

# God Leads

# STRONG kids

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Strong Kids Introduction ..... | 2 |
| Pre-Primary Resources .....    | 3 |
| What's in Your Kit Box? .....  | 4 |
| Basic Supplies .....           | 6 |
| Unit Bulletin Boards .....     | 7 |

| Session | Date | Title | Theme | Verse | Page |
|---------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|
|---------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|

## Unit 1 | Faithful Ruth and Hannah

|   |                    |                          |  |                |    |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|----|
| 1 | September 3, 2023  | Ruth's Selfless Love     | God wants us to think of others above ourselves. | Proverbs 17:17 | 8  |
| 2 | September 10, 2023 | Ruth's Special Love      | God rewards our selfless love.                   | Proverbs 17:17 | 17 |
| 3 | September 18, 2023 | Hannah's Selfless Prayer | God hears our prayers when we are sad.           | Psalms 28:7    | 27 |
| 4 | September 24, 2023 | Hannah's Special Prayer  | God gives us joy when we love and serve Him.     | Psalms 28:7    | 36 |

## Unit 2 | Flawed Saul

|   |                  |                    |   |                |    |
|---|------------------|--------------------|---|----------------|----|
| 5 | October 1, 2023  | King Saul's Leader | God gives us teachers to help us live for God.  | 1 Samuel 12:23 | 45 |
| 6 | October 8, 2023  | King Saul's Excuse | God accepts no excuses for disobeying Him.      | 1 Samuel 15:22 | 54 |
| 7 | October 15, 2023 | King Saul's Lie    | God wants us to be honest because He is honest. | 1 Samuel 15:22 | 64 |

## Unit 3 | Fervent David

|    |                  |                         |  |                |    |
|----|------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------|----|
| 8  | October 22, 2023 | David's Focused Heart   | God knows our hearts.  | 1 Samuel 16:7  | 74 |
| 9  | October 29, 2023 | David's Fearless Heart  | God is stronger than any giant.                                  | Ephesians 6:10 | 83 |
| 10 | November 5, 2023 | David's Forgiving Heart | God wants us to be kind, especially to those with special needs. | Galatians 6:10 | 93 |

## Unit 4 | Faithless Solomon

|    |                   |                              |   |                    |     |
|----|-------------------|------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----|
| 11 | November 12, 2023 | Solomon's Wisdom from God    | God gave us the Bible to tell us what is right. | Psalms 119:105     | 102 |
| 12 | November 19, 2023 | Solomon's Worship of God     | God is worthy of great praise.                  | 1 Chronicles 16:29 | 112 |
| 13 | November 26, 2023 | Solomon's Wandering from God | God alone deserves our worship.                 | 1 Chronicles 16:29 | 121 |



**Regular Baptist Press**

Fall Quarter 2023 • Vol. 6, No. 1 • © 2019 Regular Baptist Press • Printed in U.S.A.

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# STRONG<sup>®</sup>

## curriculum

A world weak on truth needs a strong, trustworthy message. STRONG Curriculum builds stronger churches by teaching all Scripture to produce spiritually mature believers who measure up to the stature of Christ.

### A Plan You Can Trust

Regular Baptist Press firmly believes God's Word is living and powerful and more effective than any idea or philosophy man could ever dream up. The Bible is Spirit empowered, so it cannot fail to strengthen kids who interact with its truths. Believing this, we purposefully built Strong Kids on Bible bedrock. We know the curriculum's solid Biblical foundation will make it transformational.

Strong Kids provides each age group with the age-appropriate plan to prepare kids to successfully take the next step in their spiritual growth. The lessons for all five age groups form five steps for building spiritually strong kids.


Strong Kids for Pre-Primaries reinforces foundational Biblical truths concerning creation, Jesus, salvation, and living for God. Recognizing that pre-primaries are starting to understand the need for personal salvation, this curriculum provides opportunities for students to trust in Christ as their Savior and begin to live for Him.


The Strong Kids scope and sequence is built on the seven teaching aims Jesus had during His earthly ministry. Identifying Jesus' aims helps you teach the Bible with purpose and clear goals in sight. Every lesson in the Strong Kids scope and sequence addresses at least one of Jesus' teaching aims.





Look for the BuildUP icons in the table of contents and on the first page of each lesson.


### JESUS' TEACHING AIMS


 **Believe the gospel.** Jesus taught His students to understand, believe, and then share the gospel. This aim is obviously fundamental to all the rest.


