

Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

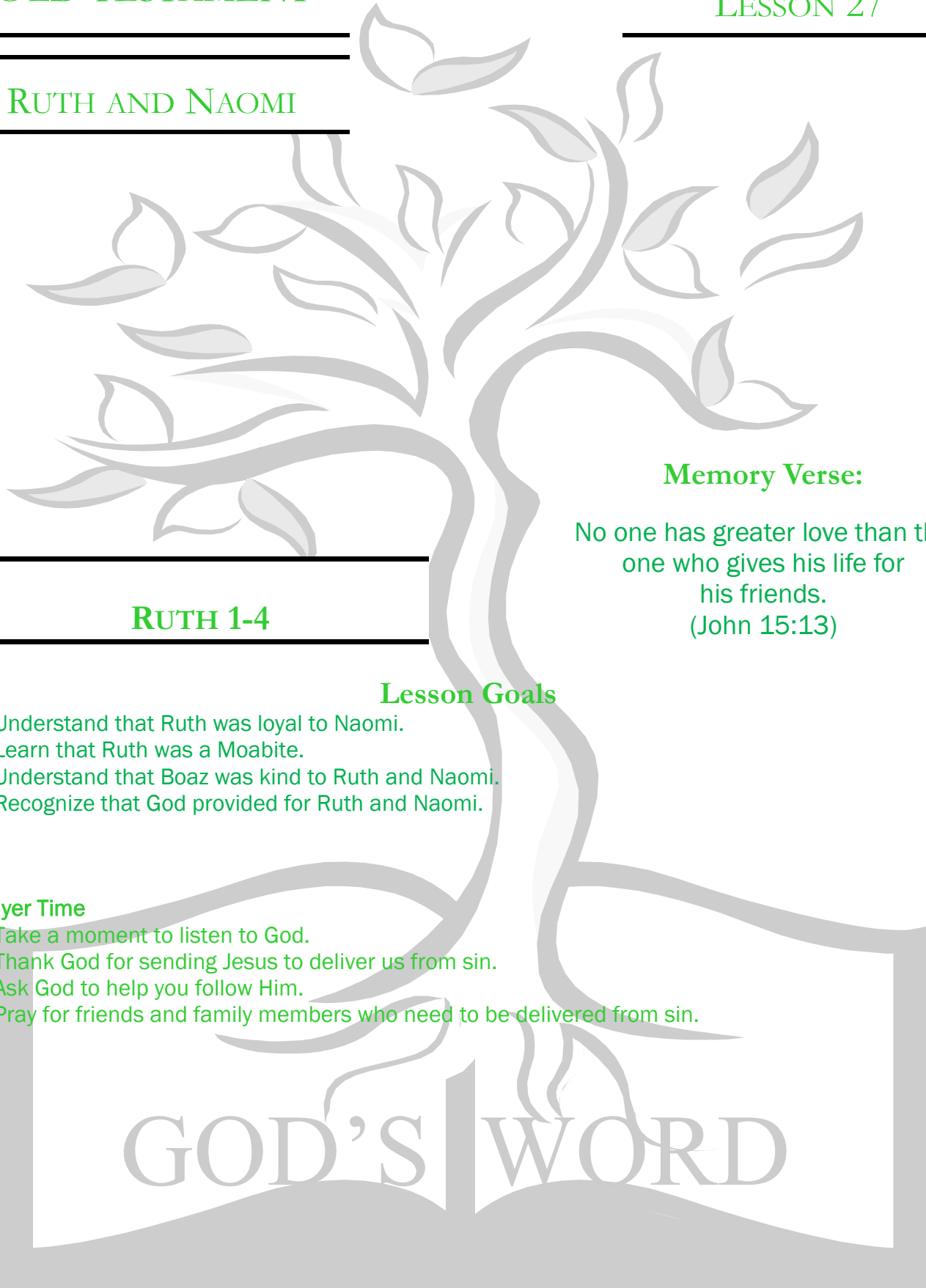
One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

Created for use with young, unchurched learners Adaptable for all ages.

