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Note: Bold text that begins with ► indicate instructions. All other lines indicate points to make, things to say, or questions to ask. Lines in italics are quotes directly from the New International Reader's Version of the Bible.

OT 45 Ruth

Reference: Ruth 1-4

Big Idea: Jesus, our Redeemer, died to forgive our sins.

Verse: Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses...

**Note: The resources to be used with this lesson are found in the corresponding Resource file.*

A. INTRODUCTION, Length: 5-10 min.

Note: due to the length of this week's lesson, for the sake of time, there is no introduction for this lesson.

B. LESSON, Length: 20-25 min.

Resources: Story Drawing Resource, Story Signs

Materials: Colorful shirts (2), electrical/black tape, clear sandwich bags, flour, brown paper (3), paper shredder/cutter, wicker basket, chair, bread* (2), brown paper lunch bag, soda can, baby doll, dowel rods/sticks (2)**, tape, bucket, blanket

. *Alternative: cardboard pieces cut into the shape of a piece of bread

**Alternative: flyswatters

Setup:

- Turn the colorful shirts inside out. Using the black tape, make a large “R” on one and “B” on another.
- Fill one of the resealable sandwich bags with some flour.
- Using a paper shredder/cutter, cut the brown paper into small, thin strips. Put them in the bucket.
- Using a marker, write “Ruth” in large letters on the outside of the brown paper lunch bag.
- Tape the “Ruth” and “Boaz” Story signs each to the end of their own dowel/rod.
- Tape the “Sinners” sign to the back of the “Ruth” sign.
- Tape the “Jesus” sign to the back of the “Boaz” sign.

FIX SIGNS

RUTH DOGGIE BAG

N SHIRT

REDEEMER/HEART SIGN

Note: in this lesson plan, you’ll be instructed to draw various items. Use the Story Drawing Resource as an example for what to draw.

1. Introduce the story:

- a. We’ve been reading stories about from the book of Judges. The judges were special saviors God sent to rescue his people. Today’s story is from the book of Ruth.
 - i. ► **Show the children how to find Ruth in your Bible.**
- b. It’s about a guy and a girl who lived during the time of Judges, but they weren’t judges. The girl is named Ruth.
 - i. ► **Have a girl stand on the left side and hold the RUTH SIGN, with the “Ruth” side facing out.**
- c. The guy is named Boaz.
 - i. ► **Have a girl stand on the left side and hold the BOAZ SIGN, with the “Boaz” side out.**
- d. But I’m going to try to teach that the story of Ruth and Boaz really teaches us about Sinners like you and me...
 - i. ► **Flip the RUTH SIGN to “Sinners”.**
- e. ...and Jesus.
 - i. ► **Flip the BOAZ SIGN to “Jesus”.**
 - ii. ► **Have the two Sign Holders return to their seats with their SIGNS.**

2. Explain Ruth’s family tree:

- a. Before we can tell the story, we need to learn a bit about Ruth’s family. Her family starts with a lady named Naomi.
 - i. ► **Write “Naomi” in the top center of the board and circle it.**
- b. Naomi was married to a man named Elimelech.

- i. ▶ Write “Elimelech” next to Naomi and circle it.
 - ii. ▶ Connect it to Naomi with a line.
- c. Naomi had two sons: Mahlon and Kilion. (ref. Ruth 1:2)
 - i. ▶ Write “Mahlon” and “Kilion” beneath “Naomi” and circle them.
 - ii. ▶ Draw a line from each of these circles to “Naomi.”
- d. But then Elimelech died. (ref. Ruth 1:3)
 - i. ▶ Cross out Elimelech.
- e. Naomi’s two sons got married to two girls: Orpah and Ruth. (ref. Ruth 1:4)
 - i. ▶ Write “Orpah” and “Ruth” near the matching sons.
 - ii. ▶ Connect them with a line.
- f. But then Mahlon and Kilion died! (ref. Ruth 1:5)
 - i. ▶ Cross out “Mahlon” and “Kilion”.
- g. All the men in this family were dying; only the women were left.
- h. When you are a woman whose husband has died, you are called a “widow”.
 - i. ▶ **Have the children repeat “Widow” with you.**
- i. Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah were all widows.
 - i. ▶ Draw a “W” near the three women.
- j. And back then, it was hard for widows to make money and buy food.
- k. Most widows were very, very poor!
 - i. ▶ Draw a coin near Naomi and cross it out.
- l. Most widows needed to find another husband to marry.

