



3rd - 5th

November 5-6, 2016

DATE

Ruth

LESSON TITLE

Ruth; Jeremiah 29:13

WHERE TO FIND IT

We have freedom to follow Jesus.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you all have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

This is the last day of the Real Encounters with God series. And it's a big push for invitation! Make sure to tell kids, that next weekend only, they'll get something really special to help them and their friends explore God's story with their families at home! (More details in the lesson.)

check-in/out

When kids leave, have them show their postcard invitation to the person who picks them up!

large group heads up

Ruth got to be part of God's story because of her friend Naomi. And we can invite our friends to be part of God's story too!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

***Before you begin, decide how many small groups you plan to have and divide your Taboo Junior cards so that each group has an even amount.**

TABOO (DON'T SAY THE WORD)

- Split kids into small groups.
- Choose one kid to be a human “buzzer” and one kid to be a “timer.” (Give the timer a **stopwatch**.)
- Split the rest of the kids into two teams.
- Each team takes turn playing Taboo. Here's how it works:
 - Team 1 chooses a person to be the first **clue-giver**
 - The clue-giver gets a **Taboo Junior card** that has one main word that they are trying to get their team to guess. Their job is to describe the word without saying any of the other “taboo” words. (No acting either!)
 - The timer watches the clock and gives the clue-giver 1 minute to go through as many cards as the team can correctly guess.
 - The human buzzer makes a “buzz” noise every time the clue-giver says one of the taboo words.
 - Then it's Team 2's turn!
 - Go back and forth, keeping score to see which team correctly guesses the most cards without having used the taboo words.
 - **Important note:** Some kids may struggle to read! Be careful not to put any kids on the spot. Let them *volunteer* to be clue-givers!
- Play for about 10 minutes, then stop to ask the following questions before Large Group.
- ****If you run out of cards early, you can switch with another group. Also, make sure to collect cards at the end!***

TALK ABOUT IT

- What made that game difficult?
- What does it mean to be “free”?

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that Ruth followed God because of her friend Naomi, (2) recognize that Ruth was free to become part of God's family, and (3) identify one friend they want to follow Jesus.

Why? God wants everyone to be part of his family, and it's our job to tell our friends about his love.

Tip: Make sure to collect the scratch tools after kids are finished with their postcards!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Who were Ruth and Naomi? (Friends; Ruth was from Moab and not part of God's family; Naomi was from Israel and part of God's family; other details as desired.)
2. Why did Ruth want to go with Naomi? (She wanted Naomi's people to be her people and Naomi's God to be her God!)
3. What happened when Ruth and Naomi got back to Israel? (Ruth began gleaning for their food, Boaz noticed Ruth, Naomi had an idea for Ruth to ask Boaz to marry her, Ruth obeyed Naomi, Ruth and Boaz got married, Ruth became part of God's family, one day Jesus was born into Ruth's family line.)
4. What's one way Ruth experienced freedom in today's story? (Let kids come up with ideas, but include that she was free to be part of God's family)
5. Who's one friend you want to be part of God's family?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid a ***magic scratch postcard***
- Place the non-scratch side up first:
 - Have kids write their friend's name on the top line (right side)
 - Give them an ***invitation sticker*** to stick on the message side (left)
- Turn it over so the scratch-off side is face up and give them a ***scratch tool***.
 - Ask them what they think their friend would love most about Kids' Club. Then draw or write it on the front of the postcard! (*Then collect the scratch tools!*)
- Encourage kids to show a grownup and to tell them that next weekend, each family will get a tear-off calendar to help us explore God's story all year long!

***Pray together, asking God to help us show his love to our friends this week!**

(Continued on next page.)

Practice the verse for one more week! Memorize the verse with **motions**! Break it up into the following sections, and have kids repeat after you:

- **Jeremiah 29:13** (Hold hands facing up, like you're reading a book.)
 - **You** (Point forward) **will seek me** (Make binoculars with your hands and look around the room.)
 - **And find me** (Lift hands up and shake them around.)
 - **When you** (Point forward.) **seek me** (Make binoculars with your hands and look around the room.)
 - **With all** (Spread arms open wide.) **your heart** (Put both hands on your chest.)
- After you've done it with kids a few times, say the verse and let them do the motions themselves!

