

## Bible Question Class Books

# **Bible Study Questions on The Books of Joshua and Ruth**

by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,  
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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**“He who glories, let him glory in the Lord”**

**– 1 Corinthians 1:31**

**Front Page Photo**

The ruins of ancient Jericho (public domain)

“And the Lord said to Joshua, ‘See! I have given Jericho into your hand...’ –

Joshua 6:2

“By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days.” –

Hebrews 11:30

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<i>Judges</i>	<i>Romans</i>
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## Bible Study Questions on the Books of Joshua and Ruth

### Introduction:

This workbook was designed for Bible class study, family study, or personal study. The class book is suitable for teens and up. The questions contain minimal human commentary, but instead urge students to study to understand Scripture.

Enough questions are included for teachers to assign as many questions as they want for each study session. Studies may proceed at whatever speed and depth will best accomplish the needs of the students.

Questions labeled “think” are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned. When questions refer to a map, students should consult maps in a Bible dictionary or similar reference work or in the back of their Bibles. (Note: My abbreviation “**b/c/v**” means “book, chapter, and verse.”)

For class instruction, I urge teachers to assign the questions as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves. Let the teacher use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive discussion, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered “correctly.” Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: “Joe, will you answer number 1?” “Sue, what about number 2?” Etc.

I also urge students to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over “What did the author mean by question #5?” My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on.

The questions are not intended just to help students understand the Scriptures. They are also designed to help students learn good principles of Bible study. Good Bible study requires defining the meaning of keywords, studying parallel passages, explaining the meaning of the text clearly, making applications, and defending the truth as well as exposing religious error. I have included questions to encourage students to practice all these study principles.

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

**You can find Bible study commentary and notes to accompany these questions at**  
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## Assignments on Joshua 1

Please read Joshua 1, then answer the following questions.

1. Read as much as you can of the book of Joshua and summarize its theme.

2. <b>Special Assignment:</b> List 3 facts (outside the book of Joshua) about Joshua's life.
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3. Study Genesis 26:3,4 (and parallel passages) and list 3 promises God made regarding Abraham's descendants.

4. Tell how the book of Joshua relates to these promises to Abraham.

5. Study a **map** of Palestine (Canaan) and describe 5 characteristics or physical features of the land.

6. What job did God give Joshua – 1:1-3?

7. Describe the territory God promised Israel would receive – 1:4.

8. What promises did God give Joshua in 1:5-9?

9. What conditions did Joshua have to meet?

10. According to Numbers 13&14, why had Israel failed to enter Canaan the first time?

11. **Application:** Name 3 lessons we can learn from 1:5-9 for our own service to God.

12. What instructions were Israel's officers to give to the people – 1:10,11?

13. What tribes had already inherited east of Jordan? Where does the Bible record this – 1:12-15?

14. What special command had these tribes received? Why?

15. What commitment did the people make to Joshua – 1:16,17? (Think: How well had the people kept the commitment to obey Moses?)

16. What would happen to anyone who rebelled against Joshua – 1:18?

## Assignments on Joshua 2

Please read Joshua 2, then answer the following questions.

1. What task did Joshua assign to two men – 2:1 (see *map*)?
2. Who received the spies and hid them?
3. Describe how she hid the spies – 2:6.
4. What command did the king of Jericho give her – 2:2,3?
5. What did she say about it to the king – 2:4,5?
6. Where does the New Testament refer to this woman? What does it say about her?
7. Did Rahab tell the truth or a lie? Did the New Testament commend her for lying? (Think: What can we conclude from this story about lying?)
8. List the things the people of Jericho had heard about Israel – 2:9,10.
9. What effect did this have on the people of Jericho and on Rahab – 2:11?

10. What request did Rahab make of the two spies – 2:12,13?

11. What agreement did they make with her – 2:14?

12. How did the spies escape the city – 2:15?

13. Where did she tell them to go and what were they to do – 2:16? Why?

14. What was the sign of the agreement between Rahab and the spies – 2:17,18?

15. Where did Rahab's family have to go in order to be spared – 2:19?

16. What would happen if Rahab or her family did not keep their part of the agreement – 2:20,21?

17. <b>Application:</b> List lessons we can learn from Rahab about our own salvation from sin.
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18. What report did the spies give to Joshua – 2:22-24?

