

# Ruth's Loyalty

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Wednesday Plan

SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1

MEMORY VERSE

Ruth 1:16

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*Loyal love puts you right in the middle of what God is doing.*

## For the Teacher

Wednesday night reinforces what the kids learned on Sunday. Don't re-teach the whole lesson — they heard it. Your job tonight is to make it stick through review, movement, and prayer.

### KEY TRUTH

Loyal love puts you right in the middle of what God is doing.

**Same bottom line as Sunday, by design.** Wednesday uses the exact same sentence the kids heard on Sunday. Repeat it. Have them say it back. Don't paraphrase or soften it — the repetition is the point. A kid who hears the same sentence twice in three days will remember it.

**Tonight is kinetic.** Sunday was reading and discussion. Wednesday is feet and hands. The Work is a *Promise Walk* — kids pair up, walk a path together, and at each step take turns finishing the phrase from Ruth's promise. Don't try to make this quiet.

**What to skip.** Don't re-read all of Ruth 1. The kids already heard it Sunday. Tonight you'll only re-read Ruth 1:16 — the memory verse. If a kid wasn't there Sunday, give them a one-sentence catch-up ("Naomi was a widow heading home alone. Ruth was her daughter-in-law. On the road, Ruth promised to stay with her — and that promise put Ruth in the family line of King David and Jesus"), then move on.

**Energy management.** Wednesday is shorter than Sunday and built around the Promise Walk. Kids will get loud during the partner work — they're saying lines back and forth. That's fine; the activity requires it. Bring them back down for the take-home card and prayer.

### MATERIALS

- Bibles for every student
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- Masking tape (a few short paths on the floor — see The Work)
- **Where I'll Stay** prayer cards (printed in advance from this week's activities)
- Pencils

## 1. Gather

Welcome the kids back. Tell them:

### SAY

*On Sunday we learned one big idea, and we're going to learn it again tonight. I want you to say it with me: Loyal love puts you right in the middle of what God is doing.*

Have them say it back. Then again, louder. Then in a whisper.

Write it on the board.

Tell them tonight is going to be different from Sunday — they're going to walk a path with a partner and trade lines from Ruth's promise. But first, a quick review.

## 2. The Story

**Quick Review**

ASK

*Who can tell me where Ruth and Naomi were at the start of Sunday's story?*

Let two or three kids answer. Steer toward: in the country of Moab, both widows, on a road, Naomi heading home to Bethlehem.

ASK

*What did Naomi tell Ruth to do?*

*Go home. Find a new husband. Don't come with me — I have nothing left to give you.*

ASK

*What did Ruth do instead?*

*She clung to Naomi. She refused to leave. She made a promise.*

**Re-Read Ruth 1:16**

Have them open to Ruth 1:16. Pick a confident reader and have them read the verse aloud, slowly.

**Ruth 1:16**

ASK

*Ruth made four promises in that verse. What were they?*

Write the answers on the board as the kids find them:

1. **Where you go, I will go.**
2. **Where you stay, I will stay.**
3. **Your people will be my people.**
4. **Your God will be my God.**

ASK

*Which one is the biggest?*

*"Your God will be my God." Ruth grew up worshiping other gods. That promise was a faith turn — not just loyalty to Naomi, but loyalty to the LORD.*

Say the bottom line again, with them: *Loyal love puts you right in the middle of what God is doing.*

## 3. The Work

**The Promise Walk**

Before class, run two or three short masking-tape paths across the floor — each one a wandering line from one wall to the other. Roughly six to ten steps long.

Pair up the kids. Each pair stands at one end of a path.

The game: the pair walks the path together, in step, side by side. At each step, they take turns saying one of the four promises from Ruth 1:16. So:

- Step 1 (Kid A): *"Where you go..."*
- Step 2 (Kid B): *"...I will go."*
- Step 3 (Kid A): *"Where you stay..."*
- Step 4 (Kid B): *"...I will stay."*
- Step 5 (Kid A): *"Your people..."*

- Step 6 (Kid B): “...will be my people.”
- Step 7 (Kid A): “Your God...”
- Step 8 (Kid B): “...will be my God.”

If they finish before the end of the path, they restart from the top. If the path is short, they have to stretch their steps. If they mess up the line, they go back to the start.

Run it three or four times. Switch partners between rounds. By the last round, every kid in the room should have the verse coming out of their mouth without thinking.

**NOTE**

The point isn't memorization for memorization's sake. The point is that Ruth's promise was a *walking* promise — made on a road, lived out one step at a time. The kids are doing the same thing she did: saying the words while their feet keep moving.

**Bringing It Back**

Gather the kids back together. Ask:

**ASK**

*Which line was the hardest to remember? Which one stuck?*

Let a few kids answer. Then say:

**SAY**

*Ruth said those four lines once, on one road, on one day. But she lived them every day after that — for the rest of her life. Loyalty isn't a sentence you say; it's a road you walk. Ruth walked it all the way to Bethlehem and stayed. And God put her right in the middle of what he was doing.*

## 4. The Point

**Where I'll Stay Prayer Card**

Hand out the **Where I'll Stay** prayer cards. Have each student fill in the prompt:

*God, help me stay loyal to \_\_\_\_\_ this week — even when it's hard.*

Tell them they can write or draw. They'll take it home and put it somewhere they'll see it during the week — by their bed, on the fridge, on a desk.

**NOTE**

While they fill out the cards, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask them: “Who's somebody who needs you to keep showing up this week?” Help them turn it into a sentence.

**Memory Verse and Closing**

When they're done, have everyone come back together and turn to Ruth 1:16:

**SCRIPTURE**

*Ruth 1:16*

*Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God.*

Read it together once. Then say the bottom line one final time, with the kids:

**SAY**

*Loyal love puts you right in the middle of what God is doing.*

Close in prayer:

**PRAY**

*God, you saw every step Ruth took. You see ours too. Help us keep showing up for the people you've put in our lives — even when it's small, even when nobody notices. And like you did with Ruth, use our loyal love for things we can't even see yet. Amen.*