

3s/4s**OCTOBER 25, 2026****KEY QUESTION:****WHO WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS?****BIG IDEA:****GOD WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS.****VERSE OF THE MONTH:****“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” MATTHEW 22:39****BIBLE STORY:****RUTH HELPS NAOMI – RUTH 1:1-19****OVERVIEW****Centers****Large Group****Circle Time****Table Time****Play Time**

KEY QUESTION: WHO WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS? • BIG IDEA: GOD WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS.

FLOOR CENTER

TRAVEL BUDDIES

In this activity, we'll play a big and small matching game. Today we'll hear about Ruth and Naomi traveling on a long trip.

Supplies:

1. "Travel Buddies – Large" Activity Pages (printed on 11" x 17" paper)
2. "Travel Buddies – Small" Activity Pages (3 sets, printed on cardstock, cut out)
3. Paper lunch bag
4. Painter's tape

How-To:

1. Tape the large pictures in different areas of the room. Put all the small pictures in the bag.
2. Have the children get into pairs. Start by allowing each pair to choose a picture from the bag.
3. Encourage each pair to "travel" together to the matching large picture. Encourage them to travel in different ways each time (e.g., jump to the playground, walk to the school, skip to the grocery store, dance to the restaurant).
4. Say, **[Big Idea] "God wants me to help others!"** together.

Say This:

Before the Activity:

We're going to play a game where we pretend to go on a trip with a friend. First, everyone will find a partner. Each pair will pull a picture from the bag (*hold up bag*). Then you'll go together with your travel buddy to the picture (*point to large pictures*) that matches your card. Once everyone has gone on their trip, we'll shout, **[Big Idea] "God wants me to help others!"** together.

During the Activity:

Let's play! Okay, everyone find a friend to travel with you. (*Allow each pair to choose a picture from the bag.*) Now, go together to the large picture that matches! Awesome! **[Big Idea] God wants me to help others!** Put the pictures back in my bag so we can play again.

After the Activity:

Great job matching the pictures with your travel buddy! Today we're going to hear about two people who went on a long trip together.

BIBLE STORY: RUTH HELPS NAOMI - RUTH 1:1-19
VERSE OF THE MONTH: "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." MATTHEW 22:39

CIRCLE TIME

What You Need:

1. Bible
2. Stickers

Say This:

Prompt the children to remember what they learned in The Playhouse. Celebrate when they remember!

- Naomi was about to go on a long *(trip)*.
- Naomi was going to go by herself, but Ruth didn't want her to be *(alone)*.
- Ruth traveled with Naomi and made sure she had water to drink and food to *(eat)*.
- God wanted Ruth to help others, and God wants me to *(help others)*.

Practice the Verse:

Open the Bible to remind the children that our verse comes from the Bible.

Are you ready to practice our Bible verse? *(Let children respond.)* Okay, let's all say it together.

"Love (hug self) your neighbor (point all around) as yourself (thumbs to chest)" Matthew 22:39.
(Open hands like a book.)

Now, who wants to try saying it by yourself? *(Reward each child with a sticker for saying the verse.)*

Talk About It:

Ruth helped Naomi by going on the long trip with her. And just like Naomi had someone to help her, we have people to help us too! How can you show love to the people who help you?
(Examples might be saying "thank you" to a teacher for helping you tie your shoes, making cookies for the babysitter who helps take care of you, or giving a hug to your mommy or daddy for helping you make a snack.)

Let's pray and thank God for the people who help us.

Pray:

Dear God, thank you for all the people who love us and help us. Please help us remember to show love to them by *(talk about the ways you discussed)*. We love you, God. Amen.

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TABLE TIME

MY SUITCASE

Supplies:

1. “My Suitcase” Activity Page (1 per child, printed on cardstock)
2. “My Suitcase – Stickers” Activity Page (multiple sheets, printed on OL2088 labels)
3. Pipe cleaners (2 per child)
4. Hole punch
5. Crayons

How-To:

1. Fold the Activity Pages in half, punch holes at the top of each buckle, and give each child a “suitcase.”
2. Encourage them to put stickers of items they’d like to pack on the “inside” of their suitcase.
3. Encourage them to color the outside of their suitcase with crayons.
4. Close the suitcase, and thread pipe cleaners through the sets of holes on both sides to make the handles.

Say This:

Before the Activity:

How did Ruth help Naomi? *(Let children respond.)* That’s right. She helped Naomi go on a really long trip. What do you have to do before you go on a trip? *(Let children respond.)* Yes! You have to pack your bag!

During the Activity:

(Give each child a “suitcase.”) If you were going on a trip, what kinds of things would you want to pack? *(Let children respond.)* Let’s pack these pretend suitcases! I have all sorts of things here *(hold up stickers)* that you can pack inside your suitcase. If you think of something you’d like to pack that isn’t on one of these stickers, you can draw it! You can color the outside of your suitcase too. *(Assist children in coloring and choosing sticker items.)* When you are done, we will help you add your pipe cleaner handles!

After the Activity:

We are all ready for a long trip! I hope you remember how Ruth helped Naomi and how God wants you to help others too. **[Key Question] Who wants me to help others? [Big Idea] God wants me to help others!**