Lesson
12
1st-4th

THE STORY OF RUTH

November 21 & 22

GOD REDEEMS



KEY VERSE:

"The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He'll never desert you. So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope."

Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV



LESSON GOAL:

Background: Naomi experienced great loss when her husband and sons died, leaving her without family or security. Her daughter-in-law Ruth chose to stay with her and care for her, and God provided for them through a man named Boaz, who showed kindness and married Ruth. Through Ruth and Boaz, God restored Naomi's hope and gave her a new family, showing His love and redemption!

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that God redeems - He can turn something bad into something good. When Naomi lost so much, God cared for her, provided for her and gave her a new hope.

Full Story: Ruth 1-4

Key Passage: Ruth 2:11-12

MISSION FOCUS:

FOCUS: Gift of Love
woodmenvalley.org/giftoflove

WHAT IS GIFT OF LOVE? Gift of Love is a special Christmas event where Woodmen helps families in our community who need a little extra help buying Christmas presents. Families get to shop for gifts for their kids at prices they can afford. It's one way we can share God's love and help make Christmas special for others!

YOU CAN HELP!
You can help make Christmas special for families in our city! Take time to **LEARN** about Gift of Love, **PRAY** that God will provide enough gifts for every family and **GIVE** to help share God's love with others this Christmas!

Donations can be dropped off during weekend services on November 21–22, November 28–29, or December 5–6


Serve the Church


Serve the City


Serve the World

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:
Ruby Robinson's Jungle Adventure

5:45-6:10pm
8:45-9:10am
10:45-11:10am

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.

SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, ***(insert child/parent name)***! Look up the Bible passage in your Bible or a classroom Bible and mark it with a sticky note. Then, find a classroom activity to do until we begin Explore time.

6:10-6:25pm
9:10-9:25am
11:10-11:25am

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.

DISCUSS: God Redeems!

Help kids connect relationally by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.

SAY:

Let's take turns sharing 3 words about our week. I'll go first! *Share your 3 words then invite the next child to share.*

Today, we are learning how **God Redeems.** This story comes from the Bible in **Ruth 2:11-12.** Let's open our Bibles so we can read it together. *Read passage.*

CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Introduce the Big 3 questions and answers to give kids a preview of the key ideas they should watch and listen for during the Bible lesson.

SAY:

Listen closely as I share the BIG 3 questions AND answers for today's lesson!
Then, let's all look for those answers in our Bible time!

1. **ASK: Who is our story about today?**
   ANSWER: God, Naomi, Ruth & Boaz.

2. **ASK: What is the problem?**
   ANSWER: Naomi lost almost everything, except her daughter-in-law Ruth.

3. **ASK: What will God do?**
   ANSWER: God provided Boaz to care for Ruth and Naomi. God used Boaz to redeem their family and give them hope.

Encourage kids to listen and watch for the answers to these questions during the Bible lesson!



MAKE: God Redeems Puzzle Page

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: God Redeems puzzle page and frame paper, crayons/markers, scissors, glue

SAY:

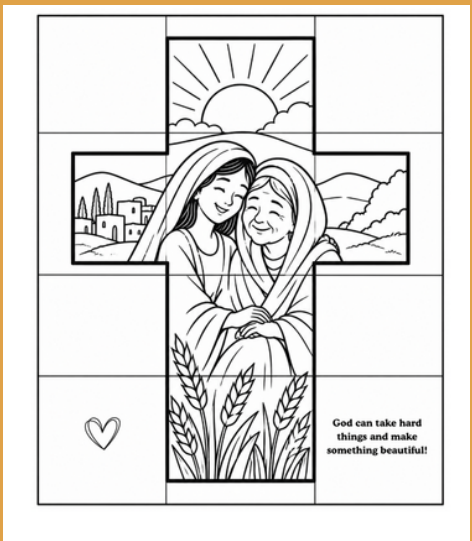
God redeems! That's a big way to say God takes what is broken and makes it right. God did that for Ruth and Naomi in our Bible story today and God did that for us by sending Jesus to save us!

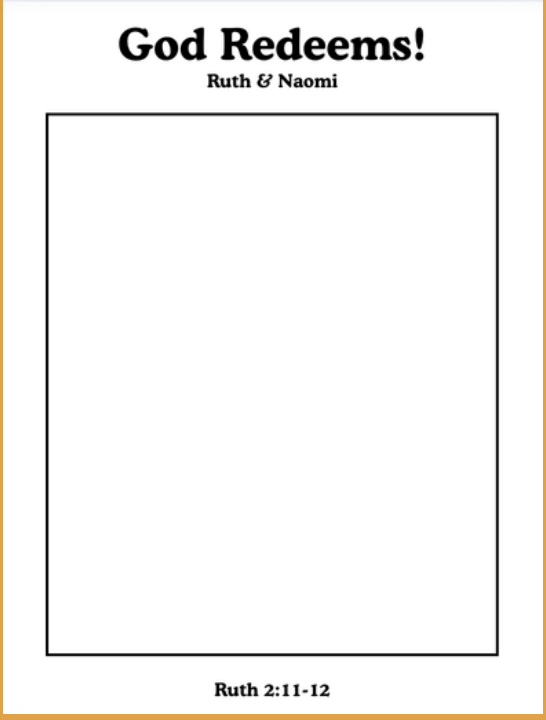
DO:

