

Lesson 1: Events of Life– Ruth and Naomi

Lesson 1: Teacher Notes

Before Class

Whiteboard: Welcome to “Friends in English” (and write the two questions from icebreaker below)

9:40 Welcome and Icebreaker

Say: Welcome to our class today! My name is -- and this is --. We’ll be leading our class today.

Ice Breaker:

Divide the room in half - half the women at one end and the others at the other end so they won’t hear the other group.

Tell both groups to make a list of ‘hello/good morning’ in as many languages as possible.

After one minute, call both groups back together.

Ask each group to count the number of languages they can use to greet someone.

The group with the most languages can introduce themselves first.

Go around the circle and have each woman introduce herself, answering 2 questions below.

Whiteboard: Write the following questions.

What is your name? My name is _____

Where were you born? I was born in _____

Whiteboard: List names of women in class along the side of the whiteboard.

Part I: Women in Our World

9:50 Introduction

Say: Our class is called “Friends in English.” Every Semester we have a theme. Our theme this semester is “Women in the World and Women in our Bible.” We will be studying about things that interest women. Last year some of you gave ideas for topics. Things like health, jobs, children...Today’s topic is “Events in Life.”

Whiteboard: ‘Events in Life’

Ask: What does the word ‘event’ mean

-possible answers: something that happened is an event, a happening, an occasion

Whiteboard: draw a line on the whiteboard and start writing: birth, first day of school, first job,...

Ask: what are some possible events in a woman’s life?

Whiteboard: Add possible answers: learning to drive, boyfriend, marriage, birth of a child, etc...

9:55 Small Group Discussion

Say: Let get into smaller groups or pairs. Here is a handout of questions for your small group to discuss. There are suggested answers on the back. Try to answer the questions before looking on the back. You have about fifteen minutes to answer some of these questions. (about 1 minute per question). We will finish them in a large group.

Teacher: Wander around the groups to monitor how they are doing. Be willing to help any group if they have a question for you. When the groups are almost done (or after 10 min), announce they have 5 more minutes.

Teacher Notes Continued...

10:05 Large Group Discussion:

Ask: Were there any new words? What words are new for you? (Use the word in a sentence and then ask for a volunteer to use the word again in a sentence.)

Whiteboard: Use the whiteboard to help the women learn. Reading as well as hearing will assist in learning.

Say: Question 11 talks about a family tree. Let's draw a quick family tree for my family.

Whiteboard: Teacher draws an example of family tree - use words parents, grandparents...

Ask: Finish the large group session of "Women in Our World" with the question "What event in life would you still like to experience?"

10:30 Break (announce a 5 minute Break)

10:40 Part II: Women in Our Bible

Say: Every week the first hour is "Women in Our World." The second hour is "Women in our Bible."

Whiteboard: Write "Women in our World" and "Women in Our Bible."

Ask: What is the Bible?

The Bible is God's Book that was written over 2000 years. It has 66 books in it. Often, the Bible tells us about women who have lived throughout history.

Say: Every week we will study about a woman in the Bible. Today, we will study about two women in the Bible: Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth.

Whiteboard: Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth

Ask: What is a daughter-in-law? (the woman who is married to someone's son)

10:50 Small Group Discussion

Say: Here is a handout with the bible verses. In your small group, read these verses. Discuss words that are new to you. Some definitions are at the bottom of the page. You have about 10 minutes.

Teacher: Wander through the group to monitor how they are doing. Be willing to help the group if they have any questions for you.

11:00 Large Group Drama

Say: Now we will act out the life of Ruth and Naomi as a drama.

Whiteboard: Write "drama" on the whiteboard.

Ask: What is another word for drama? -play, skit, theater production

Say: We need someone to be the Narrator, Naomi, Orpah, Ruth, Women, and Boaz (man).

Distribute copies of the drama and assign roles. Act.

