

First Look | November 2

Today's Bible Story: I can thank God for family.

Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz • *Ruth* 1-2

Key Question: Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line: I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse: *I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.* (Psalm 111:1 ESV)

1. Story in the Stalks

What You Need:

- ☐ "Story in the Stalks" Activity Page
- ☐ "Stalk Stickers" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels # 22807 or equivalent
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Story in the Stalks" on cardstock, one per child. Copy "Stalk Stickers" on label paper, one set per child. Remove the border of each sticker sheet and discard, leaving the stickers intact on the backing paper. Cut the stickers into sets, one for each child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the stalks of grain then add each story sticker as you review the Bible Story.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come join me at the table and let's make some story art to help us remember we can thank God for everything!"

During the Activity: "On your paper are stalks of grain. Use the crayons to color the stalk and the grain. These big circles, leave them blank and we'll add to those in a bit. *(Pause.)* Okay! Look at this circle. *(Point to the first circle.)* It has one dot in it. Put this sticker of Naomi in it. *(Pause.)* Naomi was sad because her husband and sons had died, and she was all alone.

"This next circle has two dots in it. *(Point to the second circle.)* That's where the sticker of Naomi and Ruth goes. *(Pause.)* Naomi decided to go back to the town where she grew up and Ruth went with her. Ruth said, 'I'm your family, Naomi! Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live.' (Ruth 1:16) Naomi was so happy that she and Ruth were family, and she had someone to walk with her. Ruth and Naomi took care of each other.

"This circle here has three dots on it. *(Point.)* That's where the sticker of Ruth picking grain goes. *(Pause.)* Ruth and Naomi were hungry, so Ruth found a field nearby and picked some grain for them to eat.

"This field belonged to a man named Boaz. And Naomi was part of his family! Boaz decided to take care of Ruth and Naomi and made sure they had plenty of food to eat! This sticker goes in the very last circle. *(Pause.)* Great job!"

After the Activity: “God gave Naomi family to help her. Then God sent more family to help. Thank You, God! God gives us people to call family too. All families can take care of each other. Thank You, God, for giving us family! Thank You, God for everything. **Who can you thank for everything?** **[Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything.**”

EveryChild Tips:

- Create an example for children to see.
- Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed.

2. Pray

Dear God, Thank You for stories in the Bible that teach us about You and how we can thank You for everything. Today, we want to thank You for family. Please help us give thanks to You with our whole heart every day. We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen.”