- Give each kid a cross page to color.
- When they're done coloring, have them cut it out (cut on the lines)
- After kids have cut out the puzzle, challenge them to mix the pieces up and try and put it back together.
- Kids can glue the fixed puzzle onto the frame picture.
- Discuss what a puzzle is - different parts make up one big picture
- Talk about the story of Ruth and how it's like a puzzle because each piece played an important part in God's story of redemption

CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.





6:25-6:50pm
9:25-9:50am
11:25-11:50am

LARGE GROUP OVERVIEW

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow closer to God through participating in worship, a Bible story and Worship Response.

OPENING LARGE GROUP

INTRODUCTION

Welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.

- **4 B'S (BEHAVIORS)**
  Share the expectations for how to participate during Large Group time.
- **KEY VERSE**
  Introduce the key verse. Kids can watch the Key Verse video (when it's new for the series) or practice together using the slide.
- **MISSION FOCUS**
  Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.
- **PRAY FOR MISSION FOCUS & LESSON**

WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet personal reflection time of responding to what God is teaching them.

CLOSING LARGE GROUP

PRAYER

Transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.

OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.

BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids to send them into their week with God's truth in their hearts.

OPENING LARGE GROUP SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Does anyone know our God statement for today? ***(allow kids to respond)*** **God Redeems!** I'm so excited to dig into that with you but before we do, let's cover our 4 B's of how we're expected to participate during Large Group!

4 BEHAVIORS OF LARGE GROUP

- ***Be Ready*** – Eyes watching and ears listening.
- ***Be Respectful*** – Listen when others are talking and follow directions.
- ***Be Safe*** – Keep your hands, feet and body in your own space.
- ***Be Involved*** – Sing, answer, move and join in!

KEY VERSE - Deuteronomy 31:8

Let's recite our Key Verse together! When we memorize the Bible, we put God's truth in our hearts and minds to help us remember what is true and who God is. Let's practice together! ***Play the Key Verse video or show the verse slide.***

Serve the City

MISSION FOCUS - Gift of Love

Every year, Woodmen hosts a special event called Gift of Love! It's a special event where families can shop for Christmas gifts for their kids at prices they can pay.

Let's watch a short video to learn more about Gift of Love! ***(PLAY VIDEO)***

Wow! What a special way we can share God's love this Christmas. Don't forget to tell your grownup about Gift of Love and stop by the Christmas Tree at the Greeter Desk before you leave today to learn more. And if you aren't able to buy a gift for a child, that's ok! You can still serve by praying for the families who will attend the event on December 12.

PRAY (for the mission focus and upcoming lesson)

Let's bow our heads, close our eyes and show respect to God while we pray!

WORSHIP

Let's move into a time of worship. This is a chance for us to praise God and say "thank you!" for everything He does for us. You can worship in a way that helps you focus on God best. You can stand, sit, kneel, raise your hands or participate in the motions. ***Play worship songs.***

SONGS: Praise, This is Amazing Grace, Who You Say I Am

LESSON VIDEO

Please take a seat quietly so we can watch our lesson video together. As you watch, see if you can find the answers to our big 3 questions! Who is the story about? What is the problem or what happens? And what does God do? Let's watch together! ***Play lesson video.***

WORSHIP RESPONSE SCRIPT

PREPARE AHEAD

Before Large Group, prepare all Worship Response materials and ask Ministry Partners to help lead and support the activity.

SUPPLIES: paper hearts, markers, cross stickers (given to leaders ahead to pass out when prompted), Story of the Cross song

REFLECT: God Redeems!

Display the Worship Response slide with the soft music playing in the background. Let's get our hearts and bodies ready for Worship Response. Start by taking three deep breaths *(take 3 breaths together)*. Now let's relax our bodies and find a comfortable position to be still and focus on God - one that won't distract others.

REVIEW LESSON & GOD STATEMENT

God redeemed Naomi and Ruth's life. He took something bad and made it into something good. That reminds me of another way God took something bad and made it into something good by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sins. God took our brokenness and sin and made it right by sending Jesus to die on the cross and be raised to life for you and me!