11:10 Small Group Discussion

Say: Now form your small group again. There are a few vocabulary questions if you want to review some words. Also there are questions for you to discuss in your small groups. You have about 15 minutes to talk about these questions (about 1 minute per question).

11:25 Large Group Discussion

Ask: Which question was interesting for your small group? Which question was hard/easy?

11:28 Conclusion

Say: We will end every class with announcements.

Whiteboard: - Write announcements on whiteboard: International Thx Celebration, Brochure, class sign-up

Lesson 1: Questions and Vocabulary

Directions: Here are some questions about some possible events in a women's life. Take turns reading the questions out loud and answering them. The **bold** words have definitions below.

1. The first event in a women's life is her own **birth**. Tell the others in your group what you know about your own birth.
2. Do you remember the first day you went to school? Tell the others about a **memory** from school.
3. What other event from your **childhood** do you remember?
4. When did you first feel like an **adult**?
5. Do you remember your first **job**? What has been your favorite job in life?
6. Are you **married**? Tell the others something you remember about getting married.
7. Do you have a child? What was the birth of your child like?
8. What is the biggest change you have experienced in life?
9. Have you moved to another country? Have you visited another country? What was it like?
10. What is a sad event that some women experience? Do you know a **widow**?
11. Do you know someone whose child has died? Has your parent died? What are other sad events in life?
12. In your opinion what is a good number of **grandchildren**?
13. Draw a '**family tree**' with a grandmother and grandfather, then their children, and then their grandchildren

Vocabulary

birth - the time when a baby comes out of the mother's body

memory – something you remember, a picture in your mind about something in the past

childhood- the time in your life when you were a child

adult – a fully grown person

job – the work you do to get money

married – having a husband or wife

widow – a woman whose husband has died

grandchild – the child of your son or daughter

family tree – a drawing that gives the names of all the members of a family over a long period of time, and shows how they are related to each other

Lesson 1: Reading and Vocabulary

Directions: Here is a handout with the bible verses we will discuss today. In your small group, read through these verses out loud. Discuss any words that are new to you. The **bold** words have definitions at the bottom of the page.

Ruth 1 (Modified from the Contemporary English Version of the Bible)

Ruth 1:1 A man was from Bethlehem. His wife was named Naomi, and they had two sons.
Ruth 1:2 When their **crops** failed, they moved to the country of Moab. While they were there,
Ruth 1:3 the husband died, leaving Naomi as a **widow** with only her two sons.
Ruth 1:4 Later, Naomi's sons married Moabite women named Orpah and Ruth. Years later,
Ruth 1:5 the **sons** also died. Now Naomi had no husband or sons.
Ruth 1:6 Naomi decided to move back to her home country.
Ruth 1:7 She and her two **daughters-in-law** got ready to leave Moab and go to Judah....
Ruth 1:8 Naomi said to them, "Don't you want to go back home to your own mothers?..."
Ruth 1:9 May God give each of you another husband and a home of your own."...
Ruth 1:14 They cried again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye, but Ruth held on to her.
Ruth 1:15 Naomi then said to Ruth, "Your sister-in-law is going home... Why don't you go with her?"
Ruth 1:16 Ruth answered, "Please don't tell me to leave you! I will go where you go, I will live
where you live: your people will be my people, your God will be my God
Ruth 1:17 I will die where you die and be buried beside you....
Ruth 1:19 They reached Bethlehem, and the whole town was excited to see them.

Vocabulary

crops (vs.2) – plants such as rice or wheat that are grown by farmers and used as food

widow (vs.3) – a woman whose husband has died

son (vs.5) – someone's male child

daughter-in-law (vs.7) – a parent's son's wife, the woman that a son or daughter is married to

Lesson 1: Drama

Characters: Narrator, Naomi, Orpah, Ruth, Women, Boaz.