3. Discuss leaving Moab:

- a. Naomi and her family lived in a place called Moab.
 - i. ▶ Draw the the Moab Sign in the top right.
- b. After her husband and sons died, Naomi decided to move back to Israel, the country where God’s special people lived.
- c. She wanted to go to the town of Bethlehem.
 - i. ▶ Draw the Bethlehem Sign in the bottom right corner.
- d. What else happened in Bethlehem in the Bible? (Jesus was born there.)
- e. The three ladies, Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth started on their trip.
 - i. ▶ Draw three dotted lines from the girls’ names to halfway between Moab and Bethlehem.
 - ii. ▶ Draw Ruth, Naomi, and Orpah at the end of the lines.
- f. But Orpah decided to stay in Moab.
- g. She kissed Naomi goodbye and left. (ref. Ruth 1:9)
 - i. ▶ Draw a dotted line from Orpah to Moab.
- h. But Ruth would not leave Naomi.
- i. The two of them went to Bethlehem. (ref. Ruth 1:18)
 - i. ▶ Draw dotted lines from Ruth and Naomi to Bethlehem.

4. Begin the story:

- a. Now let’s read from the Bible and see what happened in Bethlehem.
- b. But first, we need a Ruth!
 - i. ▶ **Select a girl to come forward.**
 - ii. ▶ **Give her the R Shirt to wear**
- c. Here’s what the Bible says.
- d. ***² *Ruth, who was from Moab, spoke to Naomi.*
 - i. *Let me go out to the fields.*

- ii. *I'll pick up the grain that has been left.*
 - iii. *I'll do it behind anyone who is pleased with me.*
- e. *Naomi said to her, "My daughter, go ahead."*
- f. What is grain? (Various responses.)
- g. Grain comes from a plant. It's kind of like really long, brown grass.
 - i. **► Hold up a brown paper strip.**
- h. You can cut off the top part of it and smash it up.
 - i. **► Rub the brown paper strip between your palms.**
- i. If you smash it up enough, you can make flour.
 - i. **► Hold up the bag of flour.**
- j. What can you make with flour? (Bread, cakes, etc.)
- k. Ruth and Naomi needed food to eat. And remember, widows were usually very, very poor.
 - i. **► Point to the crossed-out coin.**
- l. Ruth was going to collect grain in order to make food.
 - i. **► Scatter the brown paper strips on the floor.**
- m. Back to the Bible!
- n. ³ *So Ruth went out to a field and began to pick up grain*
 - i. **► Give the basket to Ruth.**
 - ii. **► Tell Ruth to collect the grain in her basket.**
- o. *She worked in the fields behind those who were cutting and gathering the grain.*
- p. *As it turned out, she was working in a field that belonged to Boaz. He was from the family of Elimelech. - Ruth 2*
 - i. **► After she gathers all the grain, Ruth sit in the chair for a moment while you teach.**

5. Discuss Boaz:

- a. The Bible says Ruth was picking up grain in a field that belonged to a man named Boaz.
- i. **► Draw Boaz near Bethlehem.**
- b. And Boaz' family members was Elimelech.
 - i. **► Draw a long line from Boaz to Elimelech.**
- c. Who was Elimelech? (Naomi's husband who died.)
- d. Do you think this is good news or bad news for Ruth and Naomi, that Boaz was a family member of Elimelech? (Various responses.)

6. Continue the story:

- a. We need a Boaz.
 - i. **► Select a child to come up and wear the B shirt.**
 - ii. **► Tell Ruth to stand up and Boaz to stand near her.**
- b. Let's go back to the Bible.
- c. ⁸ *So Boaz said to Ruth...*
- d. **► Tell Boaz to repeat the following after you:**
 - i. *Dear woman, listen to me.*
 - ii. *Don't pick up grain in any other field...*
 - iii. *Stay here with my female servants.*
 - iv. ⁹ *Keep your eye on the field where the men are cutting grain.*
 - v. *Walk behind the women who are gathering it.*
 - vi. *Pick up the grain that is left.*
 - vii. *I've told the men not to touch you.*
 - viii. *When you are thirsty, go and get a drink.*

