



**WHY IS IT  
IMPORTANT  
THAT WE  
TRUST AND  
OBEY GOD?**

**Our God Leads**

**The  
POINT >**

**Trust and obedience are rooted  
in following God.**

**> RUTH 1:1-6,16-17**

<sup>1</sup>In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. <sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. <sup>6</sup>Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food.

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<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

**> RUTH 2:11-13,19-20**

<sup>11</sup>But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. <sup>12</sup>The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" <sup>13</sup>Then she said, "I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants."

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<sup>19</sup>And her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." <sup>20</sup>And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."





# THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

## FACT:

Fresh fruit, chips, and sandwiches with deli meat are the most common items packed in kids' lunches.<sup>1</sup>



## LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // PEOPLE

We can grow in Christlikeness by trusting and obeying God as He works in our lives.

I remember moving to a new school halfway through the year. I didn't know anyone, and everything felt unfamiliar. I missed my old friends, my routine, and the sense of security that came with knowing where I belonged. For the first few weeks, I kept my head down, hoping things would get better but mostly just feeling alone. Then, one day, a classmate invited me to sit with him at lunch. That simple act changed everything. It didn't fix all the tough things, but it gave me hope and reminded me I wasn't completely alone.

In today's story, we see someone else stepping into the unknown. Ruth chooses to leave her home and follow her mother-in-law, Naomi, into a new land, even though it's risky and unfamiliar. She doesn't have a plan or a guarantee that things will work out, just trust in God. It would've been easier for Ruth to go back to what she knew, like Orpah, but she stayed faithful. Her trust and obedience opened the door for God's provision, showing that even in uncertain and uncomfortable places, God is still leading and working through the choices we make in faith.

## RUTH 1:1-6

**1** Is your typical response to bad news to run from it or freeze?

**2** What are some things you can do to practice trusting God's providence in the face of uncertainty?

*God's plans are often not easy  
but are always worth following.  
#BSFLStudentsOurGod*

## RUTH 1:16-17; 2:11-13

**3** Why does it sometimes feel difficult to follow God's plan, even though we know it's best?

**4** Are you willing to trust God's plan for your life, even when it feels risky? Why or why not?

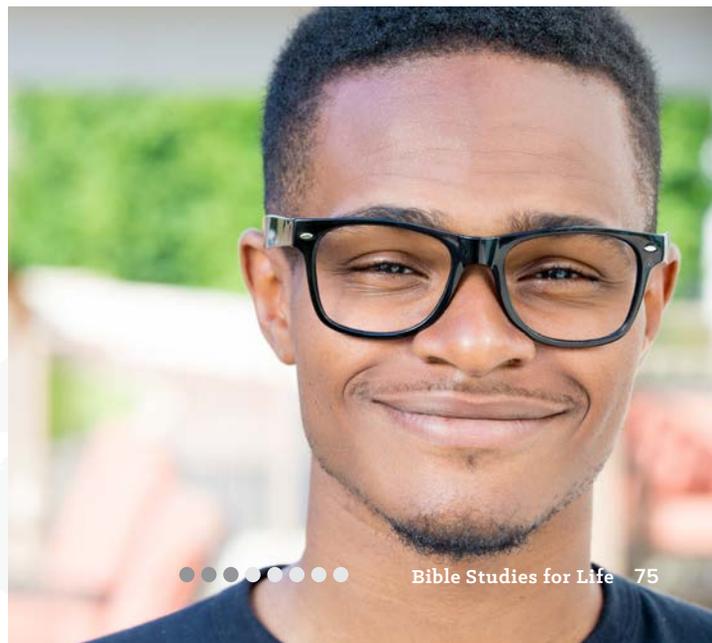
**5** Why do you think Boaz had such favor toward Ruth?