RUTH AND NAOMI



RUTH 1-4

Memory Verse:

No one has greater love than the one who gives his life for his friends.
(John 15:13)

Lesson Goals

1. Understand that Ruth was loyal to Naomi.
2. Learn that Ruth was a Moabite.
3. Understand that Boaz was kind to Ruth and Naomi.
4. Recognize that God provided for Ruth and Naomi.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you follow Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to be delivered from sin.

GOD'S WORD

Read Ruth 1:1-19. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus gave His life for us so that we can have eternal life. When we invite Him into our heart and believe that He died for our sins and rose from the dead, we will be saved. What an awesome promise! God had a plan even way back in time with Ruth. Bethlehem was the town where Jesus was born! Ruth listened to God and followed Naomi. Are you listening to God?

Application

Ruth was a Moabite. When her husband died, Ruth could have returned to her homeland, but she was loyal to Naomi and followed her to Israel. Boaz showed kindness to Ruth and Naomi. God provided for Ruth and Naomi. God will provide for us as well.

Begin With Prayer

We have been learning about the judges who helped the Israelites return to God. Some of these judges were Deborah, Gideon, and Samson.

During the time of the judges, one Israelite family decided to leave their hometown of Bethlehem in Judah. There was a severe famine, which means it was really dry and there was not much food to eat. The man was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. They moved to a place called Moab. But while they were in Moab, Elimelech died. This left Naomi with her two sons.

When Naomi's sons grew up, they married Moabite women, named Orpah and Ruth. But several years later, both of Naomi's sons died! So Naomi decided it was time for her to return to her hometown. Ruth and Orpah wanted to go with her, but Naomi told them they should stay in their own land. Orpah went back to Moab, but Ruth refused. She told Naomi, "I will go wherever you go . . . Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God."

So Naomi and Ruth went to Bethlehem. The people were excited to see Naomi again! One day, Ruth told Naomi that she would go to the fields and collect the leftover grain so they would have some bread to eat. She went to Boaz's field. She didn't know that he was one of Naomi's distant relatives. She patiently gathered grain. The people were nice to her. They let her gather much grain.

Later, Boaz saw her and told his workers to give her lots of grain. He spoke to Ruth and told her not to go anywhere else—he would help her with all her needs. When Naomi saw how much grain Ruth brought home, she was excited! She knew that God had been good to them. Then she found out that it was Boaz's field. She was overjoyed. Back in those days, a widow like Ruth could marry a relative to keep her name and property. Naomi knew that Boaz was that man!

Naomi had a plan. She told Ruth to dress up and quietly sit down by Boaz after he had eaten supper and was asleep. Ruth did all that Naomi asked. Sure enough, Boaz woke up and found Ruth at his feet. He told her that he would marry her. But first he had to talk to a relative that was closer to Ruth than he. In that culture, the closest relative had the first opportunity to marry the girl.

In the morning, Boaz went to the relative and asked if he wanted to marry Ruth and have her land. The man told Boaz, "No." As a sign to show that he was giving up his rights, the relative took off his sandal and gave it to Boaz.

Boaz was so happy. He told everyone that he would marry Ruth. Later, Ruth and Boaz had a son. His name was Obed. He was King David's grandfather. And this son was even a relative of Jesus!

