## TOPHER'S WEEKLY LESSON

In the Bible, in the Book of Ruth, there was a woman named Naomi who had a husband and two sons. Naomi was very sad because her husband died. Naomi was left with her two sons.

Later on, one of Naomi's sons married a woman named Orpah. Naomi's other son married a woman named Ruth. After they got married, their husbands, Ruth's two sons, died. Now Orpah and Ruth were alone and so was Naomi. Naomi didn't have her husband or her two sons. And they were all very sad.

One day, Naomi heard that God had provided good crops in the land of Judah. Naomi needed to go where there was food, so she began walking to Judah along with Orpah and Ruth. But along the way, Naomi said to Orpah and Ruth, "You were kind to my sons, but now they are gone. So both of you should go back to your mom's house."

Orpah kissed Naomi goodbye and went home, but not Ruth. Ruth held on to Naomi's hand. Oh no—it looks like their hands are missing. Ruth said to Naomi, "Don't make me go back. Where you go, I'll go. Where you stay, I'll stay. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God. I'll never leave you." When Naomi saw how much Ruth wanted to stick with her, she stopped trying to make Ruth leave. Together Ruth and Naomi walked all the way to Bethlehem to begin a new life.

ACTIVITY: JUNE 7, 2020

MY FRIENDS (Response to God Activity)

Supplies: GO! Home Guide (printed on back of coloring sheet, 1 per child), crayons

Question: Why do you think Ruth wanted to stick with Naomi instead of going back home?

**Directions:** Give each child a GO! Home Guide and some crayons or markers. The sheet will have a space for children to draw. Tell the children to draw two happy faces. While the children are drawing, have them tell about their best friend.

**Say:** It makes you feel so happy when you have a friend who sticks with you like Ruth stuck with Naomi. Let's say a prayer and thank God for giving us the best friends we talked about.

**Prayer:** Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they're finished, close the prayer by thanking God for the friends that were mentioned.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?



THE BIG IDEA: GOD GIVES ME FRIENDS WHO STICK CLOSE. BIBLE BASIS: RUTH 1—1—18