31. What did Boaz represent allegorically? _____
32. What did the reapers represent allegorically? _____
33. Why would Boaz NOT be expected to make Ruth's acquaintance? _____
34. What does Boaz metaphorically give to Ruth as she gleans in his field? _____
35. How does Ruth react to Boaz's kindness? _____
36. What does Boaz tell his reapers? _____
37. What is an *ephah*? _____
38. What interesting information does Naomi tell Ruth about Boaz? _____
39. Can you define the concept "kinsman redeemer"? _____

Chapter 3

40. Describe the custom associated with "kinsman redeemer" regarding providing a namesake for a dead husband.

41. Why was this custom in place? _____
42. Briefly describe the activity at a typical threshing floor. _____

43. What does Naomi urge Ruth to do? _____

44. Naomi gives Ruth very specific instructions. What were they?
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
45. How does Naomi's "urging" make Ruth's claim to her kinsman redeemer possible? _____
- _____
46. Instead of making her request of Boaz in a personal way, how could Ruth have made her demand? _____
- _____
47. How did Ruth earn the respect of the townspeople of Bethlehem? _____
- _____
48. What critical information did Boaz relay to Ruth? _____
49. What does Naomi want to know when Ruth returns that night? _____

Chapter 4

50. Where did Boaz go to make his request? _____
51. Why there? _____
52. Instead of focusing on Ruth, Boaz takes another route. What is his focus when he speaks with the elders?
- _____
53. Why does Boaz remind the "nearer kinsman" that if he redeems the property, he must also assume responsibility for Ruth? Why might that move be controversial?
- _____
54. What was the "nearest kinsman's" decision? _____
55. What was the unusual ceremony that the men performed? _____
56. The story continues with the account of the birth of Ruth and Boaz's first child. What was his name? _____
57. What is biblically important about Obed's genealogy? _____