

# Sticking Together

By Jolene Roehlkepartain



Examine the relationship between Ruth and Naomi in the Old Testament to learn why it's important to stick together through good and bad times.

**For**  
Teen Family

**Season**  
Winter

## Needed

A copy of The Book of Ruth, a Bible, YouTube video [Carrie Underwood – I'll Stand by You](#), and a pen for each family member

## Prepare in Advance

- Make a copy of The Book of Ruth worksheet for each family member

## Activity Plan

1. Say this prayer aloud to begin.

*God, help us to see new truths about what it means to be family from the book of Ruth in the Old Testament. Amen.*

2. Get together as a family. Give each person a copy of The Book of Ruth worksheet, a Bible, and a pen.
3. Focus on question #1. Ask someone to read aloud Ruth 1:1-5. Then ask:
  - What happened to Ruth and Naomi?
  - How would you feel if you were Naomi? If you were Ruth?
  - When have you seen a family hit hard by tragedy? What happened?
4. Encourage family members to write notes on The Book of Ruth worksheet based on your discussion.
5. Watch the YouTube video [Carrie Underwood – I'll Stand by You](#). Ask: What does it mean to stick together?
6. Examine question #2. Ask someone to read aloud Ruth 1:16-22. Then ask:
  - Why do you think Ruth stayed with Naomi?
  - What does Naomi's name change reveal about Naomi's emotional state?
  - Why did Naomi and Ruth go back to Bethlehem?
  - What do Naomi and Ruth have in common?
  - How do you think Naomi's and Ruth's shared experience affected their relationship?

7. Encourage family members to write notes on The Book of Ruth worksheet based on your discussion.
8. Read question #3. Ask someone to read aloud Ruth 2:1-12. Then ask:
  - Who is Boaz?
  - Why is Boaz important?
  - Why does Boaz make a big deal about Ruth sticking with Naomi?
  - Why is it important to bless other people when they do the right thing?
9. Encourage family members to write notes on The Book of Ruth worksheet based on your discussion.
10. After you finish completing The Book of Ruth worksheet, talk about these questions:
  - What did you learn from this story?
  - What does it mean to be family?
  - Why is it important for family to stick together?
  - How do you stick together as a family when family members are separated, such as by geography, divorce, work, and so on?
  - How can we stay connected to each other more?



## The Book of Ruth

Answer each question below.

1. What happened to Ruth and Naomi? (Read Ruth 1:1-5.)
2. Why do you think Ruth stayed with Naomi? (Read Ruth 1:16-22.)
3. Why does Boaz make a big deal about Ruth sticking with Naomi? (Read Ruth 2:1-12.)