## Assignments on Joshua 3

Please read Joshua 3, then answer the following questions.

1. What barrier stood between Israel and the land – 3:1 (see *map*)?
2. What sign would tell the people when they should go forward – 3:2,3?
3. How closely should the people follow – 3:4? Why?

4. **Application:** What lessons can we learn about guidance for our lives?

5. How was the ark carried? Why (give *b/c/v*)?

6. What did Joshua say was about to happen – 3:5? What was its purpose 3:7-10?

7. **Application:** What does this show about the purpose of miracles?

8. What were the priests carrying the ark to do at the river?

9. What did Joshua specifically predict was going to happen – 3:13?

10. What can we learn from the fact Joshua knew and predicted ahead of time what was about to happen?

11. What was unusual about the river at this time – 3:15? (Think: Why did this matter?)

12. Describe the crossing of the river – 3:14-17.

## Assignments on Joshua 4

Please read Joshua 4, then answer the following questions.

1. How many men were given a special job – 4:1,2? Why that many?
  2. What job were they given – 4:3?
  3. What purpose would the stones serve – 4:4-7?
  4. What further memorial of stones did Joshua set up – 4:8,9? (Think: Why would this memorial be effective?)
  5. Name other examples in which stones served as memorials. Give **b/c/v**.
6. **Application:** What can we learn from the fact God appointed a memorial for future generations?
7. How long did the priests and the ark stay in the river – 4:10,11?
  8. Who led Israel into the land as the ark stood in the river – 4:12?
  9. What month and day was this – 4:19?
  10. Where did Israel camp and set up the stones – 4:19,20?
  11. What can we learn from this story about the purpose of miracles?
  12. What effect did the miracle have on the people of the land – 4:21-24?

## Assignments on Joshua 5

Please read Joshua 5, then answer the following questions.

1. What was done to all the males when they had entered the land – 5:2-8? Why?

2. <b>Special Assignment:</b> Explain the origin and significance of this act. Give <b>b/c/v</b> .
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3. What did the people do following the circumcision – 5:8?

4. What was this place named – 5:9? Why? (Think: Why might God have waited till this time to require circumcision?)

5. What feast did Israel keep then – 5:10? Give **b/c/v** about this feast.

6. Describe this feast and explain its purpose. (Note Ex. 12:43-38. What did circumcision have to do with the feast?)

7. What happened when Israel ate the food of the land – 5:12? Explain what manna was and how it came. Give **b/c/v**.

8. What did Joshua see when he was near Jericho – 5:13-15? Who did this person say he was?

9. What instruction did he give Joshua? (Think: What does this remind you of? What is the significance?)

## Assignments on Joshua 6

Please read Joshua 6, then answer the following questions.

1. What circumstances did the people of Jericho face – 6:1?
2. What promises did the Lord make to Israel – 6:2? (Think: Did this mean Israel did not need to do anything?)
3. What instructions did God give the army about Jericho – 6:3-5? What further instructions are added in 6:6-10?
4. What New Testament *passages* refer to this event?

5. **Special Assignment:** List lessons we can learn from Israel at Jericho that help us understand our salvation.

6. Describe how Israel marched. They did this once a day for how many days – 6:11-16?
7. How many times did they march around on day seven? What did they do then?
8. What was to be done to the people of the city – 6:17? What exception was given?

9. Give **b/c/v** where God had earlier commanded this to be done to the people of the land. (Think: Why was this just?)

10. What instruction was given regarding the spoils – 6:18,19? (Think: Was this required for all the cities of Canaan? Why here?)

11. What happened when the priests blew and the people shouted on day 7 – 6:20?

12. What was done to the people and animals – 6:21?

13. What was done to Rahab and her family – 6:22-25?

14. What was then done to the city? Who/what was spared?

15. What curse did Joshua pronounce on the city – 6:26?

16. Tell how this curse was fulfilled. Give **b/c/v**.

17. What effect did this victory have on Joshua – 6:27?

## Assignments on Joshua 7

Please read Joshua 7, then answer the following questions.