- e. *10 When Ruth heard that, she bowed down with her face to the ground.*
 - i. **► Tell Ruth to bow to the ground.**
- f. **** [Ruth] asked...*
 - i. *Why are you being so kind to me?*
 - ii. *I'm from another country.*
- g. **** ¹¹ Boaz replied...*
 - i. *I've been told all about you.*
 - ii. *I've heard about everything you have done...*
 - iii. *...for your mother-in-law since your husband died.*
 - iv. *¹² May the Lord reward you for what you have done.*
 - v. *May the God of Israel bless you richly.*
- h. **** ¹³ Ruth said...*
 - i. *Sir, I hope you will continue to be kind to me.*
 - ii. *You have comforted me.*
 - iii. *You have spoken kindly to me. - Ruth 2*
- i. **► Tell Ruth to stand back up.**

7. **Discuss the previous verses:**

- a. What did Boaz tell Ruth to do? (Keep coming to his field to pick up grain.)
- b. Ruth didn't know by Boaz was being so kind to her.
- c. Why was Boaz being so kind? (He'd heard about Ruth coming to help Naomi.)
- d. Does Boaz seem like a nice guy? Why? (Various responses.)

8. **Continue the story:**

- a. Let's get back to the book of Ruth.
- b. *¹⁴ When it was time to eat, Boaz spoke to Ruth again.*
- c. **► Tell Boaz to repeat the following after you.**
 - i. *Come over here.*
 - ii. *Have some bread. Dip it in the wine vinegar.*
- d. *She sat down with the workers.*
 - i. **► Tell Ruth to sit in the chair.**
- e. *Then Boaz offered her some grain that had been cooked.*
 - i. **► Give the bread to Boaz.**
 - ii. **► Have him give it to Ruth.**
- f. *She ate all she wanted. She even had some left over.*
 - i. **► Have Boaz put a piece of bread in a brown paper lunch bag.**
 - ii. **► Have him curl the bag closed and write "Ruth" on it with a marker.**
 - iii. **► Tell him to give the bag to Ruth.**
 - iv. **► Tell Boaz to rejoin the rest of the children for a little bit.**
- g. *¹⁵ Ruth got up to pick up more grain.*
 - i. **► Spread more "grain" on the ground.**
 - ii. **► Tell Ruth to gather it all into her basket.**
- h. *¹⁷ So Ruth picked up grain in the field until evening. ¹⁸ She carried it back to town.*
 - i. **► Have Ruth walk with her basket and her lunch bag to the other side of the room.**
 - ii. **► Then, have her walk back up front.**
- i. *Her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered.*
 - i. **► Instruct Ruth to show her full basket to the children.**
- j. *Ruth also brought out the food that was left over from the lunch Boaz had given her.*

- i. **► Tell Ruth to show her lunch bag to the children.**
- k. *She gave it to Naomi. - Ruth 2*
 - i. **► Take the basket and the lunch bag from Ruth.**

9. **Review the story so far:**

- a. Ruth and Naomi had their husbands die.
- b. What were they called? (Widows.)
- c. And if you were a widow, you were really, really...? (Poor.)
- d. If you're poor, you can buy food to eat!
- e. But do Ruth and Naomi have food now? (Yes.)
- f. Why do they have food? (Because Boaz let them pick grain.)
- g. Did Boaz make Ruth and Naomi pay for the food? (No.)

10. **Continue the story:**

- a. Let's go back to the book of Ruth and find out what Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law, said.
- b. ¹⁹ *Her mother-in-law asked her...*
- c. **► Read the following in your "Naomi" voice:**
 - i. *Where did you pick up grain today? Where did you work? May the man who noticed you be blessed!"*
- d. *Then Ruth told her about the man whose field she had worked in.*
- e. *She said...*
- f. **► Tell Ruth to repeat the following after you.**
 - i. *The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz..*
- g. **► Read the following in your "Naomi" voice:**
 - i. ²⁰ *May the Lord bless him!*
 - ii. *The Lord is still being kind to those who are living and those who are dead.*
 - iii. *That man is a close relative of ours. He's one of our family protectors.*
 - iv. ²² *Go with the women who work for him. You might be harmed if you go to someone else's field.*
- h. ²³ *So Ruth stayed close to the women who worked for Boaz as she picked up grain.*
 - i. **► Spread some more grain on the ground.**
 - ii. **► Give Ruth her basket back and tell her to gather the grain.**
- i. *She worked until the time when all the barley and wheat had been harvested. And she lived with her mother-in-law. - Ruth 2*

