

## Week 13 Family Letter

# Our Caring God Is in Control: God Provides for Naomi and Ruth

(The Book of Ruth)

Naomi was very sad. But her son's wife, Ruth, made her happy. They went to live in a new place. They walked to the town of Bethlehem.

Ruth helped Naomi. She worked hard to find food. She made bread from leftover wheat she found in the fields. A man named Boaz saw Ruth working. He said, "You may always pick up grain in my fields. You are safe here." Boaz helped Ruth. Later, Boaz and Ruth got married. Many years later, Jesus was born from Boaz and Ruth's family.

God gave Naomi and Ruth what they needed, even though they were poor. Even though the story started off sad, it ended happy. God made everything work out. God gave Ruth and Naomi food, a new home, and a family. He even gave them Jesus, their Savior. God takes care of us too. Jesus is our Savior too.

### Bible Words

Love your neighbor as  
yourself.

Matthew 19:19

### Dear Family,

Tragedy is painful and heartbreaking. It's not the way God intended life to be for us, but because sin entered the world, sometimes we experience these hardships. In our Bible story this week, Naomi's husband died; shortly after that, both of her sons died.

But in our story, we see not only sorrow, but we see also how God sustains. Naomi was alone, but God led her daughter-in-law Ruth to stay with her. Naomi and Ruth were poor, but God blessed them with food. Ask your child what Ruth has in the folds of her tunic. (Grain, probably barley or wheat; food) What will Ruth turn the grain into? (Bread) Naomi and Ruth were poor, but the owner of the field looked upon Ruth in kindness. God had the man, Boaz, buy land for them, and he even married Ruth!

At Thanksgiving time, we look back on all the blessings God has given throughout the year. Even if you've experienced tragedy, perhaps you can now look back and see how God worked good out of bad situations. Perhaps you can't see that yet, but know that during the midst of tribulation, God is there and provides what you need. God worked good out of the sad situation of Jesus dying on the cross. Through that sad day, we have forgiveness of sins. God provided for our every need—including salvation. Read the story on page 161 of *The Story Bible* together.

