

The Kind Couple: Ruth and Boaz

CHARACTERS: 1 male, 2 female, 1 either

COSTUMES: Biblical

SETTING: Bare stage or Biblical

RUN TIME: 4 minutes

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ruth, Proverbs, Gal. 6

BYSTANDER: *(to audience)* In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine. *Do you know what a famine is? (get responses from the children)*

NAOMI: *(to audience, sounding depressed until the end)* My husband, a man from Bethlehem named Elimelech and my 2 sons, Mahlon and Kilion went to Moab and lived there so we had food to eat. But then disaster struck. My husband died. My sons married Moabite girls, Orpah and Ruth.

ORPAH : *(to audience)* But then my husband and Ruth's died. Poor Naomi had no family left. She decided to go home to Bethlehem because the famine was over.

NAOMI : *(to Ruth and Orpah)* Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to me. May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.

ORPAH: We will go back with you to your people.

NAOMI: Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband or more sons. When I get back to Bethlehem, I have no land, I'll be poor and homeless.

ORPAH: Alright *(exits)*

RUTH: *Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.*

NAOMI: Then we go to Bethlehem, Ruth.

BYSTANDER: *(To Boaz, pointing at Naomi)* Can this be Naomi? She's poor. As old as she is, she'll never be able to feed herself.

BOAZ: *(Point at Ruth)* Who is that woman working in my field, picking up the left over barley?

BYSTANDER: That's her daughter in law Ruth from Moab. She's worked steadily since she got here. She's very kind to her mother in law.

BOAZ: *(to Ruth)* Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with my servant girls. Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the girls. I have told the men not to

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bother you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled. Please have lunch with my workers and when you go home, take this extra barley for supper.

RUTH: Why are you being so kind to me -a foreigner?

BOAZ: I've been told how kind you are to your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.

BYSTANDER: *(to kids)* Boaz gave her lots of barley to take home. He was very kind to Ruth and Naomi.

NAOMI: Look at all this barley!!!! Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the kind man who took notice of you!"

RUTH: At Boaz's barley field in Bethlehem

NAOMI: What a kind man! He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead

BYSTANDER: *(to kids)* The next thing you know – the kind hearted Ruth married the kind hearted Boaz. They had a child who became the grandfather of King David the giant slayer and great grandfather of Solomon the wise.

ORPAH: Solomon wrote a lot about kindness in his book of Proverbs. He wrote “A **kind**hearted woman gains respect, but ruthless men gain only wealth.”

NAOMI: He wrote whoever is **kind** to the needy honors God.

BOAZ: He who is **kind** to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.

BYSTANDER: One of the fruits of the Spirit is kindness

RUTH: *(Ask the follow up questions to the kids)*