 **Understand Biblical ethics.** Jesus instructed His students to live according to moral values. These values provided them with the tools to make wise decisions.

 **Internalize godliness.** Jesus taught His followers to be godly on the inside. He warned them not to become like Pharisees, with a mere outward appearance of godliness.

 **Learn doctrine.** Jesus knew the importance of teaching His students the truth and identified doctrine as one of the means for spiritual growth. Wishy-washy doctrine leads to faulty practice.

 **Develop life skills.** Jesus taught His followers to meet life's challenges in a way that honored and glorified God. He gave them the skills to navigate those challenges successfully.

 **Uplift others.** Jesus' life was all about others. Leading by example, He taught His followers to be all about others too.

 **Prepare to serve.** Jesus prepared His followers to serve in the context of local churches that were established soon after His ascension. He emphasized sacrifice and dedication.

# STRONG<sup>®</sup> curriculum

## Kit Contents

- ☐ Teacher Guide
- ☐ Junior Church Teacher Guide
- ☐ Student Book\*
- ☐ Set of Take-Home Papers\*
- ☐ One Attendance Chart and Sticker Page\*
- ☐ Teaching Picture Book
- ☐ Flannelgraph figures
- ☐ Resource CD with online download code
- ☐ Bible Story DVD
- ☐ Michael and Emily Storybook
- ☐ Posters

\*Order additional copies for classroom use.

## Ordering Information

All materials are available from  
Regular Baptist Press.

- Web: [www.StrongCurriculum.com](http://www.StrongCurriculum.com)
- E-mail: [orders@rbpstore.org](mailto:orders@rbpstore.org)
- Toll-free orders in the United States: 1-800-727-4440
- Fax: 1-847-843-3757
- Canada: Contact your distributor.

Strong Curriculum builds stronger churches by teaching all Scripture to produce spiritually mature believers who measure up to the stature of Christ. In this quarter's Strong Kids for Pre-Primaries, children will learn to be selfless and loving by studying Ruth and Hannah. Through a study of the first kings of Israel, they will learn to be devoted to God, courageous for the Lord, forgiving, and kind.



## Onetime Purchase (Sold Separately)

- ☐ Strong Kids Music, Vol. 2



## The Doctrinal Basis of Our Curriculum

*A more detailed statement with references is available upon request.*

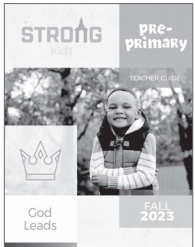
- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The verbal, plenary inspiration of the Scriptures</li> <li>• Only one true God</li> <li>• The Trinity of the Godhead</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit and His ministry</li> <li>• The personality of Satan</li> <li>• The Genesis account of creation</li> <li>• Original sin and the fall of man</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The virgin birth of Christ</li> <li>• Salvation through faith in the shed blood of Christ</li> <li>• The bodily resurrection and priesthood of Christ</li> <li>• Grace and the new birth</li> <li>• Justification by faith</li> <li>• Sanctification of the believer</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The security of the believer</li> <li>• The church</li> <li>• The ordinances of the local church: baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper</li> <li>• Biblical separation—ecclesiastical and personal</li> <li>• Obedience to civil government</li> <li>• The place of Israel</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pretribulation rapture of the church</li> <li>• The premillennial return of Christ</li> <li>• The millennial reign of Christ</li> <li>• Eternal glory in Heaven for the righteous</li> <li>• Eternal torment in Hell for the wicked</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|---|



# What's in Your Kit Box?

Welcome to Year 2 of Strong Curriculum for pre-primaries. This material is developed for children in preschool and kindergarten (ages 4, 5, and 6). Take time to familiarize yourself with the materials in your resource kit box as you read this article.

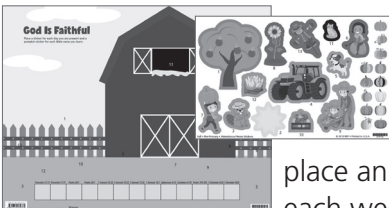
## Sunday School Teacher Guide



The teacher guide contains thirteen interactive lessons for the Sunday School hour. Every part of the lesson material incorporates the theme. The Teacher Preparation helps you prepare your heart for teaching the lesson. Read the

Scripture text, BuildUP theme, and Measurable Response each week so you know the focus of the lesson. Note the Gather list in every section of the lesson. Gather the items in the list so you are prepared for the activities. Some come from the kit but others will come from your home or will need to be purchased. If you have Junior Church, a separate teacher book is included for that hour, but the lessons and activities coordinate with the Sunday School hour. Both hours share the same Bible account visuals.