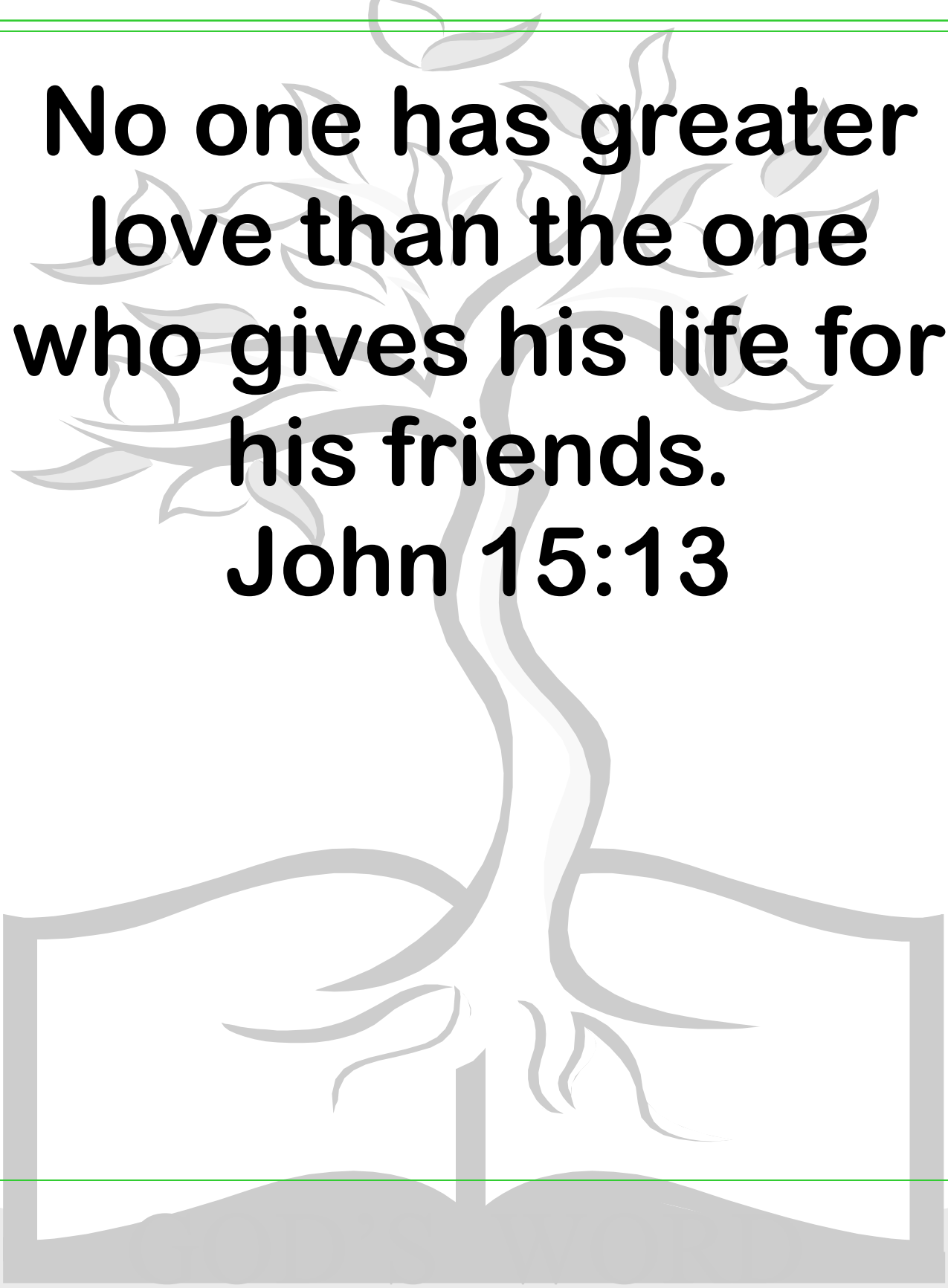
- 1. Who was Ruth?** (Ruth was a Moabite married to Naomi's son.)
- 2. What happened to Naomi?** (Her husband and both her sons died.)
- 3. What happened next?** (Orpah went home but Ruth chose to stay with Naomi.)
- 4. What did Naomi and Ruth do?** (Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem.)
- 5. What happened next?** (Ruth married Boaz and had Obed.)

Planning for the next week:

Hannah — I Samuel 1:1-28

Memory Verse

**No one has greater
love than the one
who gives his life for
his friends.
John 15:13**



Preschool Lesson

Read Ruth 1:1-19. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Memory verse for younger children:

No one has greater love than the one who gives his life for his friends. John 15:13

Teacher: Play a game. Have all the kids take off their shoes and line them up. Then have several children try to decide who the shoes belong to. Let everyone have a turn.

Begin With Prayer

A lady named Naomi and her husband lived in the town of Bethlehem. There was not enough food to eat, so they moved to the land of Moab. Both of her sons married Moabite women. Their names were Orpah and Ruth.

Years later, Naomi's husband died, and so did both of her sons. Naomi decided to go back to her hometown. She told Orpah and Ruth to stay there, but Ruth told Naomi that she wanted to go with her. Ruth left everything to follow Naomi.

