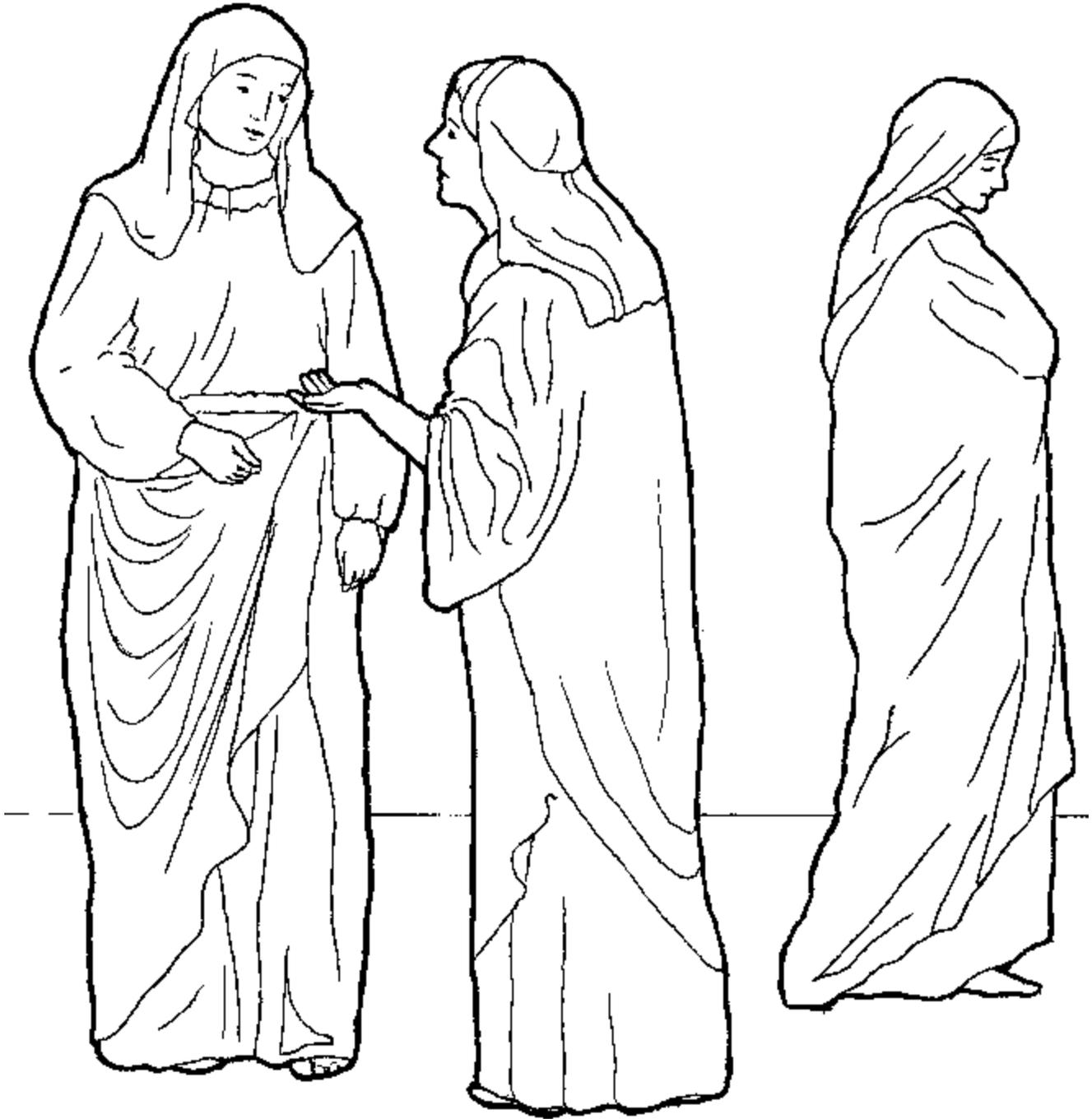


Ruth

Ruth 1-4



The Story

In the days when the people of Israel had no king, many people chose to disobey God. God made it happen that not enough food could be grown in the land.

Not all the people had forgotten the true God. A man from Bethlehem named Elimelech and his wife Naomi trusted in the true God. They took their two sons to the land of Moab to live because there was food to eat there. The people of Moab worshiped false gods, but Elimelech's family worshiped the true God.

After some time Elimelech died. Naomi's sons each married a lady from Moab. One lady was named Orpah, the other was named Ruth. After a few more years, Naomi's sons died too. Naomi and Orpah and Ruth were all alone.

After some time, Naomi heard that food was growing again in Bethlehem. She wanted to move back to her old home. Orpah and Ruth said they would go too. But Naomi told them to go home to their own mom and dad. Orpah said goodbye to Naomi, but Ruth would not leave. She loved the true God and wanted to help Naomi. She said to Naomi, "I will live where you live, I will worship your God, and I will die where you die." So they both moved to Bethlehem.

Naomi and Ruth were very poor, so Ruth would go into a field of grain and gather up the leftover grain to make bread. God caused her to gather grain in the field of a rich believer named Boaz. He saw Ruth and asked who she was. When he heard how much she loved and cared for Naomi, he told his workers to let her eat and drink with them. They should also leave extra grain behind just for her to pick up. He talked with Ruth and told her to keep on working in his field. She was very thankful to him for helping her, even though she was from a different country. Boaz helped her because he also loved the true God.

Ruth kept gathering grain in Boaz's field and soon Boaz and Ruth were married. Now Boaz would take care of Ruth and Naomi. God blessed Ruth and Boaz with a baby boy named Obed. When Obed grew up, he had a son named Jesse. Jesse grew up to have a son named David. David became the first king of Israel. Many, many years later Jesus our Savior was born from the family of David. Jesus came to earth to die on the cross to take away all people's sins.

God blesses a faithful widow with a new family.

Activity One - Use the words below to answer the questions by following the directions. Then color the picture on page 1.

Boaz Ruth Orpah Elimelech Naomi God

1. Circle in red the name of the mother from our story.
2. Circle in blue the name of the person who loved the true God and wanted to stay with and help Naomi.
3. Circle in green the name of the person who loved the true God and wanted to help both Ruth and Naomi.
4. Circle in orange the name of the person who moved his family to Moab to find food .
5. Circle in purple the name that is left over. What did He do for Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz in our story? What has He done for you?

Activity Two - Because we love the true God, we want to love our moms and dads just like Ruth loved Naomi. Draw a picture that shows how you can love and obey your mom and dad. Color your picture.

Passages

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You,
because he trusts in You.

Revelation 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Hymn TLH #521 v. 1

What God ordains is always good;
His will abideth holy.
As He directs my life for me,
I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed
In ev'ry need
Doth well know how to shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Help me to love You as much as Ruth loved You so that I may trust in You
all the time. Help me to be kind and loving to all people. Help me tell them
how much You love them too. Thank You for dying for me. Amen.