

To what period of Bible history does it belong?  
Where was the country in which this Jewish family had been living?

What made Ruth use the language of ver. 16?  
What kind of character is displayed by this language?  
Why is Ruth of special interest to every Bible student? Ruth 4. 17.

## 2. The Voice of Wee.

How were these two travelers received when they reached Bethlehem?  
What is the meaning of the words *Naomi* and *Mara*?  
Was Naomi's speech true?  
What great blessing had God in store for her?  
Was she grateful to Ruth?  
What was the attitude of Naomi toward God and the world?

Give an analysis of her character.  
Was she not acting just as many of us act now?

## Practical Teachings.

See this picture of true devotion. Ruth forsook country unasked. Ruth left her home and kindred. Ruth went, a stranger, into a strange land. Ruth went among those who hated a foreigner. And it was all for love of her earthly friend.

Compare Christ's devotion. He forsook heaven, his Father, glory, and power, to go into poverty, to those who hated him, and all for love of his enemies. Read John 3. 16.

## Hints for Home Study.

1. Read the whole book of Ruth.
2. Study this particular chapter with care.
3. Commit to memory Ruth's words.
4. Trace the journey of these women.
5. Write Ruth's story as fully as you can without a Bible.
6. Find why this story is put into the Bible at all.
7. Study out the ancestry of the Moabites, and find how they were related to the Jews.

## QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

### 1. The Voice of Love.

By whom was this voice of love uttered?  
To whom were the words spoken?  
What appeal did Ruth make to Naomi?  
What had she resolved to do?  
What choice did she make of kindred and religion? (Golden Text.)  
What only would be permitted to part them?  
What caused Naomi to cease her objections?

### 2. The Voice of Wee.

To what place did the women go?  
How long since Naomi had left Bethlehem? ver. 4.  
What effect had their arrival on the city?  
What question did the people ask?  
What did Naomi reply as to her name?  
Why did she wish to be called *Mara*?  
What is the meaning of the two names?  
What contrast was there between her going out and her return?  
To what source did she trace her sorrow?  
What mistake did she make in regard to her afflictions? Heb. 12. 6.  
At what season of year was this return from Moab?

## Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. A lesson of domestic love?
2. A lesson of religious devotion?
3. A lesson of confidence in God?

## Hints for Home Study.

Learn what earthly prosperity came to Ruth in consequence of her devotion to Naomi.  
Learn what place Ruth occupied in the genealogy of Jesus.

## QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

When was there a famine in Canaan. In the time of the judges.  
Who went from Bethlehem to live in Moab? The family of *Eliamelech*.  
Who died in Moab? *Eliamelech* and his two sons.  
Who were left to Naomi of all the family? *Orpah* and *Ruth*, her daughters-in-law.  
What did Naomi say she would do? Go back to Bethlehem again.  
Who begged to go with her? *Orpah* and *Ruth*.  
Why was Naomi unwilling? Because they would have to leave their own home and friends.

Who refused to leave her mother? *Ruth*.  
What did Ruth say? "Thy God shall be my God."  
Why did this make Naomi happy? Because she loved *Ruth*.  
What do Christians want to see others do? Love and serve the true God.  
How can Christians help others to love God? By loving him themselves.  
What had come upon Naomi? Great trouble.  
What great good came out of the trouble? *Ruth* learned to love and serve God.  
Who can turn trouble into blessing? The Lord.

## Words with Little People.

*A loving heart*      *A selfish heart*  
Clings to friends.      Thinks about its own pleasure.  
Tries to comfort them.      Forgets friends in trouble.  
Is glad to follow them.      Chooses to go its own way.  
Wants to be taught by      Thinks it knows the best way.  
them.

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. Whose story is told by the book of Ruth? Of Ruth, of Naomi, and of Boaz.
2. Who was Ruth? A heathen girl of Moab.
3. What was her destiny in Jewish history? To be an ancestor of Christ.
4. What was the moving principle of her life? Fidelity to her loved ones.
5. In what words did she express her loving purpose? "Thy people shall be my," etc.

## CATECHISM QUESTION.

14. What is the employment of the fallen angels? They tempt men to sin, and thus seek to bring them to their own place of misery.  
*Matthew xxv. 41; Ephesians vi. 12; 1 Thessalonians iii. 5; 1 Timothy iii. 7.*
15. Can they do what they please? No; God controls their power, and will save from their malice and subtlety all who put their trust in Him.

## ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

### The Choice of Ruth.

- I. AN INDEPENDENT CHOICE.  
*Entreat me not to leave thee.* v. 16.  
"As for me... serve the Lord." Josh. 24. 15.
- II. A PERSONAL CHOICE.  
*Whither thou goest, I will go.* v. 16.  
"Whithersoever thou goest." Matt. 8. 19.
- III. A CHOICE OF FELLOWSHIP.  
*Thy people shall be my people.* v. 16.  
"Forget also thine own people." Ps. 45. 10.
- IV. A CHOICE OF GOD.  
*And thy God my God.* v. 16.  
"Ye turned to God from idols." 1 Thess. 1. 9.
- V. A DETERMINED CHOICE.  
*Steadfastly minded to go with her.* v. 18.  
"No man... looking back is fit." Luke 9. 62.
- VI. AN UNSELFISH CHOICE.  
*Brought me home again empty.* v. 21.  
"Affliction with the people of God." Heb. 11. 25.
- VII. A GENTLE'S CHOICE.  
*Ruth the Moabitess.* v. 22.  
"Gentiles shall come to thy light." Isa. 60. 3.

## THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

### The Example of Ruth.

1. Ruth shows a self-forgetting, unselfish affection, renouncing all for the sake of love. She chose a life of poverty because she loved Naomi, and was willing to be poor with her.
2. Ruth shows decision and whole-heartedness in her choice. There were difficulties and hinderances, but she did not look back to Moab when she had chosen Israel.