



RUTH

Ruth 1-4

OVERVIEW-LEADERS

The story of Ruth is a BIG message in a SHORT story. Pray and read the whole book of Ruth. How is God speaking to you through this story? This short book speaks volumes about loyalty, diligence, integrity and generosity and how God uses everyday people and mundane events to weave the bigger story of his rescue plan. The culmination of this story is the birth of Ruth and Boaz's son, Obed, who is revealed as David's grandfather therefore linking Ruth, a Moab outsider, to the family of the Messiah. How does the story of Ruth reflect in your life? Do you see God at work in the mundane everyday of your life? See if you can think of some examples that you could share with the children.

"The Lord will reward you for all that you have done. You will be paid in full by the Lord, the God of Israel. You have come to Him as a little bird finds shelter under the wings of its mother" Ruth 2:12

WEEK 1

WELCOME BACK AND INTRODUCTION

- Ice breaker game
- "So what do you know?" Complete a who, what, where, when, why, how activity on a flip chart/whiteboard.
- Read the story of Ruth and/or watch video eg, Saddle back kids.
- Cut out the Ruth picture cards and put in the right order in small groups/pairs.
- Discuss their storyboards
- Opportunity to reflect and pray (5 min)

WEEK 2

DRAMA: NARRATIVE MIME

- Re-do story board cards from last week
- Re-watch video or re-tell story of Ruth
- Divide the story into the 4 chapters (different colour frames on picture cards). In 4 groups choose a chapter and have one or two people to narrate the story whilst the rest of the group mime the story.
- Perform to the rest of the group.
- How did it Ruth feel in each chapter?
- Time reflection and prayer (5 min)

WEEK 3

CRAFT: RIBBON BOOKMARK/BASKET

- Read verse Ruth 1:16 what does loyalty mean to you?
- How do you think Ruth felt gathering the wheat in the fields.
- Read Ruth 2:12, what do you think Boaz meant?
- Choose which craft they would like to do, if they have time they can complete both.
- Time reflection and prayer (5 min)

WEEK 4

REFLECTION

- "So what do we know now?" Complete the who, what, where, when, why, how activity compare it to the one you completed at the beginning.
- What is the same/different.
- Where is God in this story?
- Where is Jesus in this story?
- Longer time to reflect, write prayers, provide a frame work for their prayers based around loyalty

WELCOME AND INTRODCUTION

Resources: Chairs/pieces of paper to sit on. Post it notes/paper and tape, pen. Story of Ruth from a bible or video (laptop/speakers)
 eg. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irThVpde5Xk>
 or search 'Crossroads Kids Ruth.' Print out of Ruth story cards (one per group), scissors, bible, pens/pencils, paper.