11. **Discuss the previous verses:**

- a. Was Naomi happy or sad when she found out that Ruth was in Boaz's field? (Happy.)
- b. Naomi knew who Boaz was.
- c. She called Boaz a "family protector".
- d. Another word for that is "Redeemer."
- i. **► Write "Redeemer" at the bottom of the board.**
- ii. **► Draw an arrow from it to Boaz.**
 - e. A redeemer was a family member who could marry a widow.
 - f. It worked like this: one man and one woman would get married.
 - i. **► Draw a stick woman and man on the left side of the board.**
 - ii. **► Draw a heart above them.**
 - g. Sometimes, a husband would die.
 - i. **► Cross out the husband.**
 - h. The wife would be a widow; that's what happened to Ruth and Naomi.

- i. And widows were usually very, very...? (Poor.)
- j. The redeemer was a person who could become the widow's new husband.
- k. It was usually a family member of the husband who died, like, perhaps, his brother.
 - i. ► Draw another stick man to the right of the crossed-out stick man.
- l. This family member, like a brother, was the redeemer.
 - i. ► Draw a line from the word "Redeemer" to the new stick man.
- m. If that man didn't want to marry a widow...
 - i. ► Cross out the second stick man.
- n. ...another family member, another brother or cousin or uncle, could be the redeemer.
 - i. ► Draw another stick man to the right of the previous.
- o. And Boaz was one of Ruth's redeemers.

12. Continue the story:

- a. Now that we know that Boaz is one of Ruth's redeemers, let's go back to the Bible.
- b. *One day Ruth's mother-in-law Naomi spoke to her.*
- c. ¹ *She said...*
- d. ► Read the following in your best "Naomi" voice:
 - i. *My daughter, I must find a home for you. It should be a place where you will be provided for. ² You have been working with the women who work for Boaz. He's a relative of ours. Tonight he'll be separating the straw from his barley on the threshing floor. ³ So wash yourself. Put on some perfume. And put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor. But don't let Boaz know you are there. Wait until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴ Notice where he lies down. Then go over and uncover his feet. Lie down there. He'll tell you what to do.*
- e. ⁵ *Ruth answered...*
- f. ► Have Ruth repeat the following after you:
 - i. *I'll do everything you say.*
- g. ⁶ *So she went down to the threshing floor. She did everything her mother-in-law had told her to do. - Ruth 3*
- h. Naomi had some strange instructions for Ruth.
- i. You might be a little confused as to why Naomi told Ruth to do these things.
- j. Let's keep reading from the Bible.
- k. I think you'll understand it better if we keep reading.

13. Continue the story:

- a. ⁷ *When Boaz had finished eating and drinking, he was in a good mood.*
 - i. ► Tell Boaz to come back up.
 - ii. ► Give Boaz a soda can and have him pretend to drink it.
- b. *He went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile.*
 - i. ► Tell Boaz to lay on the floor.
 - ii. ► Put a blanket over all of Boaz, except for his head.
 - iii. ► Tell Boaz to pretend to sleep.
- c. *Then Ruth approached quietly.*
 - i. ► Tell Ruth to tiptoe over to Boaz.
- d. *She uncovered his feet and lay down there.*
 - i. ► Have Ruth uncover Boaz's feet.
 - ii. ► Have Ruth lay down on the floor at Boaz's feet.
- e. ⁸ *In the middle of the night, something surprised Boaz and woke him up.*
 - i. ► Clap your hands loudly.

- ii. **► Tell Boaz to sit up.**
- f. *He turned and found a woman lying there at his feet.*
- g. ⁹ *He asked...*
- h. **► Tell Boaz to repeat after you:**
 - i. *Who are you?*
- i. *She said...*
- j. **► Tell Ruth to sit up and repeat after you:**
 - i. *I'm Ruth.*
 - ii. *You are my redeemer [family protector].*
 - iii. *So take good care of me by making me your wife. - Ruth 3*

14. **Discuss the previous verses:**

- a. Ruth went to Boaz at nighttime.
- b. She laid by his feet and waited for him to wake up.
- c. Ruth, what did you ask Boaz to do? (To marry her.)
- d. She said, "Boaz, you're my redeemer."
 - i. **► Point to "Redeemer" on the board.**
- e. She asked Boaz to marry her.

