

Winter Quarter: December 2023 • January • February 2024



# PRIMARY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY



Winter Quarter 2023–2024: December • January • February

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Vol. 61 • No. 1

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# For the Parents

Dear Parents,

I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child this quarter. My prayer is that your child's learning will result in their having a closer relationship with God.

Unit I, "Meeting People with Faith," has five lessons from the books of Ruth, 1 Samuel, Matthew, and Luke. In lesson 1, we see how Ruth trusted God to provide for her and her mother-in-law. Lesson 2 details how David trusted that God would enable him to slay the giant, Goliath. Lesson 3 draws on the stories of the women named in Matthew 1. In lessons 4 and 5, Elizabeth, Mary, and the Wise Men trusted that God was sending the Christ Child to bring salvation and be the Messiah.

Unit II, "Growing in Faith," has four lessons from the books of Hebrews, Proverbs, 2 Chronicles, and Romans. The lesson from Hebrews explores why "faith that pleases God" matters. Similarly, the lesson from Proverbs admonishes us to have faith and live by faith. In 2 Chronicles, we see the example of Jehoshaphat's faith. The lesson from Romans reminds Christians that through faith, their existence must be transformed by their having a renewed mind.

Unit III, "Faith Takes Courage," has four lessons from the books of Isaiah, Daniel, and Habakkuk. Isaiah reminds us how in living by faith, the righteous can see God's power throughout creation. Daniel shows how the three Hebrew boys trusted God to protect them in the fiery furnace, and how Daniel trusted God to protect him in the lions' den. And Habakkuk received instructions reminding him to be still and wait on God.

You can have a discussion with your child about giving his or her life to God with help from the *ABCs of Salvation*, listed below.

- A. Say, "Admit you have sinned (see Psalm 32:5), or done wrong." Go through just a few of the Ten Commandments—stealing or lying and so forth. Tell how our sins separate us from God (see Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23).
- B. Say, "Believe Jesus is God's Son. He took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross (see Romans 5:8). We must believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God raised Him from the dead."
- C. Say, "Call on God to forgive you (see Acts 2:21). When we are sorry for our sins and want to stop doing wrong, we can ask God to forgive us (see Acts 16:31)."

Thank you for the opportunity to help shape your child's spiritual life.

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Your Child's Teacher

December 3, 2023

## LESSON

## 1



## Ruth Makes the Right Choice

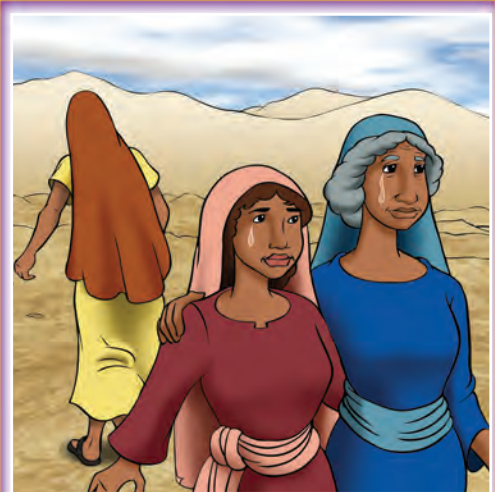
Naomi and her daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, were living in Moab. When Naomi heard that the Lord had come to help His people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to leave Moab and travel to Judah.

As they began their journey, Naomi said to Orpah and Ruth, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the Lord show you kindness as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and me. May the Lord grant each of you rest in another husband's home." Then she kissed them goodbye.

Orpah and Ruth cried loudly, saying, "We will go back with you to your people." But Naomi insisted. They cried loudly again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is returning to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

Ruth replied, "Don't make me leave you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God."



**Lesson Scripture:**  
Ruth 1:6-10, 14-16

### Key Verse

Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. 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 1:16)







## I'm Going with You!

After Grandpa died, Shaylynn and her mom would drive every weekend to visit Grandma. Whenever they arrived each Friday, Grandma would have a great meal ready for them to eat. But, when they entered Grandma's house today, Shaylynn didn't smell anything. And there were boxes all over the house.

"Hey, Grandma! I don't smell anything. Didn't you cook this week? And why are there boxes all over the house?"

Shaylynn asked, hugging her grandmother.