Ruth and Naomi traveled to Bethlehem. When they arrived, the people in the town became excited! The people were so glad to see Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth.

One day Ruth told Naomi that she would go to the fields and collect the leftover grain, so they would have grain to make bread to eat. She went to Boaz's field. She didn't know that he was part of Naomi's family. She patiently gathered grain. The people were nice to her. They let her gather a lot of grain.

Later, Boaz saw her and told his workers to give her lots of grain. He spoke to Ruth and told her not to go anywhere else—he would help her with all her needs. He liked Ruth. When Naomi saw how much grain Ruth brought home, she was excited! She knew that God had been good to them.

Naomi had a plan. She told Ruth to dress up and quietly sit down by Boaz after he had eaten supper and was asleep. Ruth did all that Naomi asked. Sure enough, Boaz woke up and found Ruth at his feet. He told her that he would marry her.

Boaz was so happy. He married Ruth! Later, Ruth and Boaz had a son. His name was Obed. He was king David's grandfather. Believe it or not, this son was even a relative of Jesus! (See Matthew 1:5.)

God took care of Naomi and Ruth. They loved God, and He made sure that they were cared for. God loves us, too. He will take care of us because He loves us.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us.
3. Ask God to help you choose to follow Him.

Preschool Memory Verse

**No one has greater
love than the one
who gives his life for
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John 15:13**



Learning Activities

Memory verse activity — Make a rap or a song using today's verse.

Have the children trace their shoes. Write the verse on the shoe.

Test your memory — Bring a suitcase. Talk about things needed to travel. Then talk about what Naomi and Ruth probably took on their trip. Ask the children to retell the story.

Bring wheat stalks.

Taste activity — Bring wheat bread. If possible, make toast with jelly. Talk about how wheat is ground into flour and used to make bread.

Bring squeeze cheese and wheat crackers.

Think about it — Talk about the choice that Ruth made to follow Naomi. Instead of going home to her family, Ruth chose to go with Naomi who was of a different nationality, different faith, and different country.

Ruth chose to go with Naomi. Talk about loyalty and what that means. Talk about loyalty to God.

Touch activity — Make puppets or paper dolls of the characters in the story.

Bring maps that show how far Naomi and Ruth travelled.

Run and play — Play "Follow the Leader."

Ruth and Naomi had many obstacles as they traveled by themselves. Arrange an obstacle course for the group. Let everyone find a partner. The partners will hook arms and together maneuver through the course.

Play a game. Have all the kids take off their shoes and line them up. Then have several children try to decide who the shoes belong to. Let everyone have a turn.

Listen — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to choose to follow Him.

Explain to your kids how they can talk to God. Use some sample sentence prayers to help them see how. Explain that their prayers do not have to be just like yours—they can talk to God just like they are talking to you!

Sing — Sing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," "Wherever He Leads, I'll Go," or another song related to the story.

Reach out — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Teach them the rap song of the memory verse. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Rooted and Grounded



Pray

Thank God for His faithfulness in taking care of us.
Praise God for sending Jesus to die for us to take away our sin.
Pray for those who need to accept Christ.
Ask God for strength to follow Him, no matter where He leads us.

Read the Bible Daily

This week, read Ruth 1-4. Also, read a chapter of Psalms and Proverbs each day.

Think About It

Ruth showed great loyalty to Naomi by following her to an unknown place. She wanted to place her trust in the One True God, Naomi's God. She was a wise woman. We would do well to follow her example. We must be loyal and faithful to those God puts in our life—family members, friends, those around us.

Do It

It would have been easier for Ruth to go home to her familiar people and places. But she took the path she thought was right. Sometimes it is easier to go along with people we know, even if we know what they are doing is wrong. We need to be strong enough to take the way that is right, even if no one else is. God will bless us for that, like He blessed Ruth.

Tell About It

Share the Bible story with a friend. Talk about how Ruth was faithful to Naomi, and how God is faithful to us.

Change it

Relationships are not always easy. Sometimes our friends make us mad or hurt our feelings. It is easy to give up and not be their friend any more. But aren't we grateful God doesn't give up on us? If you have a broken relationship with a friend, try to talk to them and make it right.

