

Ruth 1-4

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,  
who comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort those with  
the comfort we ourselves have received from God.  
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

### Readings this week:

- S Ruth 1
- M Ruth 2
- T Ruth 3
- W Ruth 4
- Th Deuteronomy 19:1-18
- F Deuteronomy 24
- S Psalm 146

Through the events in Ruth's life we can see how God looks after us if we trust him. We can also see the positive effects of showing love and caring to others. The story has a tragic beginning but a very happy ending.

As you read through the book, note down what the different people learned about God.



Boaz



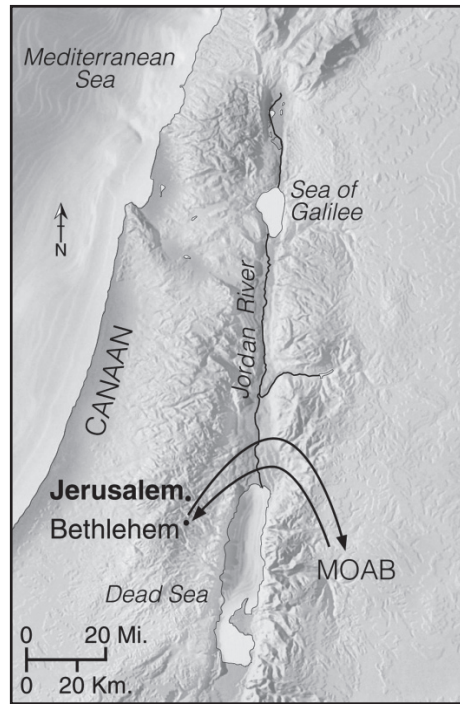
Ruth



Naomi

## What about you?

What have you learned about God from this book?



“Naomi” means pleasant; “Mara” means bitter. It is interesting that although Naomi wanted to be called Mara, the Bible always refers to her as Naomi. At the end of the book, when she has her lovely grandchild, everyone says how blessed she is. Which name do you think was most appropriate for her, taking her life overall?

## Gleaning

God made a commandment about how farmers should gather in their crops. You can read about it in Leviticus 19:9-10.

What lesson do you think God wanted his people to learn?

How can we please God by learning the same lesson?

Ruth was prepared to completely change her lifestyle because of what she believed. Are you prepared to do that too?

## Digging Deeper

### Find out about Bethlehem

Look at Ruth 1:10

What does the ‘Bethlehem’ mean? The NIV study Bible, a Bible dictionary or concordance will help you.

How appropriate was this at the beginning of the story of Ruth and later?

What else happened in Bethlehem? Genesis 35:19, 1 Samuel 16:1 (Would you expect David to live here?), Luke 2:4-7 (Would you expect Mary and Joseph to have gone here?)

Look at the genealogy in Matthew 1 and find the names of Boaz, Ruth, Obed, Jesse, David and Jesus. There is another woman you will have heard of, mentioned as a close relation to Boaz. Who is this? (The Authorised Version spelling is slightly different for some of the names)



Thank God for his care and for providing you with what you need.