"No, I didn't cook, but I bought your favorite pizza," Grandma replied.

"But why are there boxes everywhere?" Shaylynn asked.

"Let's talk over pizza," Grandma said as they sat down to eat. "Since Grandpa died, it has been difficult for me here alone."

"You're moving to a new house?" Shaylynn asked.

"Yes! I'm moving to a new house," Grandma replied.

"Are you moving near us?" Shaylynn inquired—to which Grandma responded, "Something like that."

"Are you going with us?" Shaylynn asked, with a hug from Grandma and the answer, "Yes, I'm going with you! Where you live, I'm going to live!"



## Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

God helps me  
make good  
choices.



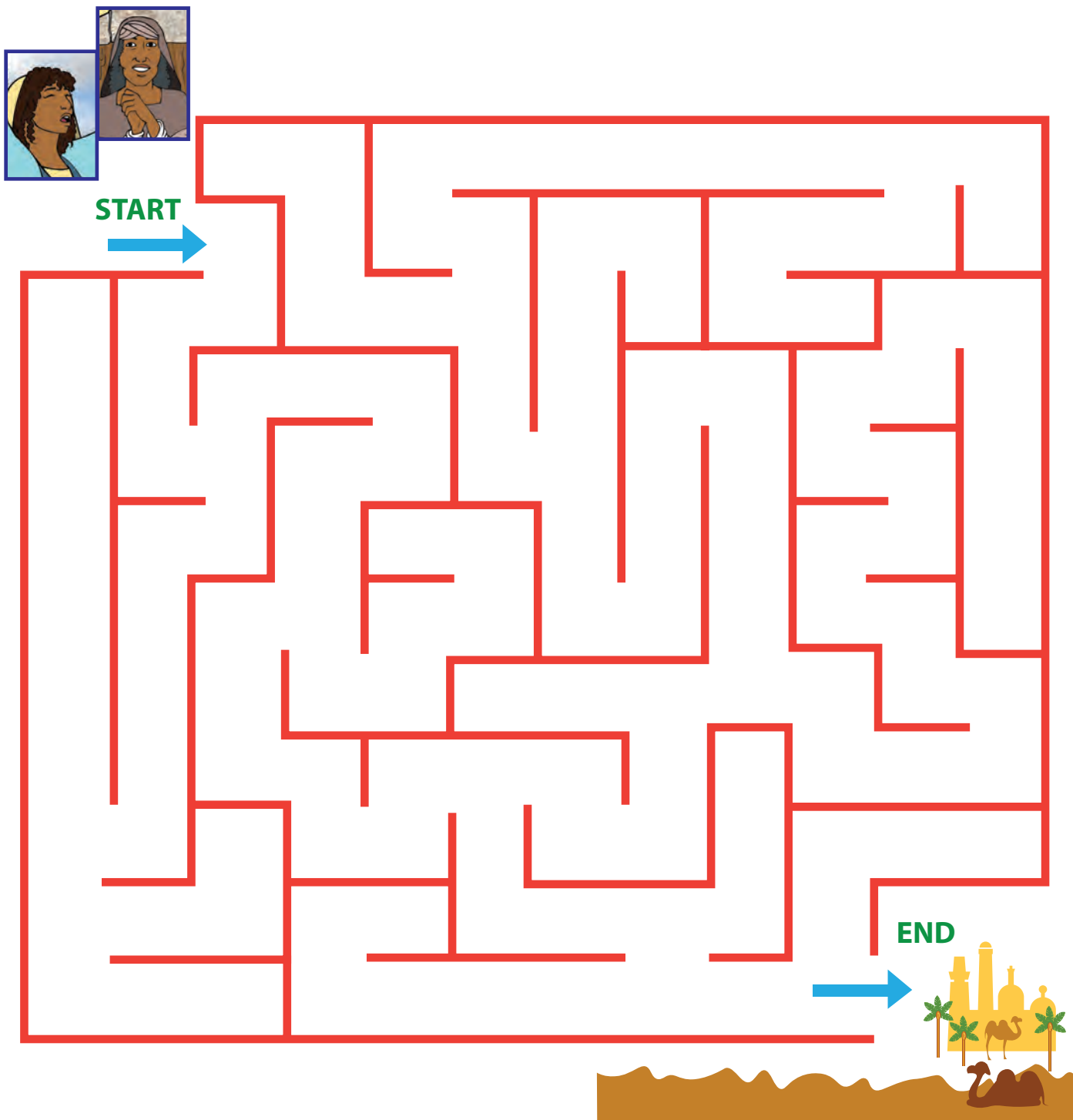
Hello! Ruby here! As a scientist, I have to make important decisions. In today's lesson, Ruth decided to leave her home in Moab and go with Naomi to Judah. Ruth's relationship with Naomi is very important. But it was Ruth's relationship with God that was leading them through these difficult times. Ruth not only trusted Naomi, but she was also willing to trust God. This was the right choice.

