

June 1–7

Ruth; 1 Samuel 1–3

“My Heart Rejoiceth in the Lord”



Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 1:1-5

How might the choices Naomi's family made be viewed in light of the Law of Moses?

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 1:6-11

What does Naomi's blessing reveal about how her daughters-in-law treated her and her sons?

What do Naomi's actions and words suggest about her selflessness and her concern for her daughters-in-law?

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 1:14-18

What do Ruth's words and actions reveal about her commitment and conversion?

Aileen H. Clyde

"Ruth announces her decision and confirms her conversion. 'Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.'

"When Naomi, herself realistic and wise, saw Ruth's steadfastness, 'she left off speaking to her' which does not mean she stopped talking with her, but that she quit trying to convince her of the difficulties she would face in Israel. Ruth, the Moabitess, would face bigotry, poverty, and much insecurity, but she was converted, and she had decided." (CR, Oct. 1992)

Walter F. González

"Following Christ may mean forsaking many dear things, as Ruth the Moabite did. As a new convert, out of love for God and Naomi, she left everything behind to live her religion." (CR, April 2011)

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 1:19-22

How might you respond to Naomi's belief that "the Almighty hath afflicted me"?

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 2:2-3

What was the practice of gleaning, and how did it provide for people like Ruth?

Deuteronomy 24:17,19

17) Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless; nor take a widow's raiment to pledge:

19) When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 2:5-7,11-12

What did Boaz know about Ruth?

What did Boaz wish for Ruth?

What does Boaz mean by "under whose wings thou art come to trust"?

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 2:15-20,23

How does Boaz show kindness to Ruth?

Why does Naomi feel that she has been blessed by the Lord?

Jerrie W. Hurd

“Secretly [Boaz] ordered his servants to let more barley fall, that Ruth might have more to glean. His charity was offered in a way that would not injure the pride of the two widows, who had chosen to remain independent. Expecting no thanks, he hoped Ruth would never know he was helping her. But Naomi wasn't fooled; when Ruth returned with more than her usual gleanings, she asked, ‘Where hast thou gleaned today?’ Ruth explained her encounter with Boaz, and Naomi expressed her thanks, saying, ‘Blessed be he of the Lord, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead.’” (Our Sisters in the Bible, pg. 58)

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 3:1,7-11

What do you think Boaz meant by "thou has shewed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning"?

How does Ruth's reputation influence Boaz's willingness to help her?

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 4:13-22

In what ways were Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz blessed because of their kindness and faithfulness?

Aileen H. Clyde

"Ruth confidently met hardships not uncommon in our time—the death of a loved one, loneliness in a new place, and the need to work hard for her bread. Her small efforts, linked significantly to a later great event, tell me that each of us can take seriously the importance of our daily lives and decisions as we choose to follow God." (CR, Oct. 1992)

Hannah

D&C 50:29-30

29 And if ye are purified and cleansed from all sin, ye shall ask whatsoever you will in the name of Jesus and it shall be done.

30 But know this, it shall be given you what you shall ask...

Neal A. Maxwell

“God sees things as they really are and as they will become. We don’t! In order to tap that precious perspective during our prayers, we must rely upon the promptings of the Holy Ghost. With access to that kind of knowledge, we would then pray for what we and others should have—really have. With the Spirit prompting us, we will not ask ‘amiss.’”
(Prayer, pg. 45)

Hannah

1 Sam 1:9-15

What does Hannah's prayer reveal about her faith and devotion to the Lord?

What did Hannah's vow reveal about her commitment to the Lord?

Linda M. Campbell

“This was no idle appeal nor selfish bargain, since it meant Hannah would have only a short time to enjoy her child. Her pledge that ‘there shall no razor come upon his head’ apparently was a reference to the Nazarite vow, a promise to consecrate a man for either a temporary period of time or, as in Hannah’s prayer, his entire life. He would then be set apart in a special way to prepare to serve the Lord and fulfill his purposes.” (“Hannah: Devoted Handmaid of the Lord,” *Ensign*, March 1998)

Hannah

1 Sam 1:20,24-28

What stands out to you about Hannah's actions after the Lord answered her prayer?

Hannah

1 Sam 2:18-21,26

What blessings did Hannah receive after her faith was tested, and what do they teach us about the Lord's response to faith and sacrifice?

Linda M. Campbell

“As the Lord promises all his children, once a test is fully met, the blessings are then bestowed, whether in this life or the next. Hannah was likewise blessed once the commitment to her vow had been fully tested. Not only did Samuel become a great prophet, serving the Lord all his days, but also Hannah’s yearnings for more children were fulfilled. At last her cup truly overflowed with blessings of great joy.

“Hannah’s testimony reaches across dispensations to our time, and her story is an invitation to apply the same principles of righteousness. Through doing so we, too, might rejoice in the Lord as we experience his innumerable blessings in our lives.” (“Hannah: Devoted Handmaid of the Lord,” Ensign, March 1998)

Eli's Wicked Sons

Hophni and Phinehas were sons of Eli, the high priest, and were priests themselves. However, they were wicked. When Israelites came to offer sacrifices at the tabernacle, his sons forcibly took the flesh of the sacrificial animals before the fat portions had been burned on the altar. They also took some of the flesh that the offerer was boiling for the sacrificial meal. These were serious transgressions of God's laws, equivalent to robbing God. (Old Testament Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual, 2018)

Eli's Wicked Sons

1 Sam 2:17,22-25

How did the actions of Eli's sons influence the people's attitudes toward the Lord and His offerings?

Eli's Wicked Sons

1 Sam 2:27-29

If Eli's sons had their agency, why was Eli still held accountable for their sacrilegious actions?

Eli's Wicked Sons

1Sam 2:30,34-35

How does the Lord demonstrate that those who honor Him will be honored, and those who despise Him will be lightly esteemed?

James E. Faust

"All of us who wish to be honored by the Lord and receive of His goodness, mercy, and eternal blessings must, I repeat, be obedient to these four great principles:

- Have a reverence for Deity.
- Have respect for and honor family relationships.
- Have a profound reverence for and obedience to the ordinances and covenants of the holy priesthood.
- Have respect for yourself as a son of God." (CR, April 2001)

The Lord Calls Samuel

1Sam 3:8-10

What can we learn from Samuel's experience about recognizing and responding to the Lord's voice?

Thomas S. Monson

“Are we sufficiently in tune with the Spirit that when the Lord calls, we can hear, as did Samuel, and declare, ‘Here am I’? Do we have the fortitude and the faith, whatever our callings, to serve with unflinching courage and unshakable resolve? When we do, the Lord can work His mighty miracles through us.” (CR, Oct. 1992)

The Lord Calls Samuel

1Sam 3:11-14

How does the Lord's statement, "when I begin, I will also make an end," help us understand what will happen to the house of Eli and the importance of Samuel's work?

Next Week:

June 8–14

1 Samuel 8–10; 13; 15–16

“The Lord Looketh on the Heart”