N.B. keep story cards for week 2

1. ICE BREAKER GAME IDEAS

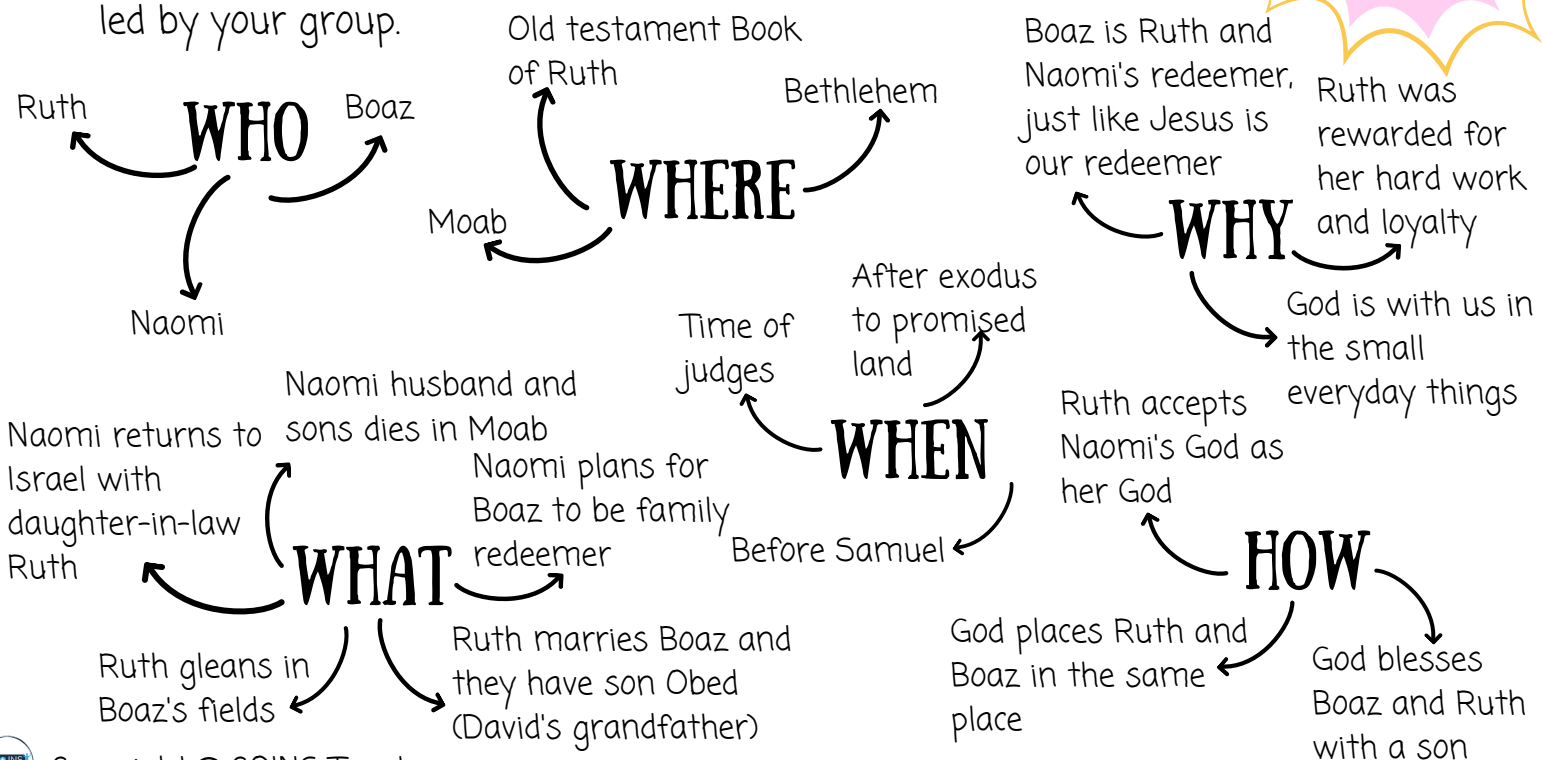
"A great wind blows"
 Need a chair for every child. Put the chairs in a circle facing each other. Say "A great wind blows for everyone....." eg. with brown hair, who ate cereal, who has a sister. Everyone in the category as to swap seats with someone else in the group. You can remove one chair like musical chairs and the person who is out can be the next caller.

"Pairs"
 Draw simple shapes on pieces of paper. Each shape should have a matching pair. Stick one shape on the back of each child. They need to find their matching pair **WITHOUT TALKING!** They will soon realise they need someone else to help them!

2. SO, WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Write who, what, where, when, why, how on a flip chart or white board and get the children to populate each of the questions with what they know about the story of Ruth. Here is an example, be led by your group.

N.B. keep this activity to compare in week 4



WEEK 1

RUTH STORYBOARD

Can you cut out and order these story cards?



DRAMA: NARRATIVE MIME

Resources: Story cards, Video and laptop/speakers, pens/pencils, paper, props (not essential eg. scarves, basket, wheat)

1. GO THROUGH STORY CARDS

Put the children into four small groups and get them to go through the story cards again, could time them to do it!