Extra time? Play Taboo Junior again!

special notes

Today is about freedom, but what we really want to focus on is how everyone is free to be part of God's family, which means we're free to tell all of our friends about his love!

presenter tips

Preview today's videos (including a brand new God's Story) at CrossroadsKidsClub.net/weekend.

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the idea of freedom.

Notes:

***Click to play intro music.**

- **Welcome:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here!
- **Say:** Tell me about that game you were just playing. What was hard about it? (Let kids respond.)
- **Ask:** That's right. You weren't FREE to use certain words that would have been really, really helpful. Okay, so that game helped you understand how it feels *not* to be free. But what do you guys think it means TO be free? (Let a few kids respond.)
- **Say:** That's right, freedom means being able to do certain things, and not be held back by something.
- **Say:** That kind of reminds me of a movie called "How to Train Your Dragon." In it, the dragon, named Toothless, broke his tail. He couldn't fly anymore. So a kid named Hiccup actually fixed it for him. Let's find out what happened once he did.
- **Video: How to Tame Your Dragon "Accidental Flight"**
- **Ask:** Once the tail was fixed, was the dragon free to fly again? (Let kids say: yes). Yes! And just imagine how it would feel to be able to fly, freely wherever you want!

GOD GIVES US FREEDOM

Main Point: Understand that people who met God experienced freedom, because God was more powerful than their sadness, pain, sickness or fear.

Notes:

- **Say:** Freedom to be fearless and joyful, no matter what else is going on, is something God wants for his whole family.
- **Say:** In the past few weeks, we've been hearing about a few people who got actually got to meet God. And when they did, they got to experience freedom, in lots of different ways. Here are a few examples:
- **Click to show image of Elijah:** A guy named Elijah was free to tell God how discouraged he was. And God encouraged him—or helped him feel better—by speaking in a gentle whisper.
- **Click to show image of Sermon on the Mount:** Jesus gave a sermon on a mountain and then healed many people and even calmed a storm, setting people free from sickness, pain and fear.
- **Click to show image of Jacob:** A guy named Jacob was afraid to obey God, because God wanted him to talk to his brother, who was really angry. He met God by wrestling with him all night. After Jacob met God, he was free to obey God without fear. He knew God would be with him!
- **Click to show image of Pools of Bethesda:** A guy who had been sick for many years sat by a pool called Bethesda. There, he met Jesus, who healed him! He was free to walk again.
- **Ask:** Can you guys think of a time when you felt really free? (Let 2-4 kids share examples; try to focus on feeling joyful and fearless, not without rules.)

WE ARE ALL FREE TO FOLLOW GOD

Main Goal: Remind kids of what Jeremiah 29:13 says, what it means and how it ties in to freedom!

Notes:

- **Say:** The good news is, God wants all of us to experience his freedom. Remember the verse we've been hearing? It's Jeremiah 29:13, which says this:
- **Verse slide: Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.**
- **Say:** This is great news because it means that ALL of us are free to follow God with our whole hearts. And when we do that, we find him, which means we get to meet God too!
- **Say:** Today, we're going to talk about a woman named Ruth who decided to follow God with her whole heart.

RUTH FOLLOWED GOD BECAUSE OF NAOMI

Main Goal: Remind kids that Ruth followed God because of Naomi, and give them space to identify the person who first told them about God.

Notes:

- **Image (map of Moab and Israel):** The thing is though, Ruth wasn't part of God's family. She was from a place called Moab. But she had a good friend named Naomi, who was from a place called Israel. That means that Naomi was part of God's family!
- **Say:** These two women were great friends who lived in Moab together. One day, Naomi decided it was time for her to go back to Israel. Ruth said she wanted to go with her! She wanted to stay with Naomi and be part of God's family with Naomi.
- **Say:** We're going to watch a video about what happened when Ruth decided she wanted to follow God like Naomi. As you watch, see if Ruth got to be part of God's family.
- **Video: God's Story / Ruth**
- **Ask:** So what do you think? Did Ruth get to be part of God's story? (Let kids respond.) That's right, she DID. Not only that, but her great grandson was King David. Then one day, Jesus was born into her family line!
- **Say:** Ruth's story is exciting, because it shows us that everyone is free to become part of God's family!

