

Together @ Home



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Ruth marrying Boaz.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Ruth 4

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children’s story version which best suits your group.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Ruth, that reminds us that you have good plans for those you love and that you take care of us.

Help us to be faithful like Ruth was to Naomi, to care for our family like Naomi did for Ruth, to be honest and kind like Boaz.

We pray for all those who do not yet know you, that they would see the love of Christians for one another and come to know the love of God. Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

Why did the close relative take off his sandal and present it to Boaz?

The relative in the story did not want to damage the inheritance of his own sons by buying the land and marrying Ruth. He took off his sandal and gave it to Boaz as a symbol that he was giving up his right to buy the land.

It was important to Boaz that everything he did was seen to be honest and fair. He wanted to make sure that both Naomi and Ruth had the best treatment and that nobody could speak badly of them.

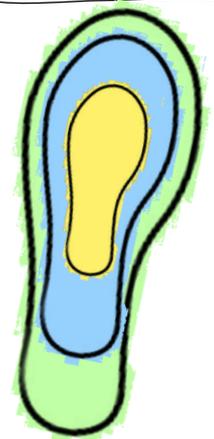
A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you gave something up so that somebody else could have it? Was it easy or hard?

Family Activity 1

Make your own family foot picture.

Find a shoe for each family member. Draw around the smallest shoe first on a piece of paper. Then place the next size shoe on top and draw round that. Keep going until everybody’s foot outline is on the paper, then decorate it together.



If you are feeling brave and have paints you could make a picture with actual footprints!





A verse to remember

Philippians 2 v 4

**Do not be interested only in your own life,
but be interested in the lives of others.**

How many examples can you find in the story of Ruth of somebody putting the needs of somebody else above their own or taking time to help others and look after them? This verse from Philippians reminds us to be interested in the lives of others, who could we take time to be interested in and help this week?

Read this verse together and try to learn it, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Family Activity 2

In the story the relative took off his sandal and presented it to Boaz as a sign that Boaz now owned the right to the land and Ruth. Choose a shoe or sandal and take it in turns to hide it around the room or the whole house (!)

The person who has hidden it should give temperature clues to help everybody find the shoe e.g. hotter, colder, warmer, freezing, boiling. Give everybody a chance to choose a hiding spot.



Active Prayer

Pick a shoe (or two!)

Create a pile of shoes, make sure that each person in your family or group has at least two shoes in the pile. *You can either keep the shoes in the pile or make it even more active by spreading them around the room.*

Take it in turns to be blindfolded and spun around, the person who is blindfolded must then try to find and grab a shoe from the pile or somewhere in the room.

When they find a shoe they should take off their blindfold and pray for the person whose shoe it is!



Helping Older Children

There are some great lessons to learn from the book of Ruth about decision making. Why not encourage older children to think about what they can learn from the decisions made in this story.

How many examples can they find of somebody putting somebody else's needs first?

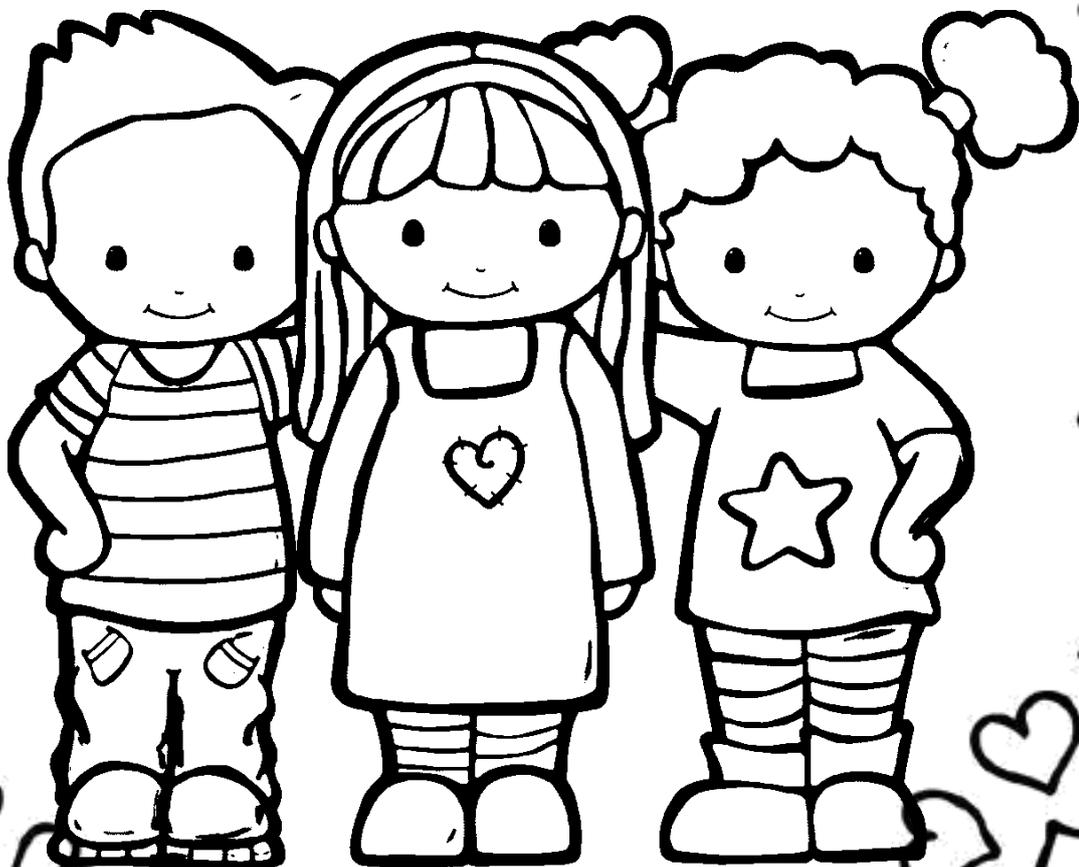
How many examples can they find of being brave and stepping out in faith?

How many examples can they find of making just and fair decisions?

A colouring page you could print and colour together

Philippians 2 v 4

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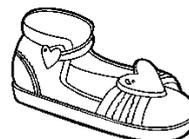
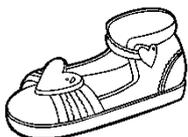
Puzzle Sheet

There are 10 differences between the two pictures of Boaz making a deal with his close relative.

Can you find them all?



Can you match the pairs of sandals and colour them the same?



Colour in all the shapes with a dot in to reveal the name of Boaz and Ruth's son.