15. **Continue the story:**

- a. Let's continue from the Bible and see what Boaz said to Ruth
- b. ¹⁰ *[Boaz] replied...*
- c. **► Tell Boaz to repeat the following after you:**
 - i. *Dear woman, may the Lord bless you.*
 - ii. *You are showing even more kindness now than you did earlier.*
 - iii. *You didn't run after the younger men...*
 - iv. *...whether they were rich or poor.*
 - v. ¹¹ *Dear woman, don't be afraid.*
 - vi. *I'll do for you everything you ask.*
 - vii. *You can be sure that the Lord lives.*
 - viii. *And you can be just as sure that I'll help you.*
 - ix. *Lie down here until morning.*
- d. ¹⁴ *So she stayed at his feet until morning.*
 - i. **► Tell them both to lay back down.**
 - ii. **► After a moment, have them both pretend to wake up.**
- e. ¹⁵ *He said to Ruth...*
- f. **► Tell Boaz to repeat the following after you:**
 - i. *Bring me the coat you have around you.*
 - ii. *Hold it out.*
- g. *So she did.*
 - i. **► Give the extra shirt to Ruth.**
 - ii. **► Tell her to hold it like a bowl between her arms.**
- h. *He poured more than fifty pounds of barley into it and helped her pick it up.*
 - i. **► Hand the bucket filled with brown paper strips to Boaz.**
 - ii. **► Tell him to dump it into Ruth's shirt.**
 - iii. **► Help Ruth wrap up the "grain" in the shirt, sort of like a bag.**
- i. *Then he went back to town. - Ruth 3*
 - i. **► Tell Boaz to walk across the room and then rejoin the children.**

- ii. **▶ Tell Ruth to sit back in her chair.**

16. Conclude the Bible story:

- a. Boaz did redeem Ruth.
- b. He had to pay a price to
- c. Here's what the Bible says.
- d. ¹³ So Boaz got married to Ruth. She became his wife.
 - i. **▶ Tell Boaz and Ruth to stand on either side of you.**
- e. The Lord blessed her so that she became pregnant. And she had a son. - Ruth 4
 - i. **▶ Hand the baby to Ruth.**
- f. The Bible says Ruth named the baby Obed.
 - i. **▶ Write "Obed" near the picture of Ruth.**
 - ii. **▶ Draw an arrow from Ruth to "Obed".**
- g. And Obed grew up and had a son, and that son grew up and had a son, and over and over and over again...
- h. And do you know who Obed's great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great... grandson was?
- i. Jesus!
 - i. **▶ Draw Jesus in the center of the board and label him.**
 - ii. **▶ Draw an arrow from "Obed" to Jesus.**
- j. **▶ Invite Ruth and Boaz to sit with the rest of the children.**

17. Discuss Jesus the redeemer:

- a. **▶ Grab the Signs, one in each hand.**
- b. **▶ As you mention Ruth, Boaz, Jesus, and Sinners in the section below, show that side of the sign to children.**
- c. What big problem did Ruth have in today's story? (She was a widow.)
 - i. **▶ Show Ruth.**
- d. And widows were very, very...? (Poor.)
- e. Who rescued Ruth and loved her? (Boaz.)
 - i. **▶ Show Boaz**
- f. Boaz was Ruth's redeemer.
 - i. **▶ Touch Ruth and Boaz together.**
- g. He rescued her from being a poor widow; he loved her and married her!
- h. But do you know that the Bible calls Jesus our redeemer?
 - i. **▶ Flip to Jesus.**
- i. Jesus is the redeemer of sinners.
 - i. **▶ Flip to Sinners.**
- j. If Jesus is our redeemer, does that mean we are widows and Jesus married us? (No.)
- k. You see, we have a bigger problem than Ruth had.
- l. We're sinners, which means...what? (We've disobeyed God.)
- m. Sinners are disobeyers who need God to forgive them.
- n. Just like Ruth was a poor, lost widow...
 - i. **▶ Flip to Ruth.**
- o. ...you and I were poor, lost sinners.
 - i. **▶ Flip to Sinners.**
- p. And just like Boaz redeemed Ruth by marrying her and loving her...
 - i. **▶ Flip to Boaz and Ruth.**
 - ii. **▶ Touch Boaz and Ruth together.**