1. Who was Achan and what did he do – 7:1?
2. What rule had God given that this violated (give **b/c/v**)?
3. What city did Israel plan to attack next? What advice did spies give – 7:2,3?
4. What happened when Israel attacked – 7:4,5? (Think: Aside from Achan's sin, could Joshua or the people have made a mistake here?)
5. What complaint did Joshua raise to God – 7:6-9?
6. What explanation did God give for the event – 7:10-12?
7. How did God say Israel should deal with the sin – 7:13-15?
8. What happened when Israel tried to find the guilty person – 7:16-19?
9. What sin did Achan confess – 7:20,21?
10. **Define** "covet." List other **passages** about it.
11. Describe what was done to Achan – 7:22-26.

12. **Application:** List several lessons we can learn from this event regarding the consequences of sin.

13. **Application:** List several lessons we can learn regarding the responsibilities of God's people in dealing with sin.

## Assignments on Joshua 8

Please read Joshua 8, then answer the following questions.

1. Who instructed Joshua to capture Ai? What assurance did He give Joshua – 8:1,2?
2. Who would receive the spoils this time?
3. Describe the plan for attacking the city – 8:2-8.
4. Where did Joshua spend the night – 8:9? Where did they camp?
5. What did the king of Ai and his men do to Joshua – 8:10-14?
6. How was the city captured – 8:15-19?
7. What happened to the king of Ai and his army then – 8:20?
8. Describe the outcome of the battle – 8:21-26. What happened to the king and people?
9. What happened to the city and the spoils – 8:27-29?
10. Where did Israel go next? What did Joshua build? What did he write on it – 8:30-32?
11. Where did the people stand, and what did Joshua do then – 8:33-35?
12. Who had instructed them to do this? Give **b/c/v**.

## Assignments on Joshua 9

Please read Joshua 9, then answer the following questions.

1. What did the people of the land do to deal with Israel – 9:1,2?
2. Who tried to trick Israel – 9:3? Locate the city on a map.
3. Describe the preparations they made – 9:4-6. What request did they make?
4. What lies did they tell when Joshua questioned them – 9:7-13?
5. Why did they want to make a covenant with Israel?
6. What had God told Israel about making covenants with people of the land? Give **b/c/v**.
7. What basic error did Israel make that led them to agree to the covenant – 9:14,15?
8. When and how did Israel learn the truth – 9:16?
9. What did the leaders decide to do with the Gibeonites – 9:17-23?
10. What explanation did the Gibeonites give for their deceit – 9:24,25?
11. List and explain other Old Testament **passages** about the Gibeonites.

12. <b>Application:</b> List several lessons we should learn from this event.
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## Assignments on Joshua 10

Please read Joshua 10, then answer the following questions.

1. Give the names and cities of the five kings who formed an alliance – 10:1-5. Locate the cities on a *map*.

2. Who initiated the alliance? What did they intend to do? (Think: Why do this?)

3. What appeal did the Gibeonites make, and what was Joshua's decision – 10:6,7?

4. What promise did God make to Israel regarding the battle – 10:8?

5. How did Joshua surprise the enemy? How did God kill many of them – 10:9-11?

6. What request did Joshua make of God during the battle – 10:12-14? Why?

7. What happened as a result? How do we know this was a miracle? (Think: What is known of the book of Jasher?)

8. Where did the 5 kings hide, and what was at first done about it – 10:16-19? Why?

9. After the battle and before the death of the kings, what symbolic act did Joshua have the captains of Israel do – 10:20-27? What was the point?

10. Describe the death of the kings.

11. List the cities Israel then captured – 10:28-39. Find each on a map, if possible.

12. What was the final outcome of the war in the south – 10:40-43? What was done to the inhabitants of the cities?

## Assignments on Joshua 11

Please read Joshua 11, then answer the following questions.

