

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: BOrd31x2018

Text Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a **famine in the land**, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. 2 The name of the man was **Elimelech** and the name of his wife **Naomi**, and the names of his two sons were **Mahlon** and **Chilion**; they were **Ephrathites** from **Bethlehem in Judah**. They went into the **country of Moab and remained there**. 3 But **Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons**. 4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was **Orpah** and the name of the other **Ruth**. When they had lived there about ten years, 5 **both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband**.

6 Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for **she had heard** in the country of Moab that **the Lord had considered his people** and **given them food**. 7 So she **set out from the place** where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. 8 But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. **May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me**." 9 The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. 10 They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." 11 But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? **Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?**" 12 Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, 13 would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." 14 Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

15 So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." 16 But Ruth **said**,

**"Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.
17 Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.
May the Lord do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"**

18 When Naomi **saw that she was determined** to go with her, she said no more to her.

Word - S, Eye - S, Math - I, Body - I, Music - B, Self - B

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic D2	Elimelech, Mahlon, Chilion, Naomi, Orpah, Ruth..... lots of names!		Use this source to find the meaning of names. Be prepared to waste many hours if you tend to get caught up in things like this.
Eye - Visual/Spatial MWD			If you have a working relationship with a funeral director, see if you can borrow three crematory urns . As the scripture is read place one urn prominently before the people as each man's death is recorded in the story.
Math - Logical/Mathematical D2		Work out the math for how long the daughters-in-law would have to wait to marry new sons of Naomi. Consider courtships, marriages, gestation, and age to maturity. <i>See also PEOPLE</i>	
Body - Kinesthetic MWD		Describe the physical sensations of overwhelming grief and devastation: numbness, sharp pains, dull aches, physical exhaustion, shallow breathing or shortness of breath, etc.	
Musical D2		Here is a lament of grief , from a Christian point of view. Either play the video or read the words.	Here is a piano meditation on Psalm 22 that might capture Naomi's bitter grief. The notes on the page give a fuller description. Here is another version with a little better audio quality, but clip off the last couple

			seconds.
Natural			
People - Interpersonal			
Self - Intrapersonal MWD		<p>Grief is one of the most challenging life events for the church to deal with. Everyone grieves differently, and many people in our culture are uncomfortable and untrained in helping people cope with loss. This may be because we don't have enough rituals to help us, or perhaps we don't have the emotional maturity to deal with something so intimate, or we don't have the faith to acknowledge death as part of life, as it seems like a defeat for our Easter proclamation. I don't know.</p> <p>But Ruth gives us a good model. Although she herself is bereft, she clings in covenant loyalty to Naomi, while our approach tends to be more hit-and-run. Grief often longs for a companion, even when it wants no one to come near. Church folk, armed with a resurrection faith, can be that kind of companion.</p>	<p>Who has been a companion in your grief?</p> <p>Who have you accompanied?</p> <p>Is there someone you know who needs a grief companion now, and are you that person?</p>