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## Ruth and Boaz

(Based on the Book of Ruth)



Now it happened that there was a very bad food shortage in the land of Israel so a man from Bethlehem went to live in the country of Moab with his wife Naomi and his two sons. During the ten years that they lived there, the man and his two sons died.

"I have heard that the Lord has given food to his people. I'm going back home to Israel!" said Naomi.

"We're going with you," said Ruth and Orpah, the girls who were married to Naomi's sons.





"I have nothing to offer you. Go home to your parents. Get married again," sobbed old Naomi.

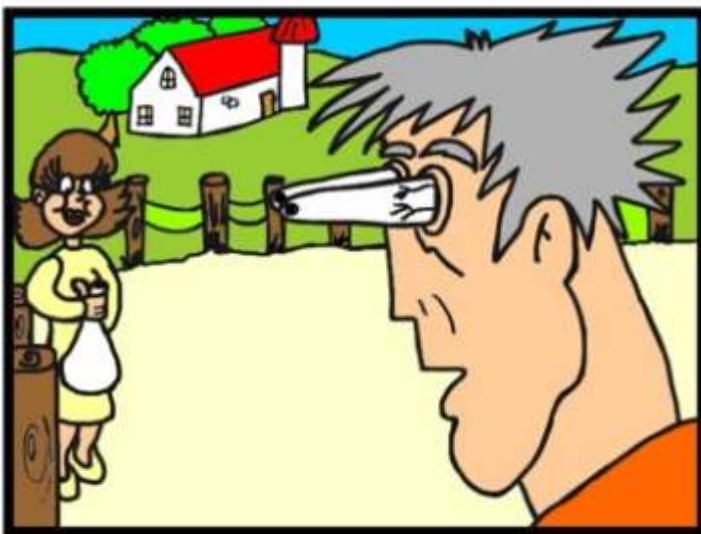
Orpah went to her parent's house, but Ruth stuck like glue to Naomi. "Your people are my people. Your God is my God," said Ruth.

"She's back! She's back!" whispered all the women in Bethlehem. "Naomi is back home!"

"I went out full and I'm coming home empty!" said old Naomi.



Ruth wandered into a field owned by a wealthy man named Boaz. He was a relative of old Naomi's husband. She was collecting grain that had fallen to the ground. Boaz saw her and told her that she was welcome to stay in his field, eat his food and drink his water.



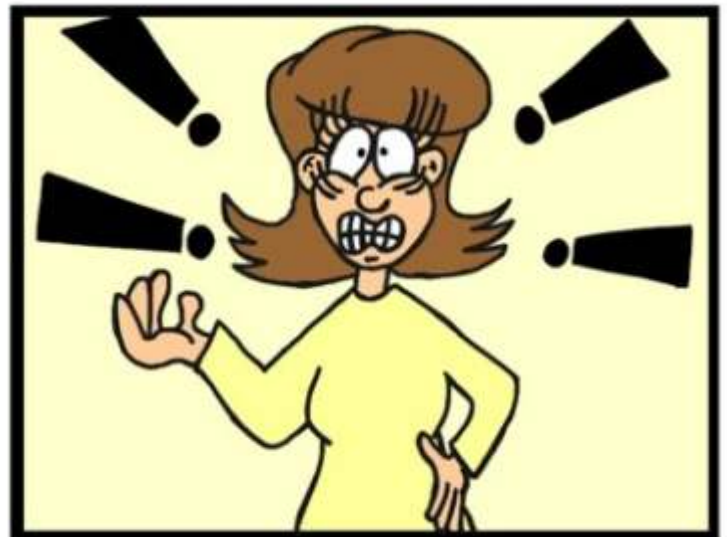
Then Boaz said to his workmen, "Don't anyone hurt her! Let her pick up her grains anywhere she pleases and drop a whole bunch of grain on purpose for her."

"Yes Sir, Mr. Boaz," said the workmen.



"I have to find a husband for Ruthie," said old Naomi to herself.

"Ruthie, tonight wash and dress nicely. Boaz will be sleeping at the threshing barn. Lift up his blanket and lay at his feet. This will remind him that only the closest relative can buy back all our land and he can marry you," said old Naomi.





At midnight Boaz rolled over and ..... "ah!"..... he touched someone, a woman! "Who's in here! Who are you?" he said.

"It's me Mr. Boaz. It's Ruth. Take me under your wing because you are a relative of old Naomi's' husband. I want you to marry me!"

Boaz wanted to do it, but then he remembered that there was closer relative than him. "If he won't do it, then I promise I will," said Boaz.

Before the sun was up Mr. Boaz gave Ruth a big bunch of grain and sent her home.



The other relative did not want to do it, so Boaz bought back the land and he married Ruth. They had a baby boy named Obed. *(He was King David's grandpa.)*

Boys and girls, God is so good! Ruth put all her trust in God, leaving all the old ways behind, and God did not disappoint her. He blessed her more than she ever dreamed.

