

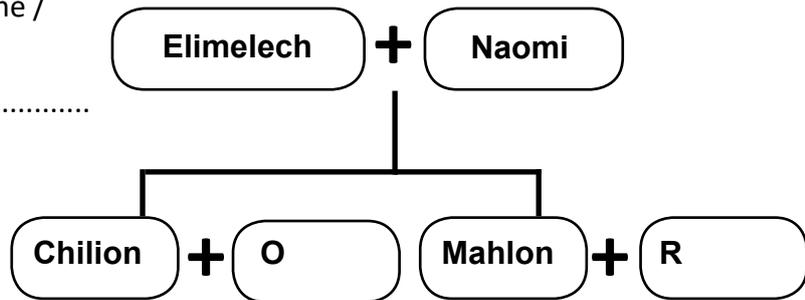
Ruth 1

Name

Comings and Goings

Read Ruth 1 v 1-5

- Where did the family live? (v 1)
- Where did they move to? (v 1) Egypt / Syria / Moab
- Why did they move? (v 1) There was a virus / a famine / it was too hot
- What happened to Elimelech? (v 3)
Cross out his name on the family tree
- Write in the names of the sons' two wives on the family tree (see v 4)
- What happened to the sons? (v 5)
Cross out their names on the family tree
When a woman's husband dies they become a _ _ _ _ _
- How do you think Naomi, Orpah and Ruth felt?





What was Moab like?

The people of Moab were descended from the children of Lot, Abraham's nephew. They became enemies of the Children of Israel and were very unfriendly towards them.

The people of Moab did not worship the one true God. Look at verse 15 to see what they worshipped

To move from Bethlehem to Moab meant living among enemies of God. It is never a good thing to choose friends who will lead you away from God.

What kind of friends do you have? Are they going to encourage you to serve and love the Lord God, or will they tempt you to reject Him?

Going to Moab was a disaster for Naomi's family!

Now look at Ruth 1 v 6-19

- What did Naomi decide to do? (v 6) stay put / return home
- What did Naomi want her two daughters-in-law to do? (v 8)
- Which one obeyed Naomi? (v 14)
Cross her name out on the family tree
Who have you got left? _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _

Verses 16-17 are Ruth's words. Read them carefully. Ruth wanted to stay with Naomi because she loved her. More than that, Ruth now loved Naomi's people and Naomi's God. Do you love God like that? What might you be willing to leave in order to be part of God's family, or worship God truly?

So Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem.

- How did Naomi feel? (v 20) ['Mara' means 'bitter']

God is so kind and merciful. We are sinful and make mistakes even when we really love the Lord. Sometimes we wander away from Him. But God is always ready to receive us when we return to Him with repentance (truly sorry for our sin).

Next time we will see how kind God was to Naomi and Ruth, the two poor widows.