Word Art

Trace the letters.

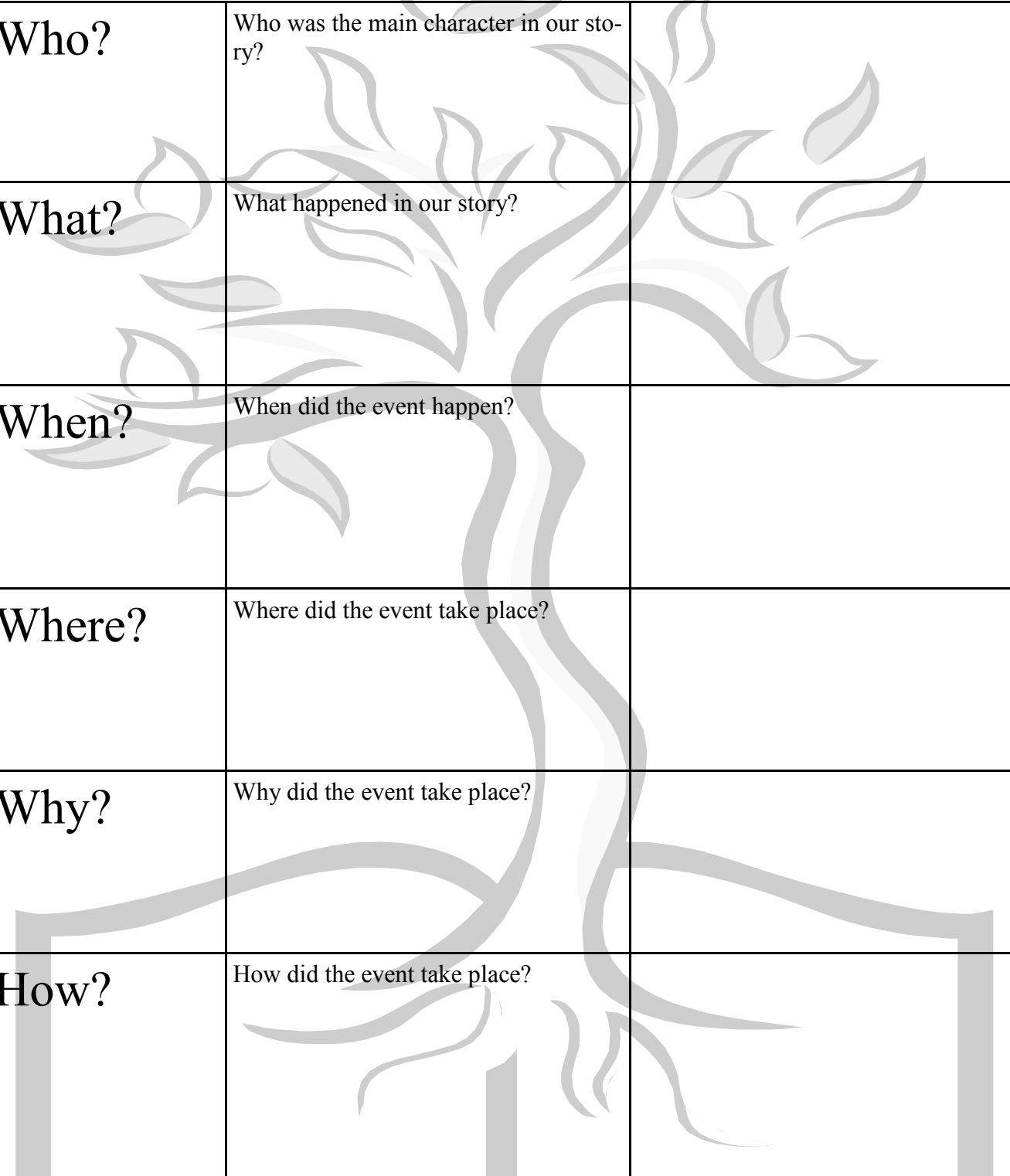
Roots

Ways

Love

GOD'S WORD

Learning the Facts



Who?	Who was the main character in our story?	
What?	What happened in our story?	
When?	When did the event happen?	
Where?	Where did the event take place?	
Why?	Why did the event take place?	
How?	How did the event take place?	

