



LESSON 29 SKIT

Principle: Faithfulness, compassion, kindness

Scripture Reference: Ruth 1

Bible Character(s): Ruth



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, please read through Ruth 1.

Everything in Naomi's life seemed to be falling apart: her husband died, then her sons died, and she and her daughters-in-law were left alone. We see a beautiful example of faithfulness as Ruth chooses to return to Naomi's homeland with her. Ruth cared for Naomi and showed compassion. She sacrificed the familiarity of her hometown, everyone she knew, and the gods she worshiped in order to stay at Naomi's side. Think about times in your life when it seemed like things were falling down around you. Who was a faithful friend to you during that time? Was there someone who displayed love and compassion to you? Did you feel God's presence and love for you when no one else was around? When have you been a faithful friend to someone else? Be prepared to discuss God's faithfulness in your life by providing examples. Spend some time in prayer asking God to help you teach the campers about His faithfulness.



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

1) Run-through/Prayer

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc), assign door greeters, pray, mic check

2) Welcome Cabins

Band member says, "Welcome to Camp Grace!" before intro song

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

Lung Capacity

Have one camper from each cabin come up to the front and give each a balloon. Explain that each camper only gets one breath to blow up his or her balloon as big as possible. Give the campers a countdown from 3, then let them blow up their balloons. After the campers have blown up their balloons, compare the sizes and give the banner to the camper with the largest balloon.

5) Worship Set

Worship Connector

Who can think of one person in their life that you see as a true friend? What makes that person a true friend? (Allow responses.) Those are great responses. A true friend is someone who is faithful, kind, compassionate, caring, trustworthy, dependable – the list could go on! Today we are going to learn about a woman who is a great example of a true friend. Her name is Ruth and she displayed faithfulness, compassion, and kindness to her mother-in-law Naomi. Naomi's husband and sons died after they moved away from their homeland and Ruth chose to stick with Naomi to care for her instead of staying with her own family and friends in the place she knew and the gods she worshiped. Ruth helps us to better understand the faithfulness, compassion, and kindness that God has for us because He is even more faithful, more compassionate, and more kind to us than Ruth was to Naomi. As we sing this last song, remember how God is forever faithful to us, and let's worship Him for His faithfulness.

6) Skit

My Name Is Ruth

ProPresenter:

None

Characters:

Staff Member #1: Lifeguard

Staff Member #2: Outdoor Guide

Staff Member #3

Props:

Ficus trees (placed on stage)

Shopping bag

2 blank t-shirts

Script:

(The lifeguard runs in, as if trying to get away from someone. He hides behind one of the ficus trees.)

Lifeguard: Sshhh! Shooobies, I'm hiding. Someone is following me.

(The outdoor guide runs in, as if trying to get away from someone.)

Outdoor Guide: Hey guys! I'm glad you're here. Someone has been following me all morning. I need a place to hide. Oh! How about these trees?! I might be camouflaged here.

(The lifeguard and the outdoor guide work their way around the trees and back into each other. They each scream like little girls.)

Lifeguard: **Okay, relaxation breathing, dude. Take a deep cleansing breath in through the nose and slowly exhale through the mouth. And, again. In through the nose and slowly out through the mouth. Now, five quick breaths in through the nose and five quick breaths out through the mouth. Like so.**

Outdoor Guide: **Okay, enough of all that. Look, what's going on? Why were you hiding behind the trees? Are you the person who has been stalking me?**

Lifeguard: **No way, dude. But, stalking is such an excellent description of the situation. I have felt that I am like the innocent baby seal in the big blue ocean stalked by the hungry shark. Dunt unt. Dunt unt.** (Like the sound from the movie 'Jaws'.)

Outdoor Guide: **This is creepy. Who do you think is following us?**

(Lifeguard continues making the sound of the shark approaching as they both look from side to side as if expecting something terrifying. Staff member approaches from behind the two carrying a shopping bag behind his back.)

Staff Member: **Oh, there you are!**

(Lifeguard and Outdoor Guide scream like girls again and jump into each other's arms, trembling with fear.)

Staff Member: **I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to startle you. I've been trying to catch up with the two of you all morning.**

Lifeguard: **You're the hungry shark?**

Staff Member: **Shark?**

Outdoor Guide: **We thought you were stalking us? Why have you been following us?**

Staff Member: **I wasn't stalking you. I was just trying to catch up to you this morning to give you these gifts.** (Staff Member pulls shopping bag from behind his back.)

Lifeguard: **Take cover, dude! It might be a bomb!** (Lifeguard hits the ground.)

Staff Member: **No, no, it's nothing dangerous. Look, it's just a shirt.** (Staff Member pulls a t-shirt from the shopping bag, without letting audience see the front.)

(Outdoor Guide takes the shirt from Staff Member's hands and "reads" the front. The audience will not see what might be written on the shirt. Lifeguard rises from the floor to look at the shirt, as well.)

