



L E S S O N 1 3
R U T H
THE GOD WITH A PLAN

MATCH'EM

Read the book of Ruth and then match the following characters and places to their descriptions:

1. Naomi	A. Redeemed Naomi's property and Ruth
2. Ruth	B. Naomi's husband
3. Elimelech	C. Naomi and Ruth returned to this town
4. Mahlon	D. Lost her husband and both sons
5. Bethlehem	E. Ruth's nation
6. Boaz	F. The tribe whose land included Bethlehem
7. Judah	G. Ruth's first husband
8. Moab	H. Met Boaz in a field

A MATCH MADE IN BETHLEHEM

What did Ruth promise Naomi (1:16)? Memorize that verse.

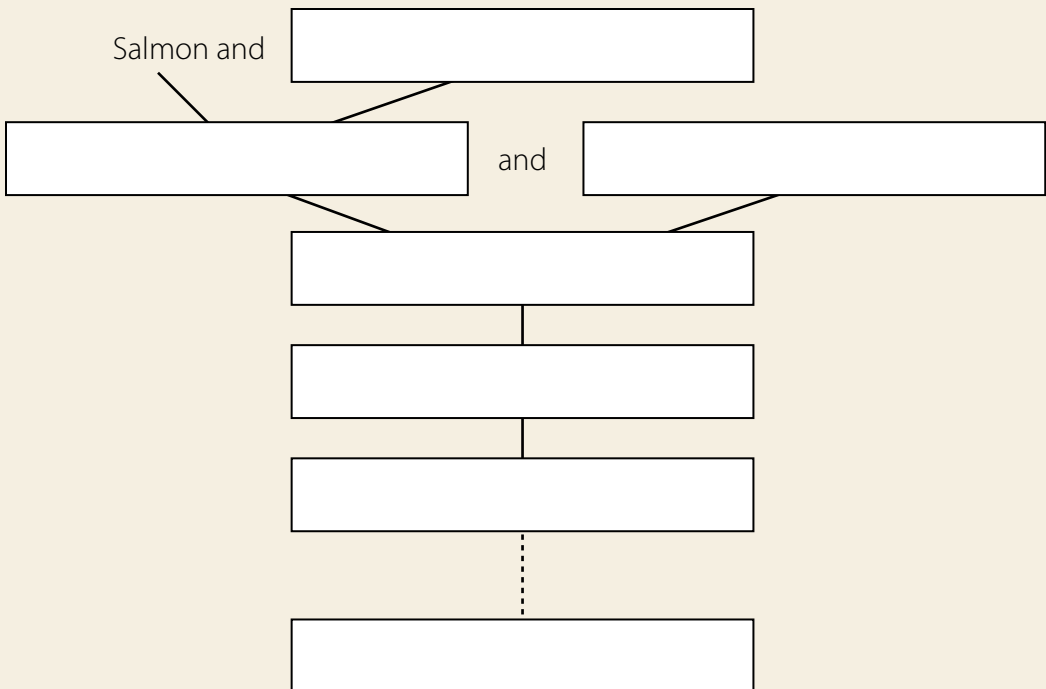
How did Ruth keep her promise?

A MATCH MADE BY GOD

Things looked bleak for Ruth after her husband died. Then Ruth discovered that God had a wonderful plan for her life. God's plan, however, went far beyond her imagination.

Ruth came from the country of Moab. She was not a Jew. Boaz's mother, (Matt. 1:5), the harlot of Jericho, was also a Gentile. God used both women in His plan to bring the Messiah. According to Ruth 4:21–22 and Matthew 1:5–6, Ruth and Rahab became the great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother of King . Their most famous descendant was (Matt. 1:16).

Use Ruth 4:21–22 and Matthew 1:5–6 to fill in the family tree.



3 KEYS TO GOOD RELATIONSHIPS

1.

2.

3.

BOAZ & CHRIST—RUTH & YOU

When Naomi wanted to sell her land, the law required that she let a relative of her husband buy back the land (Lev. 25:25). The closest relative had first rights to the land. He was called the kinsman redeemer (4:1–10). This law kept the land in the family. Israelites called it “redeeming the land.”

Define *redeem*:

According to custom, Naomi’s kinsman redeemer gave his sandal to Boaz. This showed that he gave up his right to be the first kinsman redeemer. He wanted the land, but the law required that he take Ruth too (Deut. 25:5–10).

Boaz redeemed the land because he loved Ruth. He also wanted to help Naomi. When he redeemed the land, he also redeemed Ruth.

Christ bought you out of sin. You were born in bondage to sin, but Christ bought you back (redeemed you) with His own blood. Born a human, Jesus is related by blood to all men. He became our kinsman redeemer. (See 1 Cor. 6:19–20; Eph. 1:7–8; 1 Pet. 1:18–19.)

Do you think Ruth became a good wife to Boaz? Why or why not?

Boaz treated Ruth kindly. He bought Naomi's land so that he could help Naomi and marry Ruth. Do you think he was a good husband for Ruth? Why or why not?

THINK ABOUT IT

Why is the book of Ruth in the Bible? What is so important about this story that God wanted it included in His Word?