## RUTH 2:19-20

**6** How can you show faith and obedience to God in the ordinary or even uncomfortable parts of your life?

**7** How might God be using you, like Boaz, to bless others who are vulnerable or in need?

**8** How can you practice trust like Naomi, or help someone else trust, when you're unsure about your future?





# LIVE IT OUT



## LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // PEOPLE

*We can grow in Christlikeness by trusting and obeying God as He works in our lives.*

*Trusting and obeying can be two difficult actions for students. It's no different when it comes to following Jesus. We must be reminded that Jesus doesn't just want our ears—He wants our hearts and hands. In other words, He wants us to do what He says. Trust and obedience are rooted in following God. As a student leader, modeling this in your own life is crucial.*

## > CHRIST

**9** Ruth chose radical loyalty and trust in a story that she couldn't see the ending of. How does that challenge the way you think about following Jesus when His plan feels unclear or uncomfortable?

**10** Boaz showed unexpected kindness and favor to someone who didn't "belong." How does that reflect the heart of Christ, and how could you live with that same kind of grace?

GOD

JESUS

HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLE

SALVATION

CREATION

CHURCH

**PEOPLE**

FAMILY

COMMUNITY  
& WORLD

## > COMMUNITY

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**11** How can you show up for the people around you, especially when they're hurting or feeling alone?



**12** How can we, as a community, become a place where people feel seen, valued, and cared for regardless of who they are?

## > CULTURE

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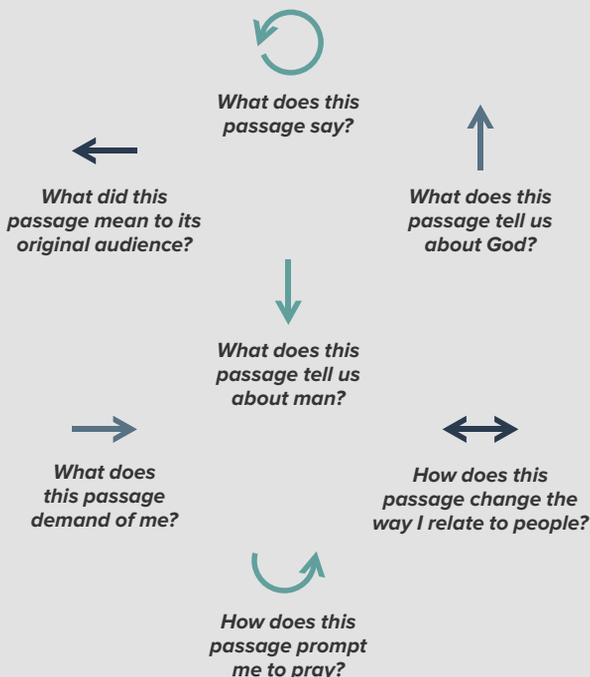
**13** In our culture of independence, how can you learn to embrace God's leadership through the people He places in your life, especially when the future seems unclear?

**14** How can you encourage others to persist in prayer, knowing that God listens and responds, even when the answer seems delayed?

# DAILY DEVOTIONS



## The 7 Arrows of Bible Reading



## Day One **PROVERBS 3:5-6**

For many of us, these are some of the more often-quoted verses of the entire Bible. You might have even seen them in a lot of social media posts or even on art hanging in a craft store. Solomon offers sound wisdom for life with the understanding that human nature is always in need of guidance and correction. This can look like a situation that appears to be the right choice but may be the wrong one. The good news is that the Lord sees the big picture and He always knows what's best for us.

If we want perfect direction in life, we should acknowledge the Lord in all our ways. He will not only guide us in the right way but also remove obstacles from our path. The apostle James encourages us to consult the Lord's will when we need to plan our days. We all know that life is difficult, and sometimes it truly can be more of a struggle if we make the more foolish decisions in life instead of the ones God has for us. We should strive to follow God's plan and His will for our lives.