EXPLAIN WORSHIP RESPONSE ACTIVITY

- A leader is going to hand each of you a paper heart and a marker
- I'm going to give you special instructions to follow as you quietly hold your paper heart. Ready? ***Leaders pass out hearts and a marker to each kid.***
- On your heart, quietly draw yourself or write your name. When you're finished, just hold onto the heart and sit quietly until everyone is done.
- Now that everyone's finished, gently rip your heart in half like this. ***Show kids how to rip the heart in half down the middle.***
- We are all sinful. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against God! Sin actually separates us from God - kind of like how this heart is now separated in two.
- But the good news is God sent Jesus to redeem or fix our hearts! ***Leaders pass out cross stickers to each kid.***
- Take the cross sticker and use it to put the heart back together!
- God loves us and sent Jesus to redeem or save us! Even though we're separated from God by sin, we have the opportunity to accept Jesus as our savior!
- Let's listen to one final worship song together to help us reflect on what we've learned.
- You can stand up and do the hand motions, you can pray and talk to God, you can listen to the song playing in the background or you can simply sit and be still.
- But please remember to be quiet and participate on your own.

PLAY SONG IN POWERPOINT

Play the song in the Powerpoint and encourage kids to participate in a way that helps them respond to the lesson on their own.

PRAY OVER THE KIDS

After the song ends, close Worship Response by simply praying over the kids. No transition or introduction is needed—just begin the prayer.

CLOSING LARGE GROUP SCRIPT

OFFERING

One more way we can respond to and worship God is by giving offering. Offering is an opportunity every week to give some of our money to God as a way to say "Thank you, God!" for all He has done for us. Remember, you never *have* to give offering. Giving offering is something you *choose* to do with a thankful heart! God gives to us...so we give back to Him! If you have offering today, you can place it in the offering bin before you leave.



God gives to us...



We give back to God!

BLESSING

Before we go, I want to speak a blessing over you so can you please stand up? A blessing sends us into our week with God's truth in our hearts, reminding us of who He is and that He is with us wherever we go. If you'd like, hold out your hands with your palms up as a way of showing that you are ready to receive these words and God's truth. Listen closely as I speak this blessing over you.

May you trust that God can bring hope and healing to the broken parts of your life!
May you always know how deeply God loves you!

TRANSITION

After the blessing, dismiss kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.

We learned a lot together today! Now we're going to head back to Small Group to unpack what we learned and talk about what it means for our lives. This is a great time to ask questions, share your thoughts and see if you caught the answers to our Big 3 Questions from the lesson!

6:50-7:10pm
9:50-10:10am
11:50am-12:10pm

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in **small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner**.

REFLECT: Big 3 & Application

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.

SAY:

Let's talk about what we learned today! Find a spot to sit quietly and get in a comfortable position that's not distracting to others. Let's start by looking at the **BIG 3** questions we talked about at the beginning of class. Did anyone find the answers?

1. **ASK: Who was our story about today?**
   KIDS RESPOND: God, Naomi, Ruth & Boaz.

2. **ASK: What was the problem?**
   KIDS RESPOND: Naomi lost almost everything, except her daughter-in-law Ruth.

3. **ASK: What did God do?**
   KIDS RESPOND: God provided Boaz to care for Ruth and Naomi. God used Boaz to redeem their family and give them hope.

Now let's talk about how this could **APPLY** to our own lives. Depending on what God is teaching us, our answers might be different. But I would love to hear your thoughts!

- **ASK: Why does this matter to me?**
  Example: Just like God redeemed Ruth and Naomi's family, God redeems us through Jesus! Jesus saves us from our sin and brings us into God's family.
- **ASK: How can I apply this to my own life?**
  Example: I can trust God even when life is hard; I can have hope because God can bring good out of hard things; I can follow Jesus because He rescues me from sin; I can pray and ask God for help when I feel sad or hurt.

PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together.

SAY:

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud. It can feel a little scary to pray together, but God loves to hear our prayers! We don't have to say anything fancy - we can just talk to Him!

DO:

Invite kids to pray for each other, then have a leader close in prayer. You can also use your prayer journal to write down and reflect on prayers from your group each week.

If time allows

OPTIONAL RESPOND ACTIVITY

The goal of the OPTIONAL Respond Activity is for kids to engage in a game that helps reinforce the lesson for the day.

ACTIVITY: God Redeems Puzzle

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the students can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: Cross poster (that can be pre-torn into pieces), tape

SAY:

Naomi went through something really sad, but God cared for her and gave her new hope. God redeems! That means God can take something broken and bring something good from it. For our activity, we have a torn picture of a cross! Let's work together to fix what's broken, just like God did in Naomi's story and just like God does for us by sending Jesus to save us from our sins!

DO:

Give kids a picture that has been torn or cut into a few large pieces. Have them work together to figure out where each piece goes, then help them tape the picture back together. (*There are multiple posters, so kids can work in teams or everyone can work together depending on the size of your class)*.



When the kids are finished repairing the picture, remind them about the way God redeems. He can bring hope and good from things that feel broken or sad. He can bring hope, healing, and good from things that feels sad or hard.

As parents arrive after service

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.

DO:

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing their parent the announcement card.