

LESSON 5

RUTH AND NAOMI

Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet #1: A Story of True Love
- Bible Discovery Worksheet #2, Pages 1 and 2: What does it mean to follow Jesus until the end?
- Life Application Worksheet: Showing Love through Self-Sacrifice
- Homework

A Story of True Love

“For wherever you go, I will go.”

The story of Ruth and Naomi spread quickly after they moved back to Bethlehem. Many people there, including Boaz’s servants, heard about it and shared their story with others. It encouraged people to love one another with **self-sacrifice!**

TWO WIDOWED WOMEN

“For wherever you go, I will go,” said Ruth to her mother-in-law.

Ruth’s _____ and _____ just passed away. Now she has nothing left but her own family in _____, where she is from. As unfortunate as it sounds, she is luckily still very young and has a good chance of remarrying so that she doesn’t have to live the rest of her life in poverty. No one in her position would question the idea to return to her family and wait to be remarried. In fact, Naomi, Ruth’s

_____, who also became a widow at the same time as Ruth did, also told Ruth to do so. But Ruth, concerned about Naomi’s later life, insisted that she follow Naomi back to her hometown instead of stay in Moab.



LOVE CONQUERS

Naomi once again urged Ruth to stay in Moab with her family, but Ruth would not leave Naomi’s side. She said, “_____.”

What a great sacrifice! Ruth didn’t care if she was going to be poor for the rest of her life. She loved Naomi so much that she didn’t want to leave her alone, old and lacking. She knew that Naomi needed someone to take care of her, both physically and emotionally. Rather than waiting for someone to marry her, love, and provide for her, Ruth determined to stay with Naomi, to be the one to love and provide for this old mother whom she loved.

The Bible said Ruth worked steadily from the morning until very late. She gleaned in the field until _____. After she finished her work, she carried it back to town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered! Even though life was not easy, Ruth had no regrets. She was happy as long as her mother-in-law was well taken care of. Boaz heard all that Ruth had done for her mother-in-law since the death of her husband. He said, “May the Lord _____ you for what you have done. May you be richly _____ by the Lord, the God of Israel.”

What does it mean to follow Jesus until the end?

I Know Who Holds Tomorrow

*"I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day.
I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to gray.
I don't worry over the future, for I know what Jesus said.
And today, I'll walk beside Him, for He knows what is ahead.
Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand;
but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand."*

These lyrics are the first verse of "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow". Can you relate to them? It is indeed true for everyone that we don't know anything about tomorrow. We can always plan for tomorrow, but we do not know what will happen between now and then that could change our plans. With God's protection, we can live from day to day. This hymn tells us that we shouldn't worry about tomorrow, but hold tight the hand of Jesus and walk with Him until the end. Why? Because God knows the future. He provides us with light and gives us directions for where we should go. Let's read the following verses and examine what exactly it means to follow Jesus until the end.

1. *"Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.'" (Matthew 16:24)*

A. ____ : First of all, in order to follow Jesus, we must deny ourselves. What does that mean?

- a. To think that we are useless
- b. To humble ourselves before God
- c. To think that everything we do is wrong

B. ____ : Every Christian has a cross to carry. We must carry this cross on our own to follow Jesus. What does carrying our own cross mean?

- a. To wear something with a cross all the time so that people know we're followers of Christ
- b. To carry our own burdens and worries
- c. To be responsible for our own salvation by following Jesus until the end, even though it is not an easy journey to complete

2. *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)*

Following Jesus means to trust His guidance with all our heart, even though we cannot see what is ahead. We may think that one way is better, but if Jesus tells us to go the other way, we must put our trust in His wisdom rather than our own. The first thing we should do when making decisions in our walk of life is to acknowledge God.

____ : How can we acknowledge Him?

- a. Use the Bible as our guide to make sure that our decisions are in accordance with God's words and pray for God's guidance
- b. Ask God to walk with us towards the direction we think is best
- c. Be assured that God will help us no matter what

3. "For we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

To follow Jesus means to be strong in our faith in God, even though we cannot see Him. Many visible things in our lives are temptations that draw us away from God. But it is the intangible and invisible God that we should rely on. Therefore, we should not walk by sight.