## Attendance and Verse Sticker Chart



The attendance and verse chart are combined. Students

place an attendance sticker each week to mark their

attendance and help complete the scene. The verse recognition sticker will be added in the designated square when the student recites his verse the week after it is taught. Note that there is only one sticker sheet and one chart in the kit box. Order additional sets for your class. They come in packets of five.

## Session Starters

Every lesson has two Session Starters that help set the tone and lead into the Bible story. Choose the one that is most compatible with the age and ability of your class.

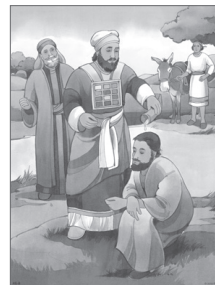
## Transition

Use this clean up time as an opportunity to sing and recite verses as students prepare to go to Bible study time.

## Bible Study

The Bible Study section of the lesson forms the core of your time with your class. Prepare through the week. Read the lesson through at one sitting. The second time you read, have all the visuals you need and hold them up as you read aloud. The next time you look at the lesson, do not read it. Be prepared to tell it and use the visuals as you do so.

In the kit box, you have a **Bible Picture Book**

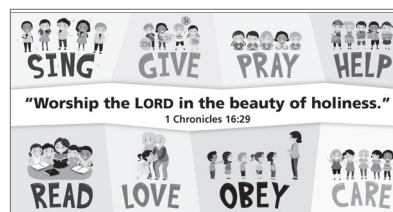


with fourteen teaching pictures.

The pictures provide good opportunities to talk with your students about important points in the Bible accounts. In addition, there are **flannelgraph** sheets. Punch out all the flannelgraph at the beginning of the quarter.

Consider putting the flannelgraph pieces in Ziplock bags or in envelopes to keep them from getting lost. Also consider mounting your flannelgraph pieces on cardstock, cutting them out, and gluing a craft stick to the back of the pieces. Make the pieces stand by pushing the craft sticks into a tub of sand or gravel.

## Memory Builder



There are three sheets of verse or activity **posters**.

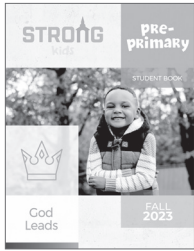
Cut these apart before the unit begins. Some

posters will be cut apart again for use in discussion or review. If so, directions are given in the teacher book. There are usually teaching and review activities and games included in this section.

## Session Application

During the Session Application, students will complete the workbook page that coordinates with

the lesson. There is one sample **student book** in your kit. Order a student book for each student in your class. Plan to make a completed sample page each week, especially if there are flaps to fold or parts to cut and glue. Students like to see what the final picture will be. A sticker page is attached to each book. To prepare for the quarter, you might want to take apart all the books and make files of pages by week. Cut apart the stickers for each week, store them in an envelope for each week, and file with the pages. This saves time during class.



## Take-Home Papers



At the end of the session, distribute the **take-home paper** to each child. There is one sample in the kit. Order a set for each student. One set is thirteen papers, one for each week of the quarter. The student book and the take-home paper carry the theme of the lesson into the home. These also help the parent know what their child is learning.

## Resource CD



Your kit box contains a **resource CD** which has all the patterns needed for both Sunday School and Junior Church. In addition, there are individual teaching pictures and flannelgraph figures. All the verse posters are included. There is also a file of clip art containing various poses of Timber, the beaver mascot for the series. He appears throughout the take-home paper and can be used to decorate your classroom.

The CD is an important tool. You may want to print verse posters to cut apart instead of using the original. You will also use printed teaching pictures and flannelgraph to make the bulletin boards. Pattern resources may include songs, coloring pages, patterns for art, pictures for discussion activities, recipes, and more. Note: There is a download code included on the CD jacket if you do not have CD capabilities on your computer.

## The DVD



Included in the kit is a **DVD** of animated review stories. These are recommended for the Junior Church time. Not every lesson has a DVD story. Some of the presentations will cover more than one lesson. Stop the DVD at the end of what you have covered in one lesson. Continue it the following week.

