LESSON 3

RUTH IN THE HARVESTING FIELDS



Aim: **To show the children how God provided for Naomi and Ruth.**

Scripture Reading: **Ruth 2:1-23**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 121:3**
He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will not slumber…

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

Ask the class how refugees and displaced people get something to eat. As we know, the government of the country where refugees have fled to often asks other governments and aid agencies for help. But first of all families try to help one another.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Naomi and Ruth were very poor. When they arrived in Bethlehem it was harvest time, so Ruth offered to go to the fields and pick up any leftover grain the harvesters had dropped (2:2-3).
2. The owner of the field where Ruth went was a rich man called Boaz. When he arrived at the field he noticed the foreign woman at work there (2:4-5). **Show Picture 3.**
3. Boaz asked who this woman was, and the man in charge of the harvesters spoke very well of Ruth (2:5-7).
4. Boaz spoke kindly to Ruth and was very helpful to her, even though he was a rich man and she was a poor young woman from a foreign country (2:8-9).
   Boaz was very impressed with how Ruth cared for her mother-in-law, Naomi (2:10-13).
5. Boaz made sure Ruth had enough to eat and gave special instructions to his workers to look well after her (2:14-16).
6. That evening Ruth took home more than 20 litres of grain (that is two large tins). **Describe how she took it home and showed Naomi (2:17-18).** It must have been a very joyful evening.
7. When Naomi heard that Ruth had worked in Boaz's fields she was delighted and praised the Lord. That was because Boaz was a relative of Naomi's dead husband, which meant he was a close relative of theirs (2:19-20).
8. Ruth continued to work in Boaz's fields until the end of harvest time (2:21-23).

Look,Listen&Live_Book4.indd 14 2012/09/10 11:05 AM



Our Response to the Story

God led Ruth to work in Boaz's fields after she had showed that she was willing to do very tiring labour to provide food for herself and her mother-in-law.

Hudson Taylor was a famous Christian missionary to China. He believed in praying to God about all his needs rather than asking people. One day his cook came to him and said, "We have opened the last bag of rice." That meant that their food was nearly finished. Hudson Taylor replied, "Then the Lord's time to meet our needs must surely be near." Before they had used the last of their rice a friend sent them some money to buy whatever was needed!

God provided for Naomi and Ruth. He provided for Hudson Taylor and his family. He provides for us today. **Ask the class if they can give you an example of God's provision in their lives. You too, should have an example to share.**

Instil the Memory Verse

Review the memory verses of Lessons 1 and 2.

To end the session, let us follow Noami's example (2:20): Let us praise God for providing for us. Let us also thank God for the people he uses to do this.



Look,Listen&Live_Book4.indd 15 2012/09/10 11:05 AM