- q. ...Jesus redeemed and rescued us from sin by dying on the cross for us.
 - i. ► **Flip to Jesus and Sinners.**
 - ii. ► **Touch Jesus and Sinners together.**
- r. All of our sins are forgiven!
- s. Boaz redeemed Ruth...
 - i. ► **Flip to Boaz.**
- t. ...and Ruth became his wife.
 - i. ► **Flip to Ruth.**
 - ii. ► **Write “Wife” on the Ruth Side.**
- u. Jesus died to redeem us...
 - i. ► **Flip to Jesus.**
- v. ...and Sinners became forgiven!
 - i. ► **Flip to Sinners.**
 - ii. ► **Write “Forgiven” on the Sinners Side.**

18. Introduce the big idea:

- a. When we think about Ruth and Boaz, we should remember Jesus and Sinners.
- b. Because just like Boaz redeemed Ruth from being a poor widow...
- c. ...Jesus died to redeem us and forgive our sins.
- d. And that’s today’s big idea: Jesus, our Redeemer, died to forgive our sins.
 - i. ► **Repeat the big idea with the children several times, teaching them the motions below.**

Motions for the Big Idea:

Jesus - make a cross with your forearms

Redeemer - cross the first two fingers of each hand, cross your forearms in an “X”, then pull apart for hands until they are even with your shoulders, facing out, with fingers still crossed*

Died - cross your arms over your chest

Forgive - hold left palm up, brush it off twice with the fingertips of your other hand**

Sins - two thumbs down

**This is the ASL sign for “redemption”. [See a demonstration.](#)*

***This is the ASL sign for “forgive.” [See a demonstration.](#)*

C. APPLICATION/INSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, Length: 15 min.

Resources: Question Sheet, Instruction Verses

Materials: Crayons

1. Review the story:

- a. Who was the redeemer in today's story? (Boaz)
- b. Who did he rescue by redeeming and marrying? (Ruth.)
- c. Who is the Redeemer of sinners? (Jesus.)
- d. The word "Redeemer" can be kind of confusing.
- e. If we are confused about something about Jesus, where is the best place to look? (The Bible.)
- f. The question we'll try to answer is this: What does it mean that Jesus is our redeemer?
 - i. **► Set the Question Sheet on the table.**

2. Read the first verse:

- a. **► Set the first instruction verse on the table. (Rom. 3:23)**
- b. **► Read (or have a child read) it.**
- c. What does this verse teach us? (Everyone has sinned.)
 - i. **► Flip the verse over and write "Everyone has sinned."**
- d. God's glory means that he is great and perfect.
- e. Every human falls short of obeying God perfectly.
- f. What does this have to do with redeeming us? Let's read the next verse.

3. Read the second verse:

- a. **► Set the first instruction verse on the table. (Rom. 6:23a)**
- b. **► Read (or have a child read) it.**
- c. What do we earn when we sin? (Death.)
- d. Think of it this way: when you mow your grandma's lawn, the pay you get could be \$5.
- e. That's a good kind of pay!
- f. When you punch a police officer in the nose, the pay you get could be spending time in jail.
- g. That's a bad kind of pay.
- h. So, what does the Bible say... when we sin, what pay do we get? (Death.)
 - i. **► Flip the verse over and write "Sin = death" on the back.**
- i. So, if we have all sinned...
 - i. **► Point to "Everyone has sinned."**
- j. **...does that mean we all have earned the pay of death? (Yes.)**
 - i. **► Point to "Sin = death".**
- k. Looks like we need someone to help us. Maybe a redeemer!

4. Read the third verse:

- a. Before I read this, you need to know that the word "him" in this verse stands for "Jesus."
- b. **► Write "Jesus" above the word "Him".**
- c. **► Set the first instruction verse on the table. (Eph. 1:7.)**
- d. **► Read (or have a child read) it, saying "Jesus" after you read "him".**
- e. What word in this verse sounds like "redeemer"? (Redemption.)
 - i. **► Circle the word "Redemption" with a green crayon.**
- f. This verse says redemption is "the forgiveness of our trespasses."
- g. "Trespasses" is a fancy word for sin.
 - i. **► Circle the word "trespasses" with a black crayon.**