Are there people around you that help you make good choices? Who are the people that support you in difficult times? How do they help you? Let's discuss this.



# Help Ruth and Naomi Find Their Way

Ruth and Naomi had the courage to face their difficult journey to Judah. Help them find their way through the maze to get home to Judah.



# True or False?

Read each of the statements below from today's lesson. On the line in front of each statement, write **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is *false* (not true).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Naomi left Moab with her two daughters-in-law.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Naomi heard that rich people were providing food, and she prepared to return home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Naomi was on her way back to the land of Babylon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Naomi told Orpah and Ruth to go back to their mothers' homes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Orpah kissed Naomi and prepared to return to her mother's home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Ruth clung to Naomi and begged her to stay and go to Judah with her.





December 10, 2023

## LESSON

## 2



## David's Courage

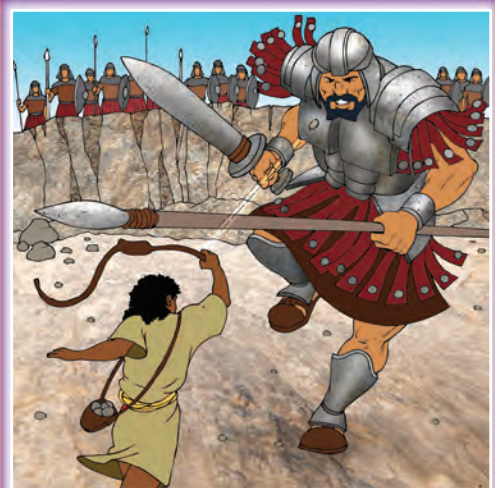
Goliath, a giant Philistine, was challenging God's army. King Saul sent for David. David said, "I will fight the Philistine."

Saul replied, "You can't do this. You are a young man. This Philistine has been a warrior since he was young."

But David said, "I watch over my father's sheep. Whenever a lion or bear carries off a sheep, I go after it and rescue the sheep. Then I kill the lion or bear. This Philistine will be like one of them. The Lord who rescued me from a lion and bear will rescue me from this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go. The Lord is with you."

David faced the Philistine and said, "You come against me with a sword and spear. I come against you in the name of the Lord God of Israel." As the Philistine moved closer, David ran toward him. David took a stone from his bag and slung it. It struck the Philistine on the forehead, and the Philistine fell facedown on the ground. David *triumphed* [try-umfed] (won) and killed the Philistine with a sling and a stone.



### Lesson Scripture:

1 Samuel 17:31-37, 45, 48-50

### Key Verse

[David said,] "The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."  
(1 Samuel 17:37a)







## Facing the Giant

Dad came in and woke Myles, saying, "Get up, buddy! It's time for school." Every day, Myles would usually jump up and be ready to go. But this morning was different.

"Dad, I don't want to go to school this morning," Myles responded, sitting up in the bed.

"What's going on? Usually, you are so excited for Fun Day Friday," Dad replied.

"Dad, I don't want to go to school—because during the last Fun Day Friday, Donovan made jokes about how I run. He's bigger and older than me. I don't want to participate this week," Myles explained.

"Well, Son, you can't stay home. You must face this giant situation. It's not going anywhere. Anyway, you can't let one person ruin everything. You must face it," Dad said.

"I'm so small compared to him. And, Dad, I do run a little funny," Myles noted.

"Well, that makes you who you are. Small is fine. And you run like me," Dad said, laughing. "But it's your big faith that will fight this giant problem. You have everything you need."

### Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

God gives me  
the courage to  
face my giant  
problems.