NARRATOR: There was a famine in the country of Judah, where a man and his family lived. They loved God. The man and his wife, Naomi, had two sons. They all decided to immigrate to another country called Moab. In Moab, the man died and then the two sons married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After ten years, the two sons also died. Now Naomi was a widow without any children. But she still had her two daughters-in-law. When Naomi heard that the famine was over in her birth country, Judah, she decided to return there. First, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law,

NAOMI: “Don’t leave your home country. Stay here and maybe God will give each of you another husband.”

NARRATOR: Then she kissed them and they cried and said to her,

ORPAH: “No, we want to go with you.”

RUTH: “We will go back with you to your people in Judah.”

NAOMI: “No, stay here! My life is sad now that my family has died, but you shouldn’t have a hard life. You are young and will find another husband.”

NARRATOR: The daughters-in-law cried and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye, but Ruth wouldn’t go. She kept hugging Naomi. Ruth said:

RUTH: “Don’t keep telling me to leave you! Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God. Only death will separate you and me.”

NARRATOR: So Naomi and Ruth traveled back to Naomi’s home country. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was amazed to see them, and the women exclaimed,

WOMEN: “Wow! Is this really Naomi?”

NAOMI: “Don’t call me Naomi. I changed my name. Now you should call me Mara. It means bitter. My life has become sad. When I left you, my life was full. I had a husband and two children. But now I return empty.”

NARRATOR: When Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem, they were poor and needed food. The barley harvest was starting. Naomi had a relative named Boaz who was respected and wealthy. Ruth said to Naomi,

RUTH: “Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind the harvesters.”

NARRATOR: So she went out to the field and the foreman told Boaz about her. Boaz said to Ruth:

BOAZ: “Work here with my servant girls. You will be safe in my fields and you can drink our water.”

Lesson 1: Drama Continued

RUTH: “Why are you so kind to me? I’m not from here – I’m a foreigner!”

BOAZ: “I’ve been told all about what you’ve done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband. You left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with people you don’t know. May God repay you well for what you’ve done.

NARRATOR: So Ruth worked every day in the field. One day Naomi said to Ruth:

NAOMI: “My daughter, I think you should marry Boaz. Wash and perfume yourself, and put on your best clothes. Go to him and tell him you would like to marry him.

NARRATOR: So Ruth did everything her mother-in-law told her. When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in a good mood, Ruth went to him and told him she would like to marry him.

RUTH: “Boaz, I am your servant Ruth. I want to be your wife.”

BOAZ: “God bless you. You are even kinder than before: You have not wanted to marry the younger men, whether rich or poor. And now, don’t be afraid. I will marry you. Everybody knows that you are a good woman.”

NARRATOR: So Boaz married Ruth and she became his wife. Then they decided to start a family. Ruth gave birth to a son. The women said to Naomi:

WOMEN: “Praise God! He has not left you alone! May Boaz become famous throughout Israel! Your daughter-in-law Ruth, who loves you, has given birth. Your grandson will renew your life and support you in your old age.”

NARRATOR: Then Naomi took the child, held him in her lap and cared for him. They named the baby Obed. He was the father of Jesse, who was the father of David, who became the king of Israel.

Lesson 1: Questions

1. Naomi and her family had many adjustments in their new country. What changes are experienced when people move to a new country?
2. Naomi was a married woman with children. What daily activities would keep Naomi busy?
3. Naomi became a widow. What would that be like?
4. Naomi became a mother-in-law. What would it be like to be a mother-in-law and a daughter-in-law?
5. Naomi's sons both died. What words would you use to describe the experience of having a son or daughter die?
6. Naomi was an immigrant to Moab who returned to her home country of Judah. What reasons might an immigrant have for returning to their birth country?
7. Ruth told her mother-in-law Naomi that she would stay with her, follow God, and take care of her. Why do you think Ruth made these promises to her mother-in-law?
8. Ruth remarried. How does life change for an immigrant who marries someone from the new country?
9. The great-grandson of Boaz and Ruth was named David and he became king of Israel. What can immigrants do to help their children and grandchildren succeed in the country they've moved to?