1. What kings led the people of the land in this battle – 11:1?
2. From where did people come – 11:2-5? What nationalities were involved? See *map*.
3. How strong an army did they form? Where did they assemble? See *map*.
4. What promise did God make – 11:6? (Think: Why would Joshua need this promise?)
5. Describe the battle and the outcome – 11:7-9.
6. What was done to the king, the city, and the people of Hazor – 11:10-15?
7. What was done to other cities and their people? What happened to the spoils?
8. What territory had Israel captured – 11:16,17? See *map*.
9. How long did this take – 11:18?
10. Why did all the people fight against Israel – 11:19,20?
11. Who were the Anakim? Where did they live – 11:21?
12. Where else does the Bible mention them?
13. What did Israel do to them? How many survived – 11:22?
14. What territory did Israel now control – 11:23?

## Assignments on Joshua 12-14

Please read Joshua 12-14, then answer the following questions.

1. Summarize what Joshua 12 is about.
2. What problem did God discuss with Joshua in 13:1-7?
3. What did God promise to do to this area? What was Joshua to do now?
4. To whom had Moses given inheritance – 13:8-13? What kings had ruled this area?
5. What land was given to the Levites – 13:14? Why?
6. Generally describe the area given to Reuben – 13:15-23.
7. What notorious man was killed in capturing this area – 13:22? What was he known for (give **b/c/v**)?
8. Generally describe the area given to Gad – 13:24-28.
9. Generally describe the area given to half the tribe of Manasseh – 13:29-33.
10. Explain why 9½ tribes inherited west of Jordan, even though Levi did not inherit territory (i.e., why did that not leave just 11 tribes to inherit?) – 14:1-5.
11. Who was Caleb – 14:6-12? Why was a special inheritance given to him?
12. What inheritance did he receive – 14:13-15? Who had formerly lived there?

## Assignments on Joshua 15-17

Please read Joshua 15-17, then answer the following questions.

Note: Try to describe boundaries of tribes in terms of major geographical features (seas, rivers, mountains, etc.) or in terms of borders with other tribes, rather than in terms of cities.

1. Describe the borders of the territory inherited by Judah – 15:1-12.
2. What name did Hebron formerly have – 15:13? Why?
3. What did Caleb have to do to take the city – 15:14?
4. What did he offer to the man who captured Debir – 15:15-17? Who accomplished it?
5. What request did his daughter make of Caleb – 15:18,19?
6. What city did Judah not capture at this time –15:63?
7. Describe the southern border of Ephraim – 16:5-9.
8. What error did they commit regarding the Canaanites – 16:10?
9. What women inherited in Manasseh – 17:3,4? Explain why and give **b/c/v**.
10. Describe the territory given to half the tribe of Manasseh west of Jordan – 17:7-11.
11. What complaint was raised by some descendants of Joseph – 17:14-16?
12. How did Joshua respond to them – 17:17,18?

## Assignments on Joshua 18-20

Please read Joshua 18-20, then answer the following questions.

1. Where was the tabernacle set up – 18:1 (see **map**)? List later **passages** saying that the tabernacle was still there.
2. How many tribes had received inheritance? How many remained to inherit – 18:2?
3. What criticism did Joshua raise? How was the land to be divided – 18:3-10?
4. What tribe received the first lot? Its land lay between what tribes – 18:11-28?
5. Who received the second lot? Where was their inheritance? Why – 19:1-9?
6. Who received the third lot – 19:10-16? See a map and name the surrounding tribes.
7. Who received the fourth lot – 19:17-23? What tribes and borders surrounded them?
8. Who received the fifth lot – 19:24-31? Describe the borders and tribes around it.
9. The sixth lot went to whom – 19:32-39? Describe its location.
10. Who received the last lot – 19:40-48? Where was it? What did they later add?
11. What inheritance was given Joshua – 19:49-51?
12. Explain the purpose of the cities of refuge – 20:1-6. List other **passages** about them.
13. Name the cities of refuge that were appointed – 20:7-9 (see **map**).

## Assignments on Joshua 21,22

Please read Joshua 21,22, then answer the following questions.

1. Who next requested to receive their possession in the land – 21:1,2? What were they given? Where had Moses spoken about this?

