



LESSON 5: GOD GIVES RUTH AND NAOMI A GOOD FRIENDSHIP

OBJECT LESSON: FRIENDSHIP THAT STICKS

SUPPLIES

- paper towels
- bowl
- small cup of water
- 3-4 ice cubes
- salt

Fill Bowls With Water

In our Bible story, Ruth and Naomi stuck together. Let's do an experiment to see if string and ice can stick together.

Let's say that we're one of the ice cubes and the other is a friend. We want to stick together. Try to use one of the ice cubes to lift the other ice cube out.

Add Salt

We want the ice cubes to stick together. What can we do? Let's try covering the string with salt. Add pinches of salt to the ice. Count to 10, and then slowly lift one ice cube. The salt should cause the ice to stick to the ice so you can lift it out of the bowl.

That worked! You know, a group of friends is great! Let's add more ice-cube friends to our string. See how many ice cubes you can attach to one it. Add more ice cubes to the bowls, and add salt. See how many ice cubes you can lift.

Talk About It

Why do you think adding salt helped the ice to stick? The salt made the ice melt a little bit and then refreeze. The ice cube became part of the first ice cube, making the two stick together.

Let's say one of the ice cubes represents you, the other ice cubes are your friends, and the salt is hard times. How can you stick with your friends in hard times?

Hard times have a way of bringing friends together. We need to stick together in order to find comfort and help. In our Bible story, Ruth and Naomi stuck together during some really tough times. Ruth said that she'd go wherever Naomi went and that Naomi's family would be her family and Naomi's God would be her God, too. Their friendship brought joy and love during a tough time.

Think about a difficult time that brought you closer to a friend or family member. Perhaps a friend cared for you when you were sick or encouraged you. God gives us friends to stick with us and love us. Friendship gets even stronger when we go through difficult things together. When times are tough, God shows us his love through our friends.