- ii. **► Write “Sin” above it.**
- h. Because of what Jesus did, all of our sins are forgiven.
- i. But let’s read this verse again to see what Jesus had to do so our sins could be forgiven.
- j. **► Read the verse again, emphasizing “through his blood.”**
- k. Jesus redeemed us, forgiving our sins, through his blood.
- l. When did Jesus bleed in the Bible? (When he died on the cross for our sins.)
- m. Jesus bled and died so we could be redeemed, so we could have our sins forgiven.
 - i. **► Flip the verse over and write “Jesus bled and died”.**
- n. Do you remember from our other verse? What pay do we get when we sin? (Death.)
 - i. **► Point to “Sin = death”.**
- o. And what did Jesus do to forgive our sins? (He bled and died.)
 - i. **► Point to “Jesus bled and died”.**

5. Answer the question:

- a. Now I think we know enough to answer our question: what does it mean that Jesus is our redeemer?
 - i. **► Set the Question Sheet back in the center of the table.**
- b. We know that everyone has sinned.
 - i. **► Set “Everyone has sinned” to the left of the Question Sheet.**
- c. We know that, when we sin, the pay we get is death.
 - i. **► Set “Sin = death” to the right of the Question Sheet.**
- d. And we know that Jesus bled and died so we could have our sins forgiven.
 - i. **► Set “Jesus bled and died” to the top of the Question Sheet.**
- e. So here’s the answer...
- f. **► Have four different children fill in the four lines of blanks on the Question Sheet.**
 - i. Line 1: Jesus bled
 - ii. Line 2: and died to
 - iii. Line 3: pay the price
 - iv. Line 4: for our sins.
- g. **► Repeat the question and answer with the children several times.**
 - i. Ask: What does it mean that Jesus is our redeemer?
 - ii. Repeat together: Jesus bled and died to pay the price for our sins.

D. VERSE ACTIVITY, Length: 15 min.

Resources: Verse Cards

Materials: Popsicle Stick

Verse: Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses... (ESV)

Setup:

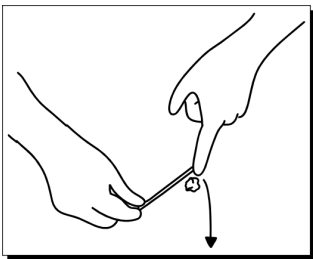
- Spread the Verse Cards on the table.

1. Discuss the verse and the activity:

- ▶ Read the verse as a group.
- This is one of the verses we just talked about.
- What does "trespasses" mean? (Sins.)
 - ▶ Write "Sins" above the word "Trespasses".
- Who is the "him" in this verse? (Jesus.)
 - ▶ Draw a cross above the word "Jesus".
- When did Jesus bleed? (When he died on a cross.)
- Whose price did Jesus pay when he died on the cross? (The price for our sin.)
- To learn this verse, we're going to play hockey with verse words and popsicle sticks.
- The popsicle sticks are to remind us of the long, brown plant Ruth picked up, grain.
- What did grain have to do with today's story? (Ruth collected grain.)
- ▶ Take the extra paper wad and show the children how to flick it down the table with the popsicle stick.
(See the diagram below for instructions.)

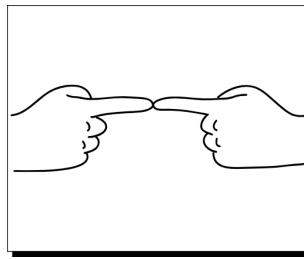
2. Do the activity:

- ▶ Have a child select a Verse Card from the table.
- ▶ Erase the words written on the card from the board.
- ▶ Wad the Verse Card into a ball and set it at one end of the table.
- ▶ Have another child go to the opposite end of the table and form a "goal" by placing their fists on the table and touching the tips of their index fingers together. (See the diagram below for instructions.)
- ▶ Hand the first child a popsicle stick.
- ▶ Tell them to take the paper wad and attempt to flick/shoot it into the "goal".
- ▶ Read the verse together, teaching them the motions below as those words are erased.
- ▶ Repeat the above steps for each verse card.



Shooting with the Stick:

Set the paper wad on the table. Anchor the stick between the thumb and index finger of one hand. Pull back the other end of the stick with the index finger of the other hand, then release.



Forming the "Goal":

Place your fists on the table and touch the tips of your index fingers together.

