

Ruth

Lesson #2 – Overview of the Book

The purpose of this lesson is to familiarize you with the structure and focus of the book of Ruth. This is an important step in Bible study we're often tempted to rush through, yet you'll be so glad you took the time to do this lesson. Take two weeks to work on this lesson if you feel overwhelmed by its length. Think of this lesson as flying over the book at a few thousand feet so you get a feel for the landscape. Next week, we'll zoom in closer, but for now enjoy the view!

CHAPTER 1

1. Read Chapter 1. Now, briefly record the events of Chapter 1.
2. Who are the main characters in Chapter 1?
3. Where does the action take place?
4. What is the theme (the main idea) of Chapter 1?
5. List any historical or cultural customs the characters engage in.
6. What do you learn about God in this chapter? Is He mentioned? What acts do you see Him performing? How do the characters in the chapter regard him?

CHAPTER 2

7. Read Chapter 2. Record the events of Chapter 2.
8. Who are the main characters in Chapter 2?
9. Where does the action take place?
10. What is the theme of Chapter 2?

11. List any historical or cultural customs the characters engage in.
12. What do you learn about God in this chapter? Is He mentioned? What acts do you see Him performing? How do the characters in the chapter regard him?

CHAPTER 3

13. Read Chapter 3. Record the events of Chapter 3.
14. Who are the main characters in Chapter 3?
15. Where does the action take place?
16. What is the theme of Chapter 3?
17. List any historical or cultural customs the characters engage in.
18. What do you learn about God in this chapter? Is He mentioned? What acts do you see Him performing? How is He regarded by the characters in the chapter?

CHAPTER 4

19. Read Chapter 4. Record the events of Chapter 4.
20. Who are the main characters in Chapter 4?
21. Where does the action take place?
22. What is the theme of Chapter 4?
23. List any historical or cultural customs the characters engage in.

24. What do you learn about God in this chapter? Is He mentioned? What acts do you see Him performing? How do the characters in the chapter regard him?

SUMMARIZING

25. Looking at the *whole* book of Ruth. Who are the main characters in the book of Ruth?
26. What is the main theme of the *whole* book of Ruth? Make sure you look over each of the chapter themes to help you formulate your answer.
27. What have you learned about God and His ways in this book?
28. What is the main purpose for the book of Ruth to be included in the Bible? See Ruth 4:18-22 and Matthew 1:1-16.