Hello! Ruby here! Sometimes, the problems I face in the lab seem gigantic! So, I take a deep breath and ask God for courage. In today's lesson, David courageously faced a giant Philistine named Goliath. David found his confidence in God's love and power. David trusted that God would not fail him. It was a huge, difficult task, but David faced the challenge and showed that his faith in God was larger than any giant.

Think of times when you had to face giant situations. How did your faith help you face and overcome it? Let's talk about it.



# Fill in the Blanks: Faith to Fight!

Complete each statement by filling in each blank with the correct word from today's lesson. The words to be filled in are found in the Word Bank below.

## WORD BANK

bear • Philistine • Saul • sheep • stone

1. David said, "I will fight the \_\_\_\_\_."
2. But David said, "I have been keeping my father's \_\_\_\_\_."
3. "The Lord who rescued me from a lion and a \_\_\_\_\_ will rescue me from this Philistine."
4. \_\_\_\_\_ said to David, "Go. The Lord is with you."
5. He took a \_\_\_\_\_ from his bag, slung it, and struck the Philistine on the forehead.





# Retell the Bible Story

In your own words, retell the Bible story on the lines below. Then draw and color a picture that helps remind you of a time when you faced a "giant" problem with courage.

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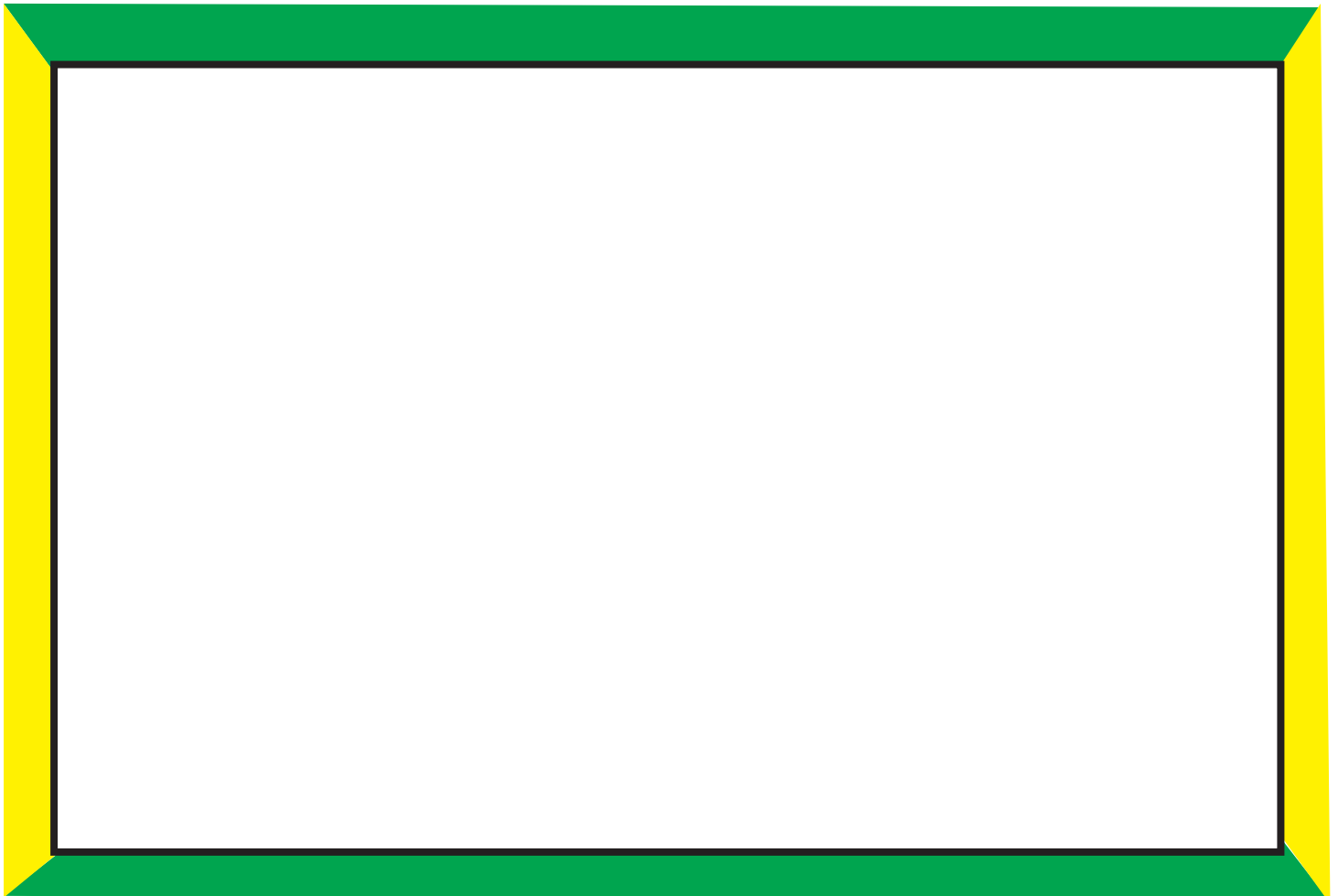
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December 17, 2023

