



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE
Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

INSIGHT

September 27 – Ruth

Scripture:

Sing along with me:

“Anytime You Need A Friend” By Mariah Carey

<https://youtu.be/Li6vpAMmfw0>

“You'll never be alone again/ So don't you fear/ Even if you're miles away/ I'm by your side.”

Memory Verse:

Ruth 1:16 And Ruth said, Do not beg me to leave you, to return from following after you. For where you go, I will go. Where you stay, I will stay. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. (MKJV)

Let us read together

https://bibleforchildren.org/PDFs/english/Ruth_A_Love_Story_English.pdf

Open the link and follow the story.



Message:

Let's talk about it.

This story focuses on loyalty and friendship. God gives us friends so we can support and love each other. Sometimes those friendships change, but God's commitment to us never changes. We need to love and support our friends without expecting something in return. Naomi was indeed not only a mother-in-law but a friend, so much so that Ruth was willing to give up her false god and her family to accept Naomi's God and her people. Ruth pledged to follow Naomi. Even though Naomi was having a rough time and felt that she was being punished by God, after the death of her husband and her sons, Ruth still wanted to adopt the faith and join Naomi on her journey. What does this tell us about Naomi? Well, she must have been a pretty awesome mother-in-law! In order for Ruth to want to accept God as her God, Naomi must have done a great job of showing God's love to Ruth. She led Ruth to the Lord, whether or not she intended to do so. They returned to Bethlehem together. It was a good thing Ruth went with Naomi because Bethlehem was very far away and Naomi couldn't have traveled all that way by herself. Ruth was good company for Naomi. Ruth never complained but was a good friend to Naomi. She wasn't expecting anything in return, she just wanted to help.

Being a good friend takes a long time to learn. A good friend is loyal, which means you keep your promises. Sometimes our friends aren't perfect and they make mistakes and sometimes say or do things that hurt us. But we make mistakes too, and we don't want our friends to leave us when that happens. There will be times when you don't feel like being a friend but you are a friend anyway.

As for Ruth, she returns the favour of showing God's love to Naomi by supporting her in the good times and the bad. When they got to Bethlehem, Ruth decided that she should do some kind of work. She recognized that it was her turn to help Naomi. It was harvest time, so she worked in the fields following behind the harvesters and picked up any barley that they had dropped.

Ruth's capacity to love, which is a God-given ability, triumphed over Naomi's inconsolable pain and grief and brings her joy once again!

God gives us friends when we need them, and we should treat them like a gift from God.

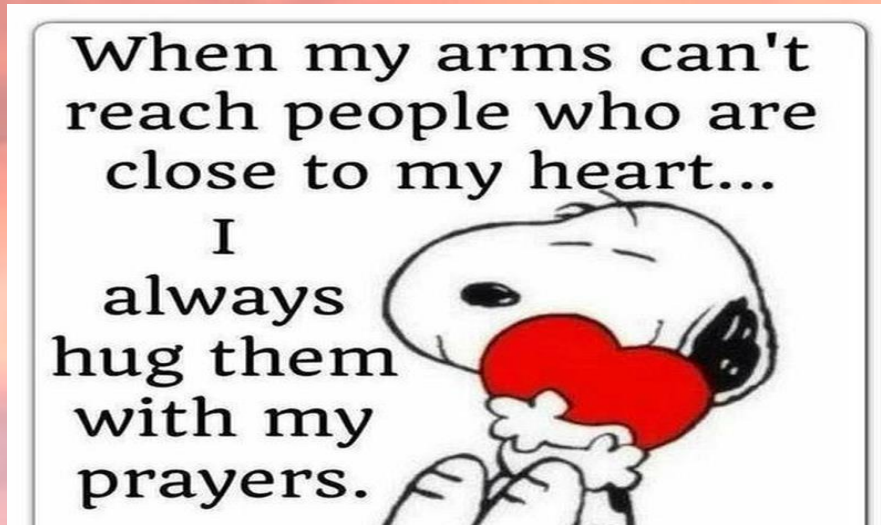
Just like in the story, Naomi could've insisted the women come with her, but she was unselfish and gave them the choice to be free and go home to be with their families. Ruth had such a good attitude and wanted to help, she moved away from everyone she knew and went to be with Naomi. She knew that she should be a friend like God wanted her to be.

Being a good friend takes a lot of work and Ruth and Naomi are good examples how we can treat each other and remain good friends.

Let us pray:

Dear friend, I pray that you are blessed with an amazing day today and a long life ahead. I pray that you never find yourself lonely and may you always experience Jesus' divine presence. I pray that God will help us to understand each other and overcome all difficulties that may arise. I ask that God will be with us as we go about our daily tasks. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen





Activity:

Being friends is about sharing our lives with others. Even in this COVID 19 season where we are encouraged to practice social distancing, we still need our friends. You are now back at school and can interact more with your friends. There are some aspects of our lives which require that we spend a lot of time together or a lot of writing to help convey our feelings. Other times sharing only a few words are more than adequate. It is not always the long conversation that conveys the deepest feelings. Putting just the right combination of words on paper in a succinct style may just hit the spot.

Choose five friends and write a short verse expressing your friendship to that person.

Here is one to follow:

“Best friends stick together till the end

They are like a straight line that will not bend”

Emily Thurston

