

Ruth | Lesson Plan

How does the story of Ruth demonstrate the meaning and value of loyalty?

Students will understand how the Bible character Ruth remained loyal to her family, even when it was challenging. They will also understand how Ruth's loyalty and courage ultimately led to positive outcomes. Students will understand the meaning and value of loyalty and courageous commitment.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify key events of Ruth's story.
- Explain the meaning of loyalty.
- Identify examples in which Ruth's loyalty led to positive outcomes.
- Examine how the story of Ruth demonstrates the importance of loyalty.
- Evaluate Ruth's character and the qualities that helped her remain loyal to her family.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Loyalty:** A strong feeling of support or allegiance to someone or something. It involves a commitment to stand by and support someone even when it is uncomfortable.
- **Character:** Who you are as a person; refers to the beliefs and set of qualities that define a person's ethical and moral behavior.
- **Kinsman redeemer:** A Jewish religious custom that when a man dies and leaves a widowed wife but no children, a male relative can take care of what the man who died left behind, including taking his widow as a wife.
- **Custom:** A traditional practice or habit that is characteristic of a particular culture, place, or time.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4

Academic Subject Areas: Biography, Character Development, Bible

What You'll Need

- Video: *Ruth: A Woman of Loyalty and Faithfulness* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Ruth: A Woman of Loyalty and Faithfulness* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

Warm-Up: (15 minutes)

1. Initiate a class discussion on loyalty. Invite students to share their own definitions of the word "loyalty" or what they think it means to be loyal.
2. Encourage students to think of personal examples of a time they have been loyal or a friend has been loyal to them. Prompt students to consider why loyalty is an important quality to have as a friend or family member. Invite students to share examples and ideas aloud and brainstorm together.



3. Transition the discussion to focus on the Bible character and historical figure, Ruth. Invite students to share what they already know about Ruth and her story. Encourage students to predict why it may have been challenging for Ruth to remain loyal to her family.
4. Display a copy of the “Ruth Worksheet” and pass out worksheets to students.
5. Instruct students to complete the Warm-Up Activity. Students will write the meaning of loyalty in their own words, an example of loyalty, and an explanation of why loyalty is important and when it might be challenging to be loyal.
6. Once completed, engage students in a discussion about why they think a story about loyalty is found in the Bible.
7. Read over the rest of the worksheet as a class so students know what to listen for during the video.
8. Set the stage for the upcoming video by highlighting the themes of loyalty, courage, and selflessness. Encourage students to look for ways throughout the video that Ruth put others before herself and remained loyal to the people she cared about.

Watch and Complete: (20 minutes)

1. Watch the video.
2. Assist students with completing the worksheet alongside the video, encouraging note-taking and active listening.
3. Pause throughout the video to allow students to answer questions. If necessary, model short answer responses by restating the question and writing a complete sentence.

Wrap-Up: (10-15 minutes)

1. Allow students 10 minutes to complete the worksheet independently.
2. Collect as formative assessment or discuss in class.
3. Ask students to read aloud their responses to the Making Connections section, reflecting on what they have learned from Ruth’s story and ways they can put others first and remain loyal to those they care for.
4. Conclude with an open-ended prompt on the importance of loyalty and courageous commitment:
 - How did Ruth’s decision to stay with Naomi demonstrate her loyalty? Can you think of a time when someone in your life showed similar loyalty to you or your family?
 - What are some other examples from the story of Ruth that show her loyalty? Why do you think loyalty is an important quality to have?
 - What qualities did Ruth possess that helped her remain loyal to her family, even in difficult times? How can you develop or show these qualities in your own life?
 - How can you apply the lessons learned from Ruth’s story to your own life? In what ways can you show loyalty and commitment to your family and friends?

Don’t have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 minutes)

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.