## Michael and Emily Storybook



The Michael and Emily Storybook is a book of application stories for use in the Junior Church hour. It is included in your resource kit. Thirteen stories and pictures are included. The story is also included in the Junior Church Teacher Book each week. The pictures are also on the resource CD. You can use them to decorate your room or let students use them to retell the story at home.

There are a lot of materials available to help you make Sunday School a meaningful and memorable experience for pre-primaries. Use them to teach God's Word and make a difference in your students' lives.

# Basic Supplies for Pre-Primary Teachers

## Teaching Aids

Bible  
Offering container  
Flannelgraph board (26" x 36") (6063)  
CD player  
Pocket chart (8664)  
Word strips (pkg. 75) (8666)

## Paper Products

9" x 12" and 12" x 18" construction paper  
in various colors  
White copy paper  
Butcher paper  
Poster board  
Card stock  
Index cards  
Self-adhesive labels  
Lunch-size paper bags  
6" and 9" paper plates  
Paper cups, napkins, plastic silverware  
Paper towels  
Tissues

## Markers

Pencils; colored pencils  
Crayons; washable paint daubers  
Black and colored felt-tip markers

## Office Supplies

Paper clips  
Brass fasteners  
Rubber bands  
Paper punch  
Cellophane tape  
Double-stick tape  
Masking tape  
Stapler  
Scissors (sharp points for teachers; blunt ends  
for students)

## Adhesives

Glue sticks  
Craft glue  
Sticky tack

## Role Play Items

Child-size mop, broom, etc.  
Dress-up clothes; lengths of fabric  
Plush animals  
Finger puppets  
Nonworking cell phones  
Paper towel or wrapping paper cardboard rolls  
Aluminum foil

## Bulletin Boards

Scalloped Leaves Border (8540)  
Scalloped Rainbow Border (8541)  
Red 3" letters (8511)  
Yellow 3" letters (8513)

## Miscellaneous

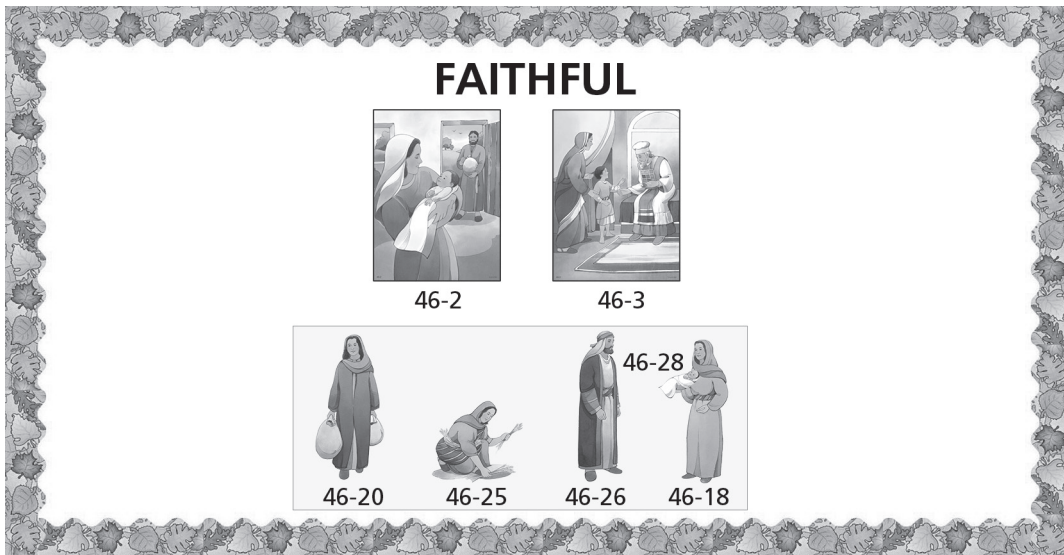
Large blocks; other types of building sets  
Cardboard boxes (all sizes)  
Play-Doh  
Clear Con-Tact paper  
Craft sticks (regular- and jumbo-size)  
Premoistened towels  
Hand sanitizer  
Plastic tablecloths for art or food projects  
Styrofoam  
Large plastic bags or old shirts for smocks  
Ziplock bags (sandwich- and snack-size)  
Watercolor paints and brushes  
Yarn  
Chenille wires  
Cotton balls  
*Note: Products with an order number are avail-  
able from Regular Baptist Press.*



# Unit Bulletin Boards