Motions for the Verse:

Him - make a cross with your forearms

Redemption - cross the first two fingers of each hand, cross your forearms in an "X", then pull apart for hands until they

are even with your shoulders, facing out, with fingers still crossed*

Blood - point to each wrist, where Jesus' nails would have been placed

Forgiveness - hold left palm up, brush it off twice with the fingertips of your other hand**

Trespases - two thumbs down

**This is the ASL sign for "redemption". [See a demonstration.](#)*

***This is the ASL sign for "forgive." [See a demonstration.](#)*

E. REVIEW ACTIVITY, Length: 15 min.

Resources:

Materials: Popsicle sticks, masking tape, large basket

Setup:

- Set the basket on the floor.
- Make a long line on the floor with masking tape, about 10 feet away from the basket.

1. Explain the activity:

- a. As we answer questions about today's story, we'll try to throw some pretend grain...
 - i. ► **Hold up a popsicle stick.**
- b. ...into a basket.
 - i. ► **Hold up the basket.**
- c. What does baskets filled with grain have to do with today's story? (Ruth gathered grain in Boaz's field.)
- d. ► **Hand each child a piece of grain (popsicle stick).**
- e. ► **Give them about 2-3 minutes to decorate their stick using markers, so they'll know which one is their stick.**

2. Do the activity:

- a. ► **Have each child stand behind the line.**
- b. ► **On a count of three, have them toss their stick towards the basket.**
- c. ► **Determine which stick is closest to the basket.**
 - i. Note: any children whose stick lands in the basket is the winner.
- d. ► **Ask the winner(s) a question from below, then reveal the correct answer.**
 - i. Note: if that child has already answered a question, they can pick another child to answer the question (a child who hasn't answered a question yet).
- e. ► **Have the children gather their sticks.**
- f. ► **Repeat the above steps until all the questions below have been answered.**

Questions // Answers

1. What happened to Naomi's sons and husband? // They died.
2. Who went with Naomi to Bethlehem? // Ruth
3. What was life like for widows back then? // They were poor
4. How did Ruth and Naomi get food to eat? // Ruth gathered grain from the field
5. Who's field did Ruth go to? // Boaz
6. Who was Ruth's redeemer? // Boaz
7. What was the name of Ruth and Boaz's child? // Obed
8. Who was Ruth and Boaz's great-great-great-great etc. grandson? // Jesus
9. What does it mean that Jesus is our redeemer? // He bled and died to pay the price for our sins.
10. What is today's big idea? // Jesus, our Redeemer, died to forgive our sins
11. What is today's Bible verse? // Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses... (ESV)

Parent Email Information

To help your students' parents reinforce the lesson, you may wish to email the following information

OT 45 Ruth

Reference: Ruth 1-4

Big Idea: Jesus, our Redeemer, died to forgive our sins.

Verse: Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses...

Motions for the Big Idea:

Jesus - make a cross with your forearms

Redeemer - cross the first two fingers of each hand, cross your forearms in an "X", then pull apart for hands until they are even with your shoulders, facing out, with fingers still crossed*

Died - cross your arms over your chest

Forgive - hold left palm up, brush it off twice with the fingertips of your other hand**

Sins - two thumbs down

**This is the ASL sign for "redemption". [See a demonstration.](#)*

***This is the ASL sign for "forgive." [See a demonstration.](#)*

Motions for the Verse:

Him - make a cross with your forearms

Redemption - cross the first two fingers of each hand, cross your forearms in an "X", then pull apart for hands until they are even with your shoulders, facing out, with fingers still crossed*

Blood - point to each wrist, where Jesus' nails would have been placed

Forgiveness - hold left palm up, brush it off twice with the fingertips of your other hand**

Trespasses - two thumbs down

**This is the ASL sign for "redemption". [See a demonstration.](#)*

***This is the ASL sign for "forgive." [See a demonstration.](#)*

Questions to Ask Throughout the Week

1. What happened to Naomi's sons and husband? // They died.
2. Who went with Naomi to Bethlehem? // Ruth
3. What was life like for widows back then? // They were poor
4. How did Ruth and Naomi get food to eat? // Ruth gathered grain from the field
5. Who's field did Ruth go to? // Boaz
6. Who was Ruth's redeemer? // Boaz
7. What was the name of Ruth and Boaz's child? // Obed
8. Who was Ruth and Boaz's great-great-great-great etc. grandson? // Jesus
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Google Docs Links:

