

Bible background

Ruth 3 and 4

Aim of lesson

A continuation of last week's aim of showing kindness to the old and the poor. This lesson also includes God's blessing of a family for Ruth who had shown such kindness.

Preparation required

You will need your puppets from last week and one for Boaz. Colouring materials, scissors, tape and three cardboard tubes per child. You could also use scraps of cloth.

Suggested outline of lesson

- Using the puppets of Ruth and Naomi, go through the rhyme again from last week's lesson. Allow the children to tell you as much of the story as they can remember.
- Help the class make their own puppets for Ruth and Naomi. Cloth headdresses can be made if you wish.
- Re-tell the rhyme, allowing all the children to act it out with their own puppets.
- Introduce the puppet of Boaz and tell how he, as the farmer where Ruth was collecting grain, thought Ruth was a lovely person because of her kindness to Naomi and asked her to marry him. So Boaz, the farmer, looked after Ruth and Naomi and they were not poor any more. Later Boaz and Ruth had a baby called Obed, and so Naomi, whose family had died, now had a family again and was very happy. The cut-out of Obed can be stuck onto the puppet of Ruth.
- Teach the song 'Can You Help?'
- Ask the children to look at the activity sheet and discuss with you what each child is doing to help old people.

Alternative activities

- Continue activities from last week. Add a doll to the dressing up/role play items to use as a baby.
- Discuss ideas in a group and then use role play to act out ways of helping others.

Relevance to the children's lives

Ask the children about old people that they know - grandparents and neighbours. Ask what they can do to be kind to them. How does God feel when he sees them being kind?

Prayer

Ask who would like to say 'Help us to be kind to old people.'

Verse

'Show respect for the elderly.' Leviticus 19:32.

Song

Can You Help? (Tune: Mary, Mary Quite Contrary)



- v.1 Can you help the poor and the old?
The lonely and the hungry too?
Can you be kind and helpful to them?
For God is pleased if you do just that
Yes, God is pleased if you do.
- v.2 We can help the poor and the old
The lonely and the hungry too.
We can be kind and helpful to them
And God is pleased when we do just that
Yes, God is pleased when we do.

Music: Traditional.