2. The Levites consisted of what 3 families – 21:3-7? Which one included the priests?

3. How many cities did Aaron's descendants receive? In what tribes were they – 21:4?

4. How many cities did the rest of that family receive, and where were they – 21:5?

5. For each of the other two families tell how many cities they received and where they were located – 21:6,7.

6. How many cities did the Levites receive altogether – 21:41?

7. What promise had been fulfilled – 21:43-45? List **b/c/v** where the promise was given.

8. **Case study:** Suppose someone says God must give Israel the land of Palestine when Jesus returns in order to fulfill the promise to Abraham. How would you respond? Give **b/c/v**.

9. Who were then sent home – 22:1-4? Why?

10. What charge did Joshua give them before they left – 22:5,6?

11. What did these people build on the way, and where did they build it – 22:10?

12. Describe the accusation made against them by the other tribes? What reasons did they give for their accusation – 22:11-20?

13. How did the 2½ tribes respond? What conclusion was reached – 22:21-34?

14. **Application:** List several lessons we can learn from this event.

## Assignments on Joshua 23

Please read Joshua 23, then answer the following questions.

1. When did the events in chap. 23 occur – 23:1,2? To whom did Joshua speak?
2. What had God done for them? What had Joshua done – 23:3-5?
3. Tell what Joshua reminded them to do – 23:6. Where have we earlier read similar statements?
4. Describe what they were told to **not** do – 23:7,12.
5. Since God had blessed them, what should they do for Him – 23:11?
6. What would happen if they became influenced by people of the land – 23:13-16?
7. List other **passages** that make similar predictions.
8. Had God kept His promise to give them the land – 23:14-16? Proof? Did this guarantee they would keep the land? Proof?
9. **Special Assignment:** What actually happened in future generations? Did they keep the land or not? Why? If later we find they do not possess the land, would this prove, as some teach, that God is still required to give them the land in the future?

## Assignments on Joshua 24

Please read Joshua 24, then answer the following questions.

1. Where did Joshua meet the people in 24:1? For whom did he speak? (Think: What does this prove about Joshua?)

2. How did Joshua begin his speech – 24:2?

3. Describe the captivity and exodus from Egypt – 24:3-7.

4. How did Joshua describe the conquest of the land – 24:8-13?

5. What choice or challenge did Joshua put before the people in 24:14,15? What choice had Joshua himself made?

6. **Application:** What can we learn here about man's free will power of choice? Give other **passages** confirming man has this power.

7. **Application:** What can we learn here about parents' duty in leading their families? Give other **passages** confirming this duty.

8. What choice did the people profess to make – 24:16-18? Why?

9. How did Joshua emphasize the seriousness of their commitment – 24:19-25?

10. Where did Joshua write a record of this – 24:26? What is the significance of this?
  
11. Describe what else Joshua did to give a future reminder of their commitment – 24:26,27. Where else have similar reminders been mentioned?
  
12. Describe the death and burial of Joshua – 24:28-30. How old was he?
  
13. Explain the significance of 24:31.
  
14. What promise was fulfilled in 24:32? Where was this promise originally recorded?
  
15. Where did this burial occur? Explain the history of this place.
  
16. Where does the New Testament refer to this event? Explain how this was an act of faith.
  
17. Who else died and where was he buried – 24:33?

## Assignments on Ruth 1

Please read Ruth 1 and answer the following questions.

1. Skim the book of Ruth and summarize its theme.
2. During what period of Bible history did the events in this book occur – 1:1?
3. What man is introduced in 1:1,2? Who was his wife, and who were their sons?
4. Where were they from, and where did they move? Why did they move?
5. What happened to Naomi's husband – 1:3? Whom did her sons marry? How long did they live in Moab?

6. **Special Assignment:** What did the old law say about intermarriage with people of the nations surrounding Israel (**passages**)? How do you explain the marriage of Naomi's two sons to women of Moab?

7. What happened to Naomi's sons? What did she decide to do then? Who went with her – 1:5-7?

8. What did Naomi suggest her daughters-in-law do – 1:8-10? How did they respond?

9. What explanation did Naomi give why they should not go with her – 1:11-13?

10. **Special Assignment:** Explain the significance of Naomi's answer. What is the significance of her statement that she has no sons to become their husbands? Explain the Old Testament principle to which this refers. Give Scripture.