2. READ STORY/WATCH RUTH VIDEO

Re-read story or set up laptop/projector beforehand and make sure sound and video are working. Feel free to pause the story/video and ask how they feel, what they think might happen next etc. Discuss the main characters and how they might be feeling.

3. PREPARE CHAPTERS AND MIME

Divide the story into four chapters (different colour outline on story cards). Give one chapter to each group. Each group needs one narrator and the other members will mime the story. Talk about mime (no talking!!) need to exaggerate movements and make sure the audience can actually see what you are doing. Think about the main topic of each chapter and what is the main point you are trying to get across. The narrator can write a script if they want.

4. PERFORM

Set up a 'stage' area so the rest of the group can watch. Make sure you insist that everyone is respectful and sits and listens quietly to each other. They can read from their scripts. You may be able to film them but you will need to ask the school and comply with GDPR. Remind them to speak clearly and slowly. You may want to set a time limit so everyone has a chance to perform.

CRAFT: RIBBON BOOKMARK/BASKET



Resources Bookmark: Print out of bookmark on thick card (240 gsm) , hole punch (preferably do this in advance) , ribbon (cut into 1 m lengths), tape, scissors.

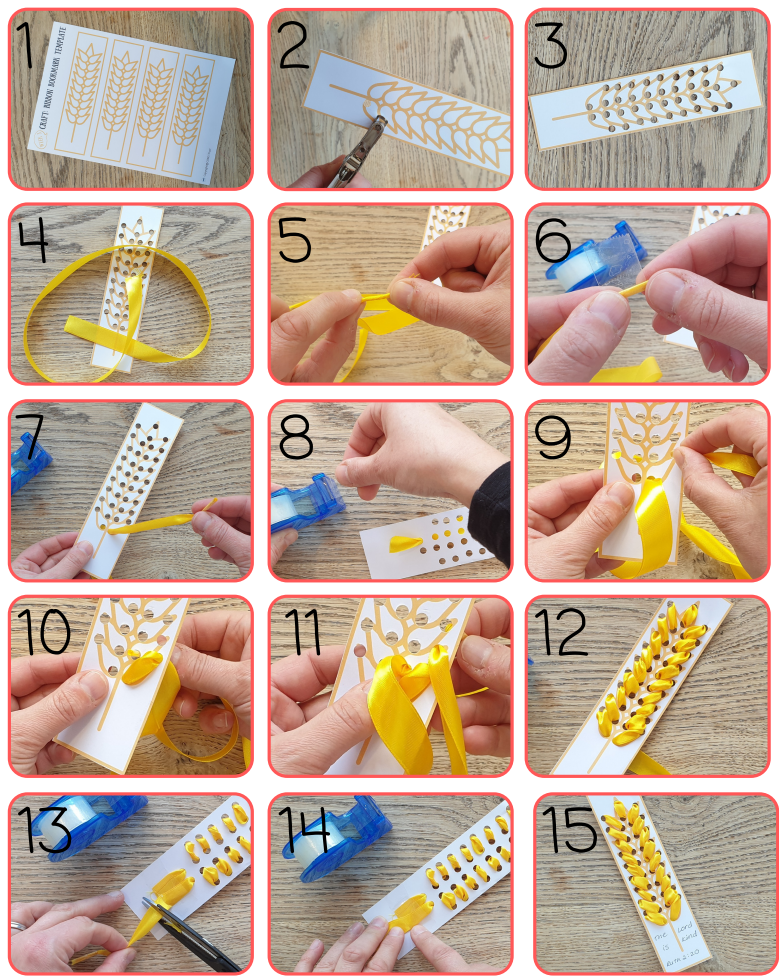
Resources Basket: A4 Paper (pre-cut into square and rectangle), glue, pens to decorate.



Talking points: How do you think Ruth and Naomi felt when they arrived in Bethlehem? Why did Ruth gather grain in the field? Why was Naomi so excited to learn that Ruth had met Boaz? What is a redeemer? (definition, a person how buys/exchanges something back to how is used to be). Where is God in this story? How does this story point to Jesus (think about Obed and Redeemer).

