



# The story of Ruth – the ordinary saint

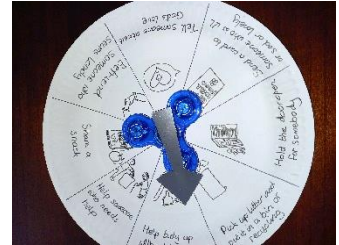
Watch the cartoon by Saddleback Kids

<https://youtu.be/SDmjO7X8ELI?si=qCm4z8Y8DZDqO8h6>



The story of Ruth in the Bible only mentions God once. Ruth didn't perform miracles or do amazing things that everybody noticed. She wasn't a celebrity. She was an ordinary woman who showed love and kindness to another. She eventually became King David's great grandmother, which means she's on Jesus' family tree!

Let's make ourselves a challenge. Make a spinner out of a circle of card (a paper plate might be good), an arrow shaped piece of card, and a split pin/paper fastener. Divide the circle up into equal segments – how many is up to you but eight might be easy to do. Pin the arrow in the middle so it can spin. If you don't have split pins, maybe you could use a fidget spinner with an arrow fastened on.



In each segment, draw or write a kind thing you could do. Maybe holding the door for someone, sharing your snack, offering to carry something etc. Decorate it so that it is fun to use. Then each day, spin the arrow and see what it challenges you to do that day. Can you do something every day for a week?



A prayer for when you do something to help

**Jesus, help me to help others, like you did and Ruth did. Amen**

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A prayer for when you do something to help

**Jesus, help me to help others, like you did and Ruth did. Amen**

## Bible Reading

### The story of Ruth – the ordinary saint



*A woman named Naomi moved to a new town and married a man called Emilechech and they had two sons who married girls from that town. Emilechech and the two sons died, leaving Naomi and Ruth and Orpah (the three wives) alone. It was difficult to be a woman without a husband in those days, so Naomi decided to travel back to her home town. Ruth and Orpah went with her at first, but she sent them home. The women cried together again. Then Orpah kissed Naomi good-bye, but Ruth held on to her. Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law is going back to her own people and her own gods. Go back with her." But Ruth said, "Don't ask me to leave you! Don't beg me not to follow you! Every place you go, I will go. Every place you live, I will live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. And where you die, I will die. And there I will be buried."*

*Ruth and Naomi travelled together to Bethlehem, Naomi's home town, where a relative of Naomi lived. His name was Boaz and he was a farmer. In those times, when farmers gathered in the harvest, some of the crop fell and was picked up (gleaned) by poor people needing food. Ruth went to glean in Boaz's field. He noticed her and kept her safe, telling his workers to drop extra grain for her. Then Ruth bowed low with her face to the ground. She said to Boaz, "I am a stranger. Why have you been so kind to notice me?" Boaz answered her, "I know about all the help you have given to Naomi, your mother-in-law. You helped her even after your husband died. You left your father and mother and your own country. You came to this nation where you did not know anyone. The Lord will reward you for all you have done."*

*Eventually Boaz and Ruth marry and have a son, a grandson for Naomi, and he would grow up to be King David's grandfather. (Scripture not in italics is from The Holy Bible, International Children's Bible® Copyright© 1986, 1988, 1999, 2015 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission.*

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