11. In response to Naomi's urging for her daughters-in-law to return to their families, what choice did Orpah make – 1:14,15? What did Ruth do?

12. What did Naomi then urge Ruth to do?

13. **Special Assignment:** Note that the Scripture says Orpah returned to her gods. What reasons can you give why Naomi would encourage Ruth to do the same?

14. **Special Assignment:** What devotion did Ruth express to Naomi in 1:16-18? List and explain the specific promises Ruth made.

15. In the subsequent story, what special significance was there to Ruth's promise that Naomi's God would be her God?

16. Under what circumstances are the promises that Ruth made often repeated today? In what sense are they appropriate in these circumstances?

17. Where did Ruth and Naomi go, and how were they greeted by the city, especially the women – 1:19?

18. What name did Naomi say they should give her? Explain the meaning of the names involved.

19. What time of year was it when they returned?

20. How does the city to which they returned become significant in the subsequent Bible story?

## Assignments on Ruth 2

Please read Ruth 2 and answer the following questions.

1. What did Ruth request to do to provide for her and Naomi – 2:2? What did the old law teach about gleaning? (Think: What does this show us about Ruth?)
2. In whose fields did she work, and what do we know about this man – 2:1-3?
3. What did Boaz ask when he observed Ruth? What was he told – 2:4-7? (Think: What can we learn from the way that he treated his workers?)
4. What advice did Boaz give Ruth in her work – 2:8,9?
5. How did Ruth respond to the kindness of Boaz – 2:10-13?
6. What reasons did Boaz give to Ruth for his treatment of her?
7. What additional instructions did Boaz give about Ruth – 2:14-16?
8. How did Ruth finish her work, and what did she do after she was finished gleaning – 2:17,18?
9. What question did Naomi ask Ruth and what did Ruth tell her – 2:19?
10. What did Naomi say about Boaz – 2:20?
11. What further advice did Naomi give to Ruth – 2:21,22?
12. How long did Ruth continue to work in the fields of Boaz – 2:23?

## Assignments on Ruth 3

Please read Ruth 3 and answer the following questions.

1. **Special Assignment:** Explain and give Scripture for the role of the near kinsman under the Old Testament law. (Think: Why would God give such a law?)

2. Explain how this law would apply in the case of Ruth.

3. What instructions did Naomi give Ruth in the case of Boaz – 3:1-4?

4. What did Ruth do and what request did she make of Boaz – 3:5-9?

5. **Special Assignment:** Some skeptics argue that Ruth attempted to seduce Boaz to sin. How would you respond? (Think: Why might Naomi have suggested this approach to Ruth, rather than openly going to Boaz and asking him to fill the role of a near kinsman?)

6. How did Boaz respond to Ruth and what promise did he make– 3:10,11? (Think: What does this tell us about whether or not Boaz thought Ruth was being immoral?)

7. What information did Boaz give Ruth in 3:12,13? What promise did he make?

8. When did Ruth leave, and what did Boaz give her to take with her – 3:14,15?

9. What did Ruth tell Naomi, and what did Naomi say would happen – 3:16-18?

## Assignments on Ruth 4

Please read Ruth 4 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did Boaz go, and with whom did he meet – 4:1,2? Whom did he have to meet with them? (Think: Why would he go to the gate of the city for this purpose?)

2. What information did Boaz give the close relative about Naomi – 4:3? What request did he make of the close relative, and what reason did he give for his request – verse 4?

3. What was the close relative's first conclusion, and what did Boaz say that caused him to change his mind – 4:4-6?

4. What custom was observed in order to confirm the transaction – 4:7,8?

5. What purpose did Boaz call upon the elders and the people to fulfill? What agreement had he made that they witnessed – 4:9,10?

6. What blessing did the people and the elders pronounce on Boaz and Ruth – 4:11,12? Explain the references to other Old Testament women.

7. What blessing did God give Boaz and Ruth in their marriage – 4:13?

8. What blessing did the women hope the child would be for Naomi – 4:14,15?

9. What name did the women give to the child, and what role did Naomi serve for him – 4:16,17?

10. <b>Special Assignment:</b> What role did Obed play in Biblical genealogy? Why is this important to us?
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