_____ : What does it mean to walk by sight?

- a. To wear glasses so that we can see as clearly as possible
- b. To only trust and take pleasure in things that we can see with our eyes
- c. To always open our eyes when we walk

4. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)

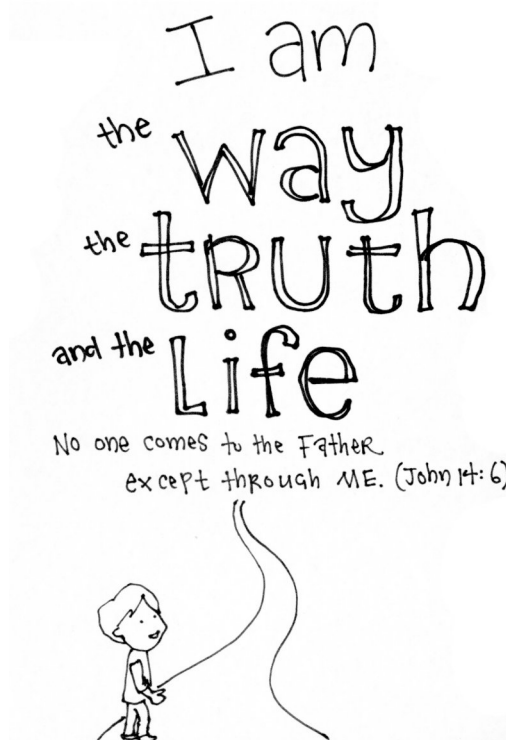
A. _____ : To follow Jesus is to walk in the truth. What does that mean?

- a. To always be in accordance with God's wisdom, pleasing Him in everything we do
- b. To always be honest and true
- c. To meditate on what is right or wrong all the time

B. _____ : Following Jesus will lead us to God, our heavenly Father. How should we follow Jesus in order to see God in heaven? Use 1 Corinthians 11:1 as a reference verse.

Let's determine to
follow Jesus.

He will never lead us
down the wrong path!



Showing Love through Self-Sacrifice

The Bible tells us that love is not self-seeking. In other words, to love someone is to be willing to sacrifice for that person. It may be your time, labor, money, etc. We can infer from today's story that Naomi treated Ruth very well and with great care and love since Ruth, in return, loved Naomi dearly. We can also see how Boaz was a kind, generous, God-fearing man who immediately did everything he could to help Ruth. In addition, he is also a very responsible person, as he chose to become the kinsman-redeemer instead of waiting for the duty to fall on him. 1 John 4:8 tells us, "God is love." Through their love, Ruth came to know the love of our Lord Jesus. Through our personal relationships with others, we can exhibit the many characteristics of God, such as love, joy, mercy, kindness, gentleness, etc. In doing so, we use our actions to preach the word of God rather than simply learn the teachings without sharing the good news with others.

In the following scenarios, examine the action of self-sacrifice and the characteristics of love shown through such action.

1. Every day after school, Charles plays basketball with his friends. Charles loves sports, especially basketball, and after school is the time of the day that he looks forward to the most. However, Charles' mom is sick this week and has asked Charles to help take care of his little brother after school. Charles, even though he really wishes he didn't have to miss basketball every day for a week, promises to help his mom. In addition, Charles also offers to do some housework for his mom since he knows that she needs to rest more.

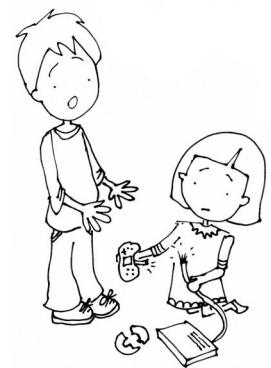


a. What did Charles sacrifice in order to help his mom?

b. Why do you think that Charles was willing to make such a sacrifice?

c. What characteristics of love do you see in Charles' actions?

2. Andy's little sister accidentally broke his favorite toy, and he was very upset that she did so. Andy was extremely sad, but he accepted his sister's apology and didn't want to make her feel even worse. Later, their mom said that if Andy wanted the same toy again, his little sister would have to use her own money to buy it for him. Andy, even though he was very sad to see his toy broken, decided that he would not ask for a new one from his sister since he knew that she had been saving up for a long time to buy her favorite toy. He didn't want her to use the money she saved.



a. What did Andy sacrifice for his little sister?

b. Why do you think that Andy was willing to make these sacrifices?

c. What characteristics of love do you see in Andy's actions?

E2 Year 2 Book 3 Lesson 5—Ruth and Naomi

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (**Ruth 1:16b**)

Short Answer

1. Why did Elimelech and his family leave Israel?

2. Why did Ruth want to stay with Naomi?

3. How was Boaz kind to Ruth?

4. How did Ruth show her love towards Naomi?

Life Application

5. Often, we express our feelings towards our family members, friends, and teachers through words. How can we show them through our actions just how much we love them?
6. Choose a family member or friend to whom you would like to show more love, and write down below how you will do that this week.
7. How can we sacrifice for our family members?
8. Our Lord Jesus has sacrificed so much for us because of His great love. Think of ways you can sacrifice for others for three days. For example, sharing a portion of your snack or lunch with a friend, spending time helping a friend with homework instead of playing, helping out around the house instead of watching TV, etc. How would you feel after those three days?

I sacrificed: _____

This is how I sacrificed: _____

