

Throughout Scripture, God reveals Himself through real people living real lives. Their fears, faith, obedience, failures, and victories help us see not only who they are, but who God is. We need to slow down and observe the people in the story so we can better understand God's work in and through them, so we can better understand the work He wants to do in and through us. We call this method: *character study*.

As you engage this week, remember: God is not just teaching you about Ruth, Naomi, or Boaz. He is trying to shape your own character as well. Grab your notebook and Bible, and let's begin.

Parents: Love is a big idea to help your kids understand! Let us help you navigate leading the conversation on God's love and plan.

[Parent Prompt](#)

Week 7 Memory Verse | Ruth 2:12

Monday, February 16

Every story in the Bible includes real people facing real choices. A character study begins by simply observing, carefully and honestly, what we see.

Passage: Ruth 1:1–18

Activity: Read the passage slowly a couple of times. Focus your attention on Ruth. Write down your observations by answering these questions:

- What do you notice about Ruth's situation?
- What choices does she make?
- What words does she speak?
- What risks does she take?

Don't worry about interpretation yet. Simply observe who Ruth is and what she does.

Tuesday, February 17

When you study someone in the Bible, pay attention not only to what they are doing, but why they might be doing it.

Passage: Ruth 1:19-22

Activity: Today, focus your attention on Naomi. Review the first 18 verses of chapter 1, then continue on. Write down your observations:

- What emotions does Naomi express?
- How has her suffering affected her perspective?
- How does she describe God?

Consider how Naomi's hardship shapes her outlook. What does this teach you about how people respond differently to suffering? How have you responded in similar or different ways to hardship?

Wednesday, February 18

As you become more comfortable studying specific people in the Bible, try comparing different characters and how they respond to the same situations.

Passage: Ruth 2:1-16

Activity: Focus on both Ruth and Boaz. Write down observations about each:

Ruth

- What character qualities has Ruth proven to have?
- How does she approach her work?

Boaz

- What three words would you use to describe Boaz in this passage?
- What does his response to Ruth's presence reveal about his character?

What differences do you notice between them? What similarities?

Thursday, February 19

Even when we don't understand everything that the people in the Bible are doing and why, we can still learn from them. It's important to remember they are real people who think, feel, and act in similar ways to us.

Passage: Ruth 2:17-3:18

Activity: Choose one character to focus on today:

- Ruth
- Naomi
- Boaz

Write down:

- How they are thinking (head)
- What motivates their actions (heart)
- What their actions reveal about them and their faith (hands)

Ask yourself:

- What kind of person is this? What kind of person are they becoming?
- In what ways might God want me to become more like them?

Friday, February 20

A character study helps us reflect not only on who these people were, but also on who God is and who He is shaping us to become.

Passage: Ruth 4:1-17

Activity: Read the first part of chapter 4, then look back at the passages from the entire week.

Reflect:

- What did you learn about Ruth's character this week?
- What did you learn about God's character?
- What qualities do you see in the book of Ruth that you want God to develop in you?

Consider how God was working—even when Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz could not. Now consider how He might be working now. Spend some time in prayer considering that reality.

Saturday, February 21 – Sunday, February 22

This weekend is your opportunity to put it all together.

Passage: Read the entire book of Ruth (all four chapters). It only takes about 15 minutes.

Activity: Choose one person:

- Ruth
- Naomi
- Boaz

Write a short summary of their character by answering:

- What challenges did they face?
- What choices did they make?
- How did God work through their life?

Then reflect personally: How is God shaping your character in this season of your life?

Pray and ask Him to develop in you the same faith, trust, and obedience you have seen in the Bible this week.