LESSON  
3

## Making a Difference

This is the *genealogy* [jee-knee-ah-low-jee] or family tree of the family of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, and the son of Abraham. Jesus' family begins with Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac was the father of Jacob; and Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.

Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah. Perez and Zerah's mother was Tamar. Perez was the father of Hezron. Hezron was the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon. Nahshon was the father of Salmon.

Salmon was the father of Boaz. Boaz's mother was Rahab. Boaz was the father of Obed. Obed's mother was Ruth. Obed was the father of Jesse; and Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon. Solomon's mother was Uriah's wife. This is the family from which Jesus came.



**Lesson Scripture:**  
Matthew 1:1-6

### Key Verse

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham. (Matthew 1:1)







## A Family Making a Difference

Dad was excited to meet the rest of their family at the library. Aunt Renee had a big announcement. As Dad and Mia drove to meet their family, Mia wanted to know more about what was happening.

"Dad, why are you so excited about meeting the family? What is the big news that Aunt Renee wants to share?" Mia asked.

"Mia, I'm excited because Aunt Renee has been working in the community just like Grandma Sadie did. She worked to make the community better. You are from a family that makes a difference," Dad replied.

"What is the big news? Come on, Dad, can you tell me?" Mia said, pleading with Dad.

"Don't say anything, okay? But Aunt Renee worked to have the library named after Grandma Sadie. Grandma made a difference and taught us to make a difference. Because they are naming the library after Grandma Sadie, we must keep making positive changes in our community and world," Dad explained.

"I think I can do that. I'm glad to be a part of a family that makes a difference," Mia commented.

### Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

God wants  
me to make a  
difference!

Hello! Ruby here! In today's lesson, Matthew gives us the names of individuals that God used to carry out His will for the Messiah to be born. Jesus' family tree consists of many women and men used by God. Matthew reminds us that our families are made up of many people who are called to make a difference.

Here's your homework for this week: Think of people in your family that have faith and are making a difference. Have your parents tell you stories of these people of faith. Then share your family story next week with us.



# Searching for Words

Find and circle the listed words from today's lesson in the word search below.

G	H	F	L	F	E	A	R	T
E	A	A	A	H	L	N	U	S
N	I	T	M	T	V	C	W	T
E	S	H	M	I	F	E	L	R
A	S	E	L	A	M	S	O	N
L	E	R	M	F	N	T	B	N
O	M	I	M	L	C	O	E	G
G	L	U	E	M	I	R	D	T
Y	D	Q	J	E	S	U	S	H



**Ancestor**

**Faith**

**Family**

**Father**

**Genealogy**

**Jesus**

**Messiah**

**Obed**

**Son**





# “Members of Jesus’ Family”

## Word Scrambler

Draw a line from each scrambled-up name to its unscrambled version (which are the names of some persons in Jesus’ family). Then on the lines below, write the names of three of the women mentioned in Jesus’ family tree.

1. **moloonS**
2. **sJese**
3. **vadDi**
4. **abhaR**
5. **lacsA**
6. **oBaz**
7. **amTar**
8. **huRt**
9. **hamAbar**
10. **cboJa**

- a. Boaz
- b. Jacob
- c. Isaac
- d. Tamar
- e. Solomon
- f. Rahab
- g. Abraham
- h. Jesse
- i. Ruth
- j. David



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