WE CAN INVITE OUR FRIENDS TO FOLLOW JESUS

Main Goal: Identify specific ways that we can help OUR friends follow Jesus.

Notes:

- **Ask:** So who invited Ruth to follow God? (Let kids respond: Naomi) That's right, her friend Naomi.
- **Say:** Think about that for a second. All of us heard about Jesus from somebody, even if you're hearing about him from me for the first time right now!
- **Say:** Close your eyes, (Let kids respond.) and think of the first person who told you about Jesus (Pause). Who was it? Does anyone want to share? (Let 2-3 kids share. After each one, ask, "How did they tell you?")
- **Say:** That's awesome! I learned about Jesus from someone too. (*Share a personal, brief story about who first invited you to follow Jesus.*)
- **Say:** Most of us heard about Jesus somewhere, because God loves it when people share his love. He wants us to invite our friends to follow him.
- **Ask:** So what do you guys think? How can we invite our friends to follow Jesus? Any ideas? (Let kids respond. If helpful, refer to the ways they said that they first heard about Jesus.)

INVITE A FRIEND TO KIDS' CLUB

Main Goal: Encourage kids to invite their friends next week, because we'll hand out a tool to help families dive deeper into God's story.

- **Say:** Those are great ideas! And there are lots of different ways. (Depending on what kids said, suggest ideas like: pray for our friends, show them Jesus' love, or even invite them to come to Kids' Club with you.)
- **Say:** In fact, inviting a friend to Kids' Club can be a REALLY fun way to share Jesus with our friends. Especially if you invite them to come with you next week!
- **(Click to show an image/quick video of God's Story 365):** That's because next week, everybody in Kids' Club is going to get something really special, including you guys. It's a tear-off calendar all about God's story. It's to help you get to know God better every single day!
- **Say:** That means, if your friend comes to Kids' Club, they get to go home with lots and lots of parts of God's stories for them to read and look at with their family. And you're going to get one to take home and enjoy with your family too. Pretty cool, huh?
- **Say:** You can read your calendar with a parent, babysitter, grandparent, cousin, sibling or friend and talk about what it means to follow Jesus!

RESPOND AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Give kids space to talk to God about what they heard, listen to him and worship him.

Notes:

- **Say:** Since God wants ALL of us to be free to follow him with our whole hearts, he wants us to share his story with others. Everybody close your eyes (Let kids respond.) Think of one friend who might not know Jesus. (Pause.) Think about how you could invite that person to come to Kids' Club next week. (Pause.) When you have a friend's name in your mind, put your hand over your heart. (Pause.)
- **Pray:** Dear God, thank you for all the friends that we just thought of. Thank you that every single person is free to follow you. Please help us to love you with our whole hearts and to tell our friends about your love. In Jesus' name, amen.
- **Worship:** Now, let's worship Jesus together and tell him how much we love him. These songs are about how we want how great God is and how he loves everyone!
- **Song: You Are**
- **Song: Tell the World**

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per room: 1 set of Taboo Junior cards per room (split them into groups according to the directions in the lesson - reused for subsequent services)

Per group: 1 stopwatch

small group supplies

Per group: Bible, markers, scratch-off tools to share

Per kid: 1 scratch-off postcard (IN-57/6269), 1 invitation sticker (page 10; printed in color on Avery 5163)

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: How to Train Your Dragon "Accidental Flight" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOhBZfsHtig>)
3. Image: Elijah
4. Image: Sermon on the Mount
5. Image: Jacob
6. Image: Pools of Bethesda
7. Slide: Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.
8. Image: Moab and Israel
9. Video: God's Story: Ruth (in progress)
10. Image/video: God's Story 365 (in progress)
11. Music Video: You Are (hand motions) <https://vimeo.com/154219686>
12. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (animated) <https://vimeo.com/44163992>

connect questions

Tell me about Ruth.

How can we tell our friends about Jesus?

Hey! Hey! Hey! Hey!

I'd like to invite you to come to Kids' Club with me next weekend, **Nov. 11-12**. If you come, you'll also get a sweet tear-off calendar called God's Story 365. It's a fun way to explore the Bible! To find out more about Kids' Club, visit CrossroadsKidsClub.net.

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