Word Search

T B T T R V P K A A J G W J K G F
P H D F S K S C L P K F V C J L M
S I R S R N R I K C V G S D C V P
Y D K V P C T A I L S R C H S D V
P S B J H H D G R Z N D F R V M L
H S R B I N F O A F S N L V P K N
S P R V A O S O C K I L U M K S J
R K N B I R B V P A H I B K R T G
N T S I S C K L R T C A N P S N H
J U H D T H J G F S O A S L N K P
H S T S I E R S K M K H D S G T J
J B N J N S D R T N F N P G N S K
G O T W D K I S D D G B H U F L R
S C K L S M H A H R F A C R J M S
M J E R O N G T D F P P T V K N T
L I F A W V U T D R S S K J P L V
F B N V K R N J O C X R D L W B M

MOAB

RUTH

ORPAH

NAOMI

SONS

HUSBAND

BOAZ

GRAIN

FIELDS

Word Search Solution

T	B	T	T	R	V	P	K	A	A	J	G	W	J	K	G	F
P	H	D	F	S	K	S	C	L	P	K	F	V	C	J	L	M
S	I	R	S	R	N	R	I	K	C	V	G	S	D	C	V	P
Y	D	K	V	P	C	T	A	I	L	S	R	C	H	S	D	V
P	S	B	J	H	H	D	G	R	Z	N	D	F	R	V	M	L
H	S	R	B	I	N	F	O	A	F	S	N	L	V	P	K	N
S	P	R	V	A	O	S	O	C	K	I	L	U	M	K	S	J
R	K	N	B	I	R	B	V	P	A	H	I	B	K	R	T	G
N	T	S	I	S	C	K	L	R	T	C	A	N	P	S	N	H
J	U	H	D	T	H	J	G	F	S	O	A	S	L	N	K	P
H	S	T	S	I	E	R	S	K	M	K	H	D	S	G	T	J
J	B	N	J	N	S	D	R	T	N	F	N	P	G	N	S	K
G	O	T	W	D	K	I	S	D	D	G	B	H	U	F	L	R
S	C	K	L	S	M	H	A	H	R	F	A	C	R	J	M	S
M	J	E	R	O	N	G	T	D	F	P	P	T	V	K	N	T
L	I	F	A	W	V	U	T	D	R	S	S	K	J	P	L	V
F	B	N	V	K	R	N	J	O	C	X	R	D	L	W	B	M

MOAB

RUTH

ORPAH

NAOMI

SONS

HUSBAND

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Preschool Word Search

F C K B P V S G B J R H
G P H F L D S T B N V S
P R G P M T S B F R G K
S B M S N A O M I Y K F
J R V M G R A I N R V H
M F P K S D K L C L B H
W B E T H L E H E M C M
P D R G F T S H F G T D
S M V D M O A B C D P F
H K N J S D N K M B J S
F R G S B O A Z F C T S
H V D B R U T H G B S T

RUTH

NAOMI

MOAB

BETHLEHEM

BOAZ

GRAIN

Preschool Word Search Solution

F	C	K	B	P	V	S	G	B	J	R	H
G	P	H	F	L	D	S	T	B	N	V	S
P	R	G	P	M	T	S	B	F	R	G	K
S	B	M	S	N	A	O	M	I	Y	K	F
J	R	V	M	G	R	A	I	N	R	V	H
M	F	P	K	S	D	K	L	C	L	B	H
W	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	C	M
P	D	R	G	F	T	S	H	F	G	T	D
S	M	V	D	M	O	A	B	C	D	P	F
H	K	N	J	S	D	N	K	M	B	J	S
F	R	G	S	B	O	A	Z	F	C	T	S
H	V	D	B	R	U	T	H	G	B	S	T

RUTH

NAOMI

MOAB

BETHLEHEM

BOAZ

GRAIN

Anagram

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AMONI

ZABO

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RINAG

GOD'S WORD

Anagram Solution

ORPAH

RUTH

NAOMI

BOAZ

OBED

BETHLEHEM

MOAB

FIELD

GRAIN

GOD'S WORD