- **What does it practically look like to “trust in the Lord with all your heart” in your daily life?**
- **How can you invite Him into every decision, big or small?**

## Day Two

# DEUTERONOMY 10:18-19



God cares about justice and mercy for those society often overlooks—the orphan, the widow, and the foreigner. He is also deeply compassionate toward all people. God isn't distant from human suffering; He actively defends and provides for the vulnerable. We can see how His provision of food, clothing, protection, comfort, and care shows a concern for both physical well-being and human dignity. And God sets a clear standard for us: We are to reflect this same heart in how we treat others. The call to love the foreigners is rooted in Israel's own experience. God reminds His people of their story of dependence and deliverance, for they were once slaves in a foreign land. Rather than seeing the outsider as a threat, the Israelites were to reflect God's love and justice. This should challenge us to go beyond passive tolerance and step into active compassion—welcoming, providing for, and honoring those who might otherwise be unseen or unprotected.

- **How does God's defense of the vulnerable reshape our understanding of power and responsibility?**
- **How can our own experiences of vulnerability transform our attitudes and actions toward those who are marginalized?**

## Day Three

# GALATIANS 6:9

Paul encourages believers to persist in doing good with the assurance that, in due time, they will reap a harvest if they do not grow weary. Sometimes it can feel like we often do things that go unseen or feel like thankless efforts of faithful living. Challenges of life, disappointments, or even delays can make it easy to become discouraged, especially when the results are not what we expected. However, Paul reminds us that God is faithful, and in His perfect timing, the seeds we plant through our good deeds will bear fruit. This call to perseverance aligns with the deeper principle that God honors those who remain steadfast in doing good, even when the path is difficult. We are reminded to not grow weary, which highlights the importance of maintaining our commitment to righteousness and compassion, even in our struggles. It can be easy to develop an attitude when things don't necessarily make sense to us, but when we live with integrity, extend kindness, and act in faith, God rewards faithfulness. Even if the things we do seem to go unnoticed, it's not in vain. God sees the work we are doing, He honors the willingness of our hearts, and He will bring about the fruit of our perseverance at the right time.

- **Why is it important to keep doing good things, even when it's difficult?**
- **What do you think God means when He says we will reap a harvest?**

## Day Four

# MATTHEW 5:16

Jesus tells His followers to let their light shine before others so that their good works do not reflect on themselves but rather point to the glory of God. We need to think about how we live—our choices, our kindness, our work ethic, and our compassion—and the impact it has on others as a testimony of God’s presence in our lives. It’s not about public recognition or drawing attention to ourselves, but it’s about allowing ourselves to reflect God’s goodness through our actions. From the biggest responsibilities of our lives down to the smallest tasks carried out with humility, these serve as powerful evidence of God’s work in and through us.

We also need to remember that our lives are never lived in total isolation. Someone is always watching, even in ordinary moments. We need to be constantly aware that these acts of integrity have the potential to encourage others, offer hope, and stir curiosity about the God we serve. In this way, the faithful choices we make—especially in tough or humble circumstances—become part of a larger story in which God is glorified through everyday faithfulness.

- › **What does it mean to let your light shine, and how can you do this in your everyday life?**
- › **How can our actions help people learn more about who God is?**

## Day Five

# 1 PETER 5:6-7



As believers, we are called to a posture of humility under God’s mighty hand with the promise that He will lift us up. Often, we mistake dependence for weakness because we have to rely on someone else for support. However, this humility is not weakness but a deep trust in God’s timing and authority over our lives. It’s the willingness to surrender control of the things we hold on to and to stop striving in our own strength while resting in the assurance that God sees us, values us, and will exalt us when the time is right. The invitation to humble ourselves should be comforting when we are in seasons of uncertainty, the future is unclear, or the way forward seems impossible. This is why casting our anxiety on Him targets the heart of human experience. We carry burdens of loss, fear, provision, or identity, and God invites us to hand them over to Him—fully and freely—because He cares and can handle them. When we trust God enough to surrender our fears and trust in His plan, we position ourselves to know His grace and provision in ways we would not have on our own.

- › **What does it mean to be humble and trust God to help you at the right time?**
- › **Why do you think God wants you to give Him all your worries?**