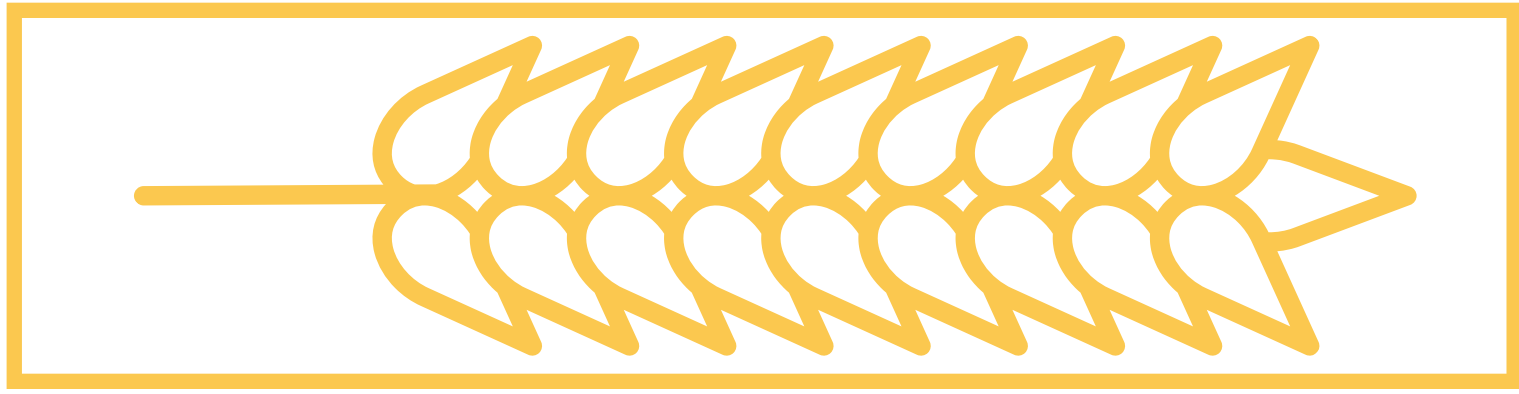
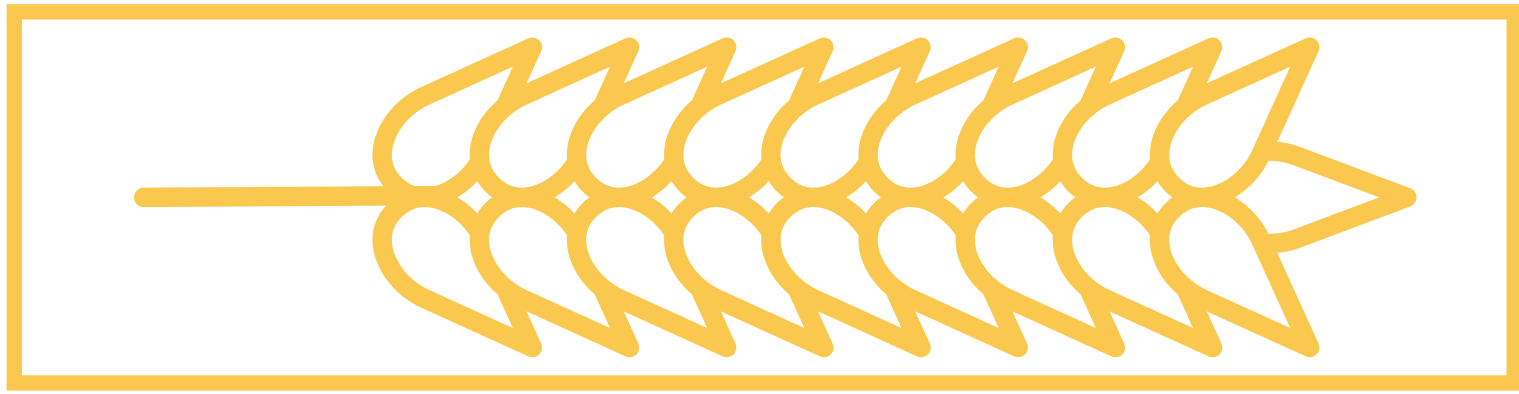
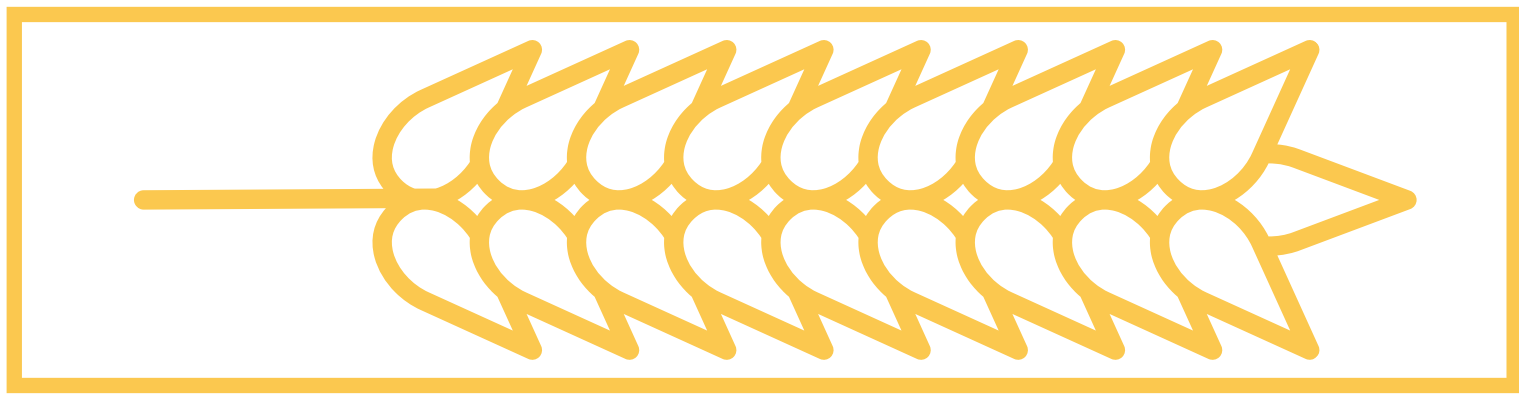
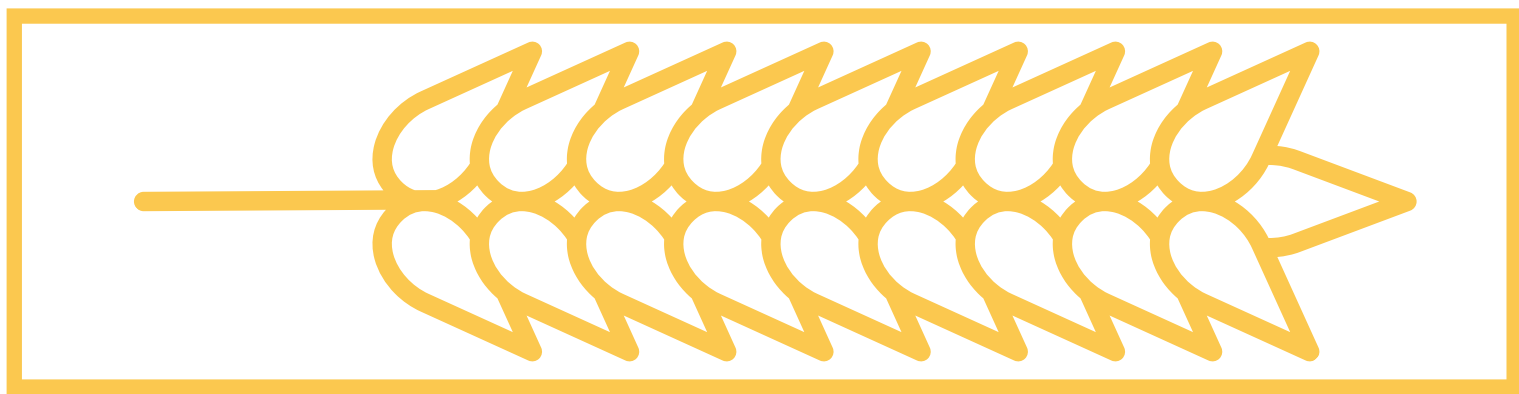
RIBBON BOOKMARK

- Print bookmark template onto thick card (240 gsm) (1).
- Punch a hole in the base and tip of each grain (2 and 3).
- Take a 1m piece of ribbon (4), twist the end (5) and wrap with Sellotape (6). This will make it easier to tread through the holes.
- Thread the ribbon from the back up through the first hole at the bottom of a grain (7), tape the end of the ribbon to the back of the card (8).
- Thread the ribbon down through the top of the grain (10).
- Thread the ribbon up through the bottom of the next grain and then down through the top of the grain (11).
- Continue through all the holes (12).
- Cut the ribbon (13) and tape it to the back of the card (14).
- Write a verse from Ruth on the bookmark (15).



WEEK 3

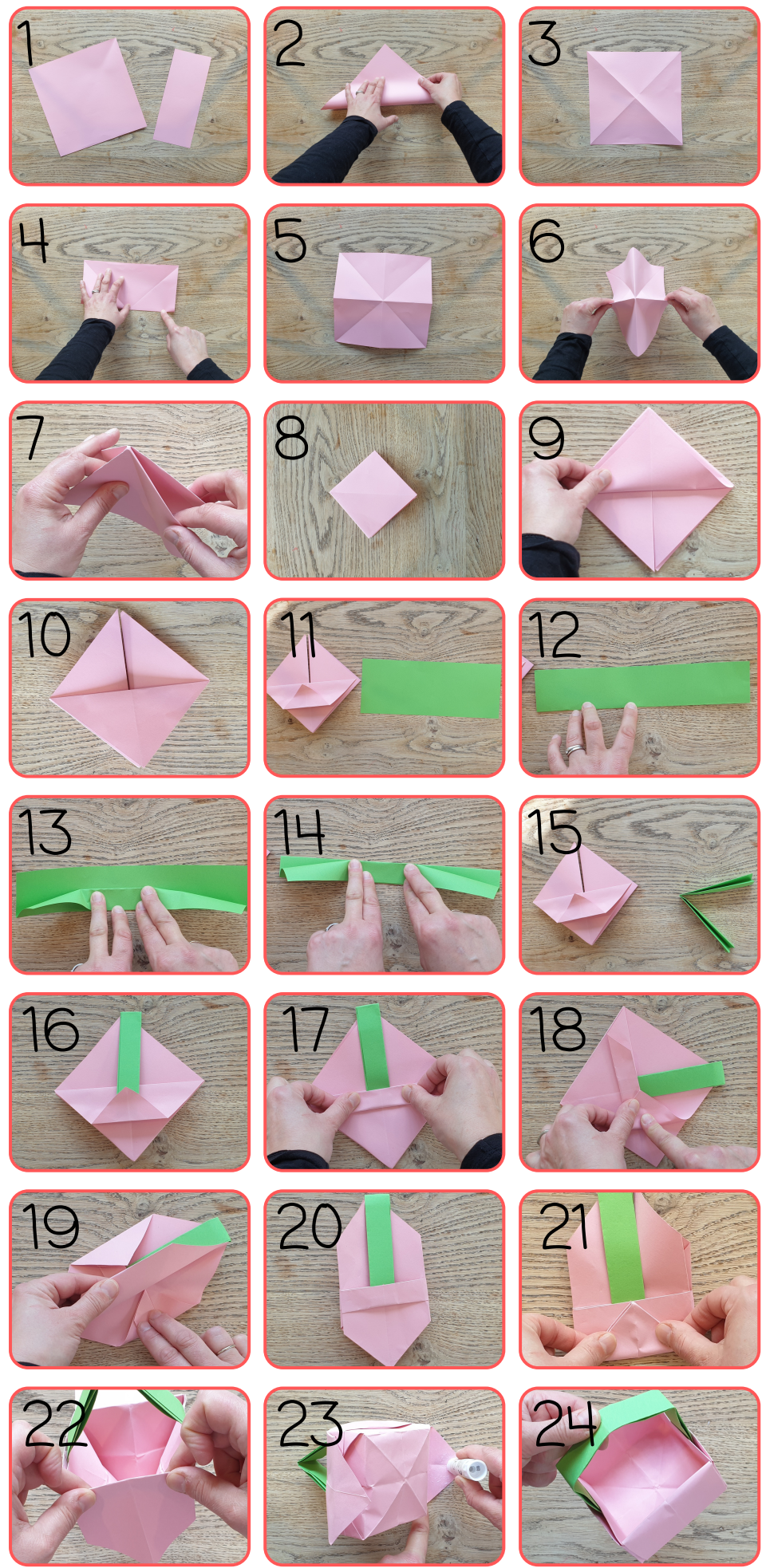
CRAFT: RIBBON BOOKMARK TEMPLATE



CRAFT: RIBBON BOOKMARK/BASKET

ORIGAMI BASKET

- Cut an A4 sheet into a square and rectangle (1).
- Take the square fold diagonally corner to corner (2) both ways (3).
- Turn the paper over and fold in half one way (4) and the other way (5).
- Hold the middle of each side and push together (6) to form a diamond shape (7) and fold flat (8).
- Fold up the flap from one side to the top corner (9), repeat on the other side and rotate to the bottom (10).
- Fold up the bottom corner to meet the centre and repeat on the other side (11).
- Take the rectangle you cut earlier (in the same or different colour) and fold in half lengthways (12), fold down the top edge (13), repeat on the other side (14). Fold the whole strip in half to form the handle (15).
- Fold the handle over the top of the diamond and tuck under the triangle (16) fold the triangle in half up to the centre line and repeat on the other side (17).
- Fold the side into the middle (18) and repeat on the opposite side, then turn over and repeat twice more.
- Take each triangle and fold it back on it's self to tuck into the middle of the fold (20).
- Fold and crease the bottom point up to the middle and fold and crease the opposite way (21).
- Open up the basket and fold down the top flaps on both sides (22).
- Glue to the base of the basket on both side (23).
- Straighten the handle (24).
- Ta dah! Your own basket, decorate as you wish! You could fill it with some Easter eggs as a present.



REFLECTION

Resources: Story cards, examples of words describing Ruth, print out of prayer labyrinth, pens, paper.

1. SO, WHAT DO YOU KNOW, NOW?

Complete the who, what, where, when, why, how, activity and compare to the one that they completed in week 1. What has changed? Have they learnt something new about the story of Ruth.

2. BIGGER PICTURE

How would you describe Ruth's character? (might be good to have some examples of words for them to choose from eg. loyal, selfish, kind, mean, hardworking, lazy, faithful etc.) Where is God in this story? How does the story of Ruth relate to the story of Jesus? (directly through Obed and the blood line of David and indirectly showing an outsider being saved by a redeemer.)

3. PRAYER

Take one of the character traits of Ruth and write a prayer about what it means to you.

Think about where God might be working in the little details of your life. Don't worry about praying for the little things, maybe have an example eg. praying for parking spaces!

4. PRAYER PATH

God is with us along every step of the path, though the big things and the small everyday things. Look at the print out of the prayer path labyrinth, can you follow the path with your finger and pray as you go! maybe you could draw one in chalk or make it out of stones in your playground?

WEEK 4

REFLECTION

PRAYER LABYRINTH