Outdoor Guide: **"Just Call Me Ruth." Just call me Ruth? What?**

Lifeguard: Shaa. I had a grandmother named Ruth. At ninety, dude, she was still the best surfer on the Atlantic Coast. She taught me everything I know, dude.

Staff Member: I got a "Just Call Me Ruth" t-shirt for each of you. (Staff Member hands Lifeguard a t-shirt, as well.)

Lifeguard: Way excellent! Thanks!

Outdoor Guide: Yeah, thanks, but what does this mean? "Just call me Ruth"?

Staff Member: I had a rough day several weeks ago. First of all, I didn't wait an hour after eating to swim in Lake Swim-Or-Drown. I was swimming laps when I got this unbelievable cramp in my leg. I couldn't touch the bottom. I couldn't keep my head above water. I thought I was going to drown.

Lifeguard: That's definitely the choice. At Lake Swim-Or-Drown, you either swim or drown.

Staff Member: You remember that day, right? You weren't even working that day. You were just hanging out with some of the campers on the sand. You had that terrible cut on your arm and you weren't supposed to get it wet because of the stitches. You saw me and without thinking twice, you swam out and rescued me. You saved my life. You were so nice to me, too. When you pulled me out, you put that beach towel around me and stayed with me until I felt better. I could tell you were in pain. I heard later that you had to get your cut re-stitched. That had to be painful for you.

Lifeguard: Shaa! It's all in the job description, dude.

Staff Member: After recovering from the cramp in my leg, I had to hike up Mount Whack-A-Mole. The Camp Director wanted me to go up there and fix a broken step on the wildlife observation tower. I don't know what happened. I've been to the observation tower at least 20 times, but this time I must have taken a wrong turn. I got lost. I spent hours trying to find my way back, but seemed to get more and more lost. I was scared. The sun was going down and I didn't know what to do. I had heard so many stories about the Outdoor Guide rescuing lost people, but I knew that wouldn't happen for me. I knew that was the night of your big birthday party. There was no way you'd miss your own birthday party to hike up Mount Whack-A-Mole for someone who didn't even bother to take a map. But, you did. When I saw you coming through those trees to help me, I just cried and thanked God for sending you to rescue me. Do you remember that day?

Outdoor Guide: Of course, I remember. You were sitting on a log, crying. I sat with you for a few minutes to help you calm down. We ate some granola and walked back to camp.

Staff Member: All I know is that if it had not been for the two of you being faithful and having compassion for me, I might not be here now. I just wanted to say thank you for your faithfulness and your compassion.

Outdoor Guide: That's not even necessary. We're happy to help. I have to admit, though, I'm a little confused. I don't get the slogan on the t-shirt. "Just call me Ruth"?

Staff Member: Well, this week at Camp Grace, we're talking about Ruth. Ruth showed faithfulness, compassion, and kindness. She is someone we all want to learn from. The t-shirts are my way of saying that the two of you showed faithfulness and compassion like Ruth.

Lifeguard: Too kind, dude. You know, Ruth's story in the Bible is one of my favs. I do want to be like Ruth.

Outdoor Guide: Yeah, Ruth lived with her husband's family. Her husband's father died. Then, both her husband and her husband's brother died. The deaths left three women without a husband: Naomi (the mother-in-law) Orpah, and Ruth.

Lifeguard: Tragic, dude. In those days, a woman alone was someone you did not want to be. It was the worst. Widows were almost always very poor with no help.

Staff Member: Naomi decided to move back to Bethlehem to be near her family. She knew that, as a widow, she needed to find people who cared enough about her to help her survive. She urged her two daughters-in-law to return to their own families. With their own families, the two young women had a chance to one day remarry. Orpah knew that Naomi was right. Going home to her own family was her only chance for survival. She left. But Ruth refused to leave Naomi alone.

Outdoor Guide: She loved Naomi and wanted to do all that she could to be sure Naomi would be okay. To do that, she was willing to give up every chance she had to find a new husband and have a better life.

Lifeguard: Naomi knew that Ruth was giving up too much to be with her so, dude, she begged Ruth to go home to her own people. Ruth said, "Naomi, dude, give up the begging. I've made up my mind. Where you go, I'm going, too. Your peeps will be my peeps. Your God will be my God."

Staff Member: Ruth was willing to give up every chance of having a husband and security to go with Naomi to help her. Ruth wasn't even concerned for herself. She was more concerned for someone else. That's the kind of love God wants us to have for each other. He wants us to stand by those we love, showing them compassion and kindness, thinking about their needs before our own. Let's pray and thank God for Ruth's example. Let's ask God to help us be more like Ruth.

Father, thank You for telling us Ruth's story in Your Word. Help us to be more like Ruth. Help us to love others more than we love ourselves. Help us to show faithfulness, compassion, and kindness. Amen.



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