



**Carrollton Christian
Fellowship**

The Loyal Heart of Ruth

****Once upon a time,**** in a land far away, there lived a young woman named Ruth. Ruth was kind and loving, and she had married a wonderful man from Bethlehem. But one day, something very sad happened: Ruth's husband, her brother-in-law, and her father-in-law all passed away, leaving Ruth, her sister-in-law Orpah, and her mother-in-law Naomi alone.

Naomi decided to return to her homeland of Bethlehem and told Ruth and Orpah that they should stay in their home country of Moab and find new lives and new husbands. Orpah was sad but decided to stay. But Ruth loved Naomi very much and did not want to leave her alone. She said to Naomi, "Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God."

Ruth and Naomi traveled together to Bethlehem, where the fields were rich and the people were kind. When they arrived, it was the time of the barley harvest. Ruth decided to help Naomi by going to the fields to gather leftover grain, so they would have food to eat.

As she worked hard in the fields from morning until evening, a kind man named Boaz noticed her. Boaz was the owner of the fields and a relative of Naomi's husband. He admired Ruth's loyalty to Naomi and her hard work. He told his workers to make sure Ruth was safe and to leave extra grain for her to gather.

One day, Boaz spoke to Ruth and said, "I have heard about all the kind things you have done for Naomi. May the Lord repay you for your deeds and give you a full reward."

Ruth was grateful and continued to work in the fields, bringing home plenty of grain for her and Naomi. Naomi was happy to see how well Ruth was doing and she told Ruth, "Boaz is a

close relative. He is our family redeemer. Stay with his workers until the harvest is completed."

As time passed, Ruth and Boaz grew fond of each other. Boaz admired Ruth's loyalty and kindness, and Ruth appreciated Boaz's generosity and protection. Eventually, Boaz and Ruth were married, and their love blossomed even more. They had a son named Obed, who would later become the grandfather of King David, one of the greatest kings of Israel.

Ruth's loyalty to Naomi and her hard work brought great blessings to their lives. She became part of the family that would bring forth Jesus, the King of Kings.

****The lesson learned:**** Ruth's story teaches us the importance of loyalty, kindness, and hard work. When we love and care for others, God blesses us in surprising and wonderful ways.

****Goodnight, dear child! Remember to be loyal and kind, and trust that God will bless you in amazing ways. Sweet dreams!****

Joseph's Faithful Choice

****Once upon a time,**** in a quiet village called Nazareth, there lived a kind and good-hearted carpenter named Joseph. He always tried to do what was right and cared deeply for the people around him. Joseph was engaged to a wonderful young woman named Mary, and they both looked forward to a happy life together.

One night, Joseph had a dream that would change his life forever. In that dream, an angel from the Lord appeared to him, shining brightly. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the baby she is expecting is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you shall name him Jesus because He will save His people from their sins."

Joseph woke up, feeling amazed and a little scared. He didn't fully understand everything, but he trusted that God had a special plan. Even though some people in the village might not understand, Joseph chose to obey God's message. He decided to take Mary as his wife and protect her and the baby.

Months went by, and the time came for Mary to give birth. But they had to travel to Bethlehem for a census. Joseph gently helped Mary onto a donkey, and together they made the long journey. When they arrived, the town was crowded, and there was no room for them at the inn. Joseph did not panic. He found a humble stable where they could stay.

That very night, with animals quietly resting around them, Mary gave birth to baby Jesus. Joseph was right by her side, supporting her with love and care. He remembered the angel's words and knew that this little baby was special. He named Him Jesus, just as the angel had instructed.

Shepherds from the nearby fields came to see the newborn child, and wise men from faraway lands brought gifts. Everyone marveled at the baby Jesus, knowing He was the promised savior. Joseph felt honored to be a part of God's amazing plan and was grateful for the strength and guidance God had given him.

****The lesson learned:**** Joseph's story teaches us the importance of trusting and obeying God, even when it's difficult to understand. When we follow God's guidance with faith, He will lead us to be a part of something truly wonderful.

****Goodnight, dear child!** Remember that when you trust God and follow His guidance, amazing things can happen. Sweet dreams!******

The Little King Josiah

****Once upon a time,**** in the ancient kingdom of Judah, there lived a young boy named Josiah. Josiah became king when he was only eight years old after his father, the previous king, had passed away. Even though he was very young, Josiah had a heart full of love for God and wanted to be a good king.

Josiah had heard stories about the great kings before him, like King David and King Solomon, and he wanted to follow in their footsteps. One day, when Josiah was a bit older, he decided that it was time to make some big changes in his kingdom. He noticed that the people had forgotten about God and were worshiping false idols made of wood and stone. Josiah knew this was wrong and that they needed to return to following the one true God.

With a brave heart, King Josiah ordered that all the idols be removed and destroyed. He sent workers to clean and repair the Temple of God, which had been neglected and fallen into ruins. As the workers were cleaning the temple, they found something incredible—a long-lost scroll! It was the Book of the Law, God's special instructions for His people.

Josiah eagerly asked the priest to read the scroll to him. As he listened, Josiah realized that the people had strayed far from God's commands. He was deeply saddened and tore his clothes as a sign of his repentance. Josiah wanted to make things right. He called all the people together and read the Book of the Law to them. He made a covenant, a special promise, to follow God's ways and encouraged the people to do the same.

Under King Josiah's leadership, the people of Judah turned back to God. They celebrated Passover, a special festival to remember how God had saved their ancestors from Egypt. It was the most joyful and grand Passover celebration in many generations.

King Josiah reigned for many years, and throughout his reign, he continued to seek God's guidance and follow His commands. The kingdom of Judah was blessed with peace and prosperity because of Josiah's faithfulness.

****The lesson learned:**** Josiah's story teaches us that it doesn't matter how young or small we are; we can make big changes by following God's ways and having a heart full of love and faithfulness.

****Goodnight, dear child!** Remember that you, too, can be a leader like Josiah by loving God and following His ways. Sweet dreams!**

The Courageous Faith of Rahab

****Once upon a time,**** in the ancient city of Jericho, lived a woman named Rahab. Rahab's house was built into the great wall that surrounded the city, and she could see everything from her window. One day, Rahab noticed a lot of commotion in the city. People were talking about the powerful army of Israelites camped just outside the walls.

The people in Jericho were very afraid because they had heard many incredible stories about the Israelites' God, who had parted the Red Sea and helped His people defeat mighty kings. Rahab had heard these stories too, and she believed in the power of the Israelites' God. She knew He must be the one true God.

One evening, two Israelite spies came to Rahab's door. They were sent by their leader, Joshua, to find out all they could about Jericho. Rahab welcomed them into her home and hid them on her roof, under bundles of flax. She knew that soldiers from Jericho would be looking for the spies, so she wanted to keep them safe.

The king's soldiers came to Rahab's house and knocked loudly on the door. "Bring out the men who came to your house," they demanded. Rahab calmly replied, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don't know which way they went. Go after them quickly; you may catch up with them."

The soldiers hurried off, chasing in the wrong direction. Rahab then went up to the roof and spoke to the spies. "I know that your God is the true God of heaven and earth," she said. "Please, since I have shown kindness to you, promise that you will save my family and me when your army takes the city."

The spies agreed. "Our lives for your lives," they said. "Tie this scarlet rope in your window. When we see it, we will know that you and your family must be spared. But make sure everyone you want to be saved is inside your house."

Rahab agreed and let the spies down the wall with a rope, safely outside the city. She tied the scarlet rope in her window and waited, trusting in the promise of the spies and the power of their God.

Days later, the Israelites marched around Jericho's walls for seven days just as God had instructed them. On the seventh day, they blew their trumpets and shouted, and the mighty walls of Jericho came tumbling down. But Rahab's house, with the scarlet rope in the window, stood firm.

Joshua sent the spies to bring Rahab and her family out safely. Because of her courageous faith and the promise they made, Rahab and her family were saved. She joined the Israelites and eventually became the great-great-grandmother of King David!

****The lesson learned:**** Rahab's story teaches us that having faith in God can guide us to make brave choices, and He will always keep His promises to save and protect us.

****Goodnight, dear child! Remember, with faith and courage, you can trust that God will guide and protect you. Sweet dreams!****

The Brave Song of Jehoshaphat

****Once upon a time,**** in the land of Judah, there lived a wise and kind king named Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat loved God very much and always tried his best to follow God's ways. Under his rule, the people of Judah lived in peace and happiness.

One day, a messenger came running to the palace with terrible news. A huge army from neighboring lands was coming to attack Judah. The people were frightened and didn't know what to do. Jehoshaphat, too, felt worried, but he knew that God was greater than any army.

King Jehoshaphat called everyone in the kingdom to gather together and pray to God. People from every village and town came to the city and joined their king in prayer. Jehoshaphat stood before them and prayed, "O Lord, we do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You. Please help us and protect us."

As they were praying, a prophet stood up and delivered a message from God. God said, "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. The battle is not yours, but Mine. You will not have to fight this battle. Stand firm, and you will see the deliverance the Lord will give you."

Hearing this, Jehoshaphat and all the people felt the peace of God fill their hearts. The next morning, early at dawn, Jehoshaphat did something very unusual. Instead of sending soldiers to the front lines, he decided to send singers and musicians. They sang praises to God and marched ahead of the army, singing, "Give thanks to the Lord, for His love endures forever!"

As the singers and musicians marched and sang, something amazing happened. God caused confusion among the enemy soldiers, and they began to fight each other instead of attacking Judah. By the time Jehoshaphat and his army arrived, the battle was already won. The enemy soldiers had defeated themselves, and there was not a single one left standing.

King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah rejoiced and praised God for His miraculous deliverance. They named the place “The Valley of Berakah,” which means “The Valley of Blessing,” because they had experienced God’s blessings in a powerful way. For the rest of Jehoshaphat’s reign, Judah enjoyed peace and prosperity because they trusted in God and followed His ways.

****The lesson learned:**** King Jehoshaphat’s story teaches us that when we face difficult and scary situations, we should turn to God in prayer and trust in His power. God will fight our battles and bring us peace when we praise and trust Him.

****Goodnight, dear child! Remember that you can always trust God to help you, no matter how big the problem. Sweet dreams!****

The Adventures of Zerubbabel and the Hidden Treasure

****Once upon a time,**** in a distant land, there was a wise leader named Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel had a big task ahead of him—he was chosen by God to lead the people of Israel back to their homeland from the faraway land of Babylon. The journey was long and filled with challenges, but Zerubbabel was brave and trusted God's plan.

When they finally arrived in Jerusalem, the once glorious city was in ruins. The temple, where they worshiped God, was nothing but rubble. Zerubbabel gathered the people and said, "Do not be discouraged. God is with us, and we will rebuild His temple together."

With great excitement and a lot of hard work, the people began to clean up the debris. They used their hands, shovels, and even old tools they found among the ruins. One day, as they were digging through the rubble, a young boy named Benjamin discovered something shiny. It was a hidden treasure box covered in dust and dirt.

"Zerubbabel! Look what I found!" Benjamin shouted, running over with the treasure box in his hands.

Zerubbabel gently opened the box, and inside, they found old scrolls and precious jewels. These scrolls contained the ancient plans for the temple and the laws of Moses. The people were overjoyed. With these scrolls, they could rebuild the temple just as God had commanded long ago.

As they continued their work, God sent them messages of encouragement through the prophets Haggai and Zechariah. The prophets reminded Zerubbabel and the people that God's Spirit was with them, and they should not be afraid. "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord Almighty.

Years passed, and with determination and faith, the temple was finally rebuilt. It stood tall and beautiful, a shining symbol of their devotion to God. The people gathered to celebrate and praise God for His faithfulness.

"Thank you, God, for giving us the strength and courage to rebuild Your temple," Zerubbabel prayed. "May this temple be a place where all people come to worship You."

The people of Israel learned that, with God's help, they could accomplish great things, even in the face of challenges. Zerubbabel's leadership and trust in God inspired everyone to believe that no task was too big when they worked together with faith.

****The lesson learned:**** The story of Zerubbabel and the hidden treasure teaches us about the power of trusting God and working together. When we face challenges, we can remember that with God's Spirit, we can achieve great things.

Goodnight, dear child! Remember, no matter how big the task ahead, with faith and teamwork, you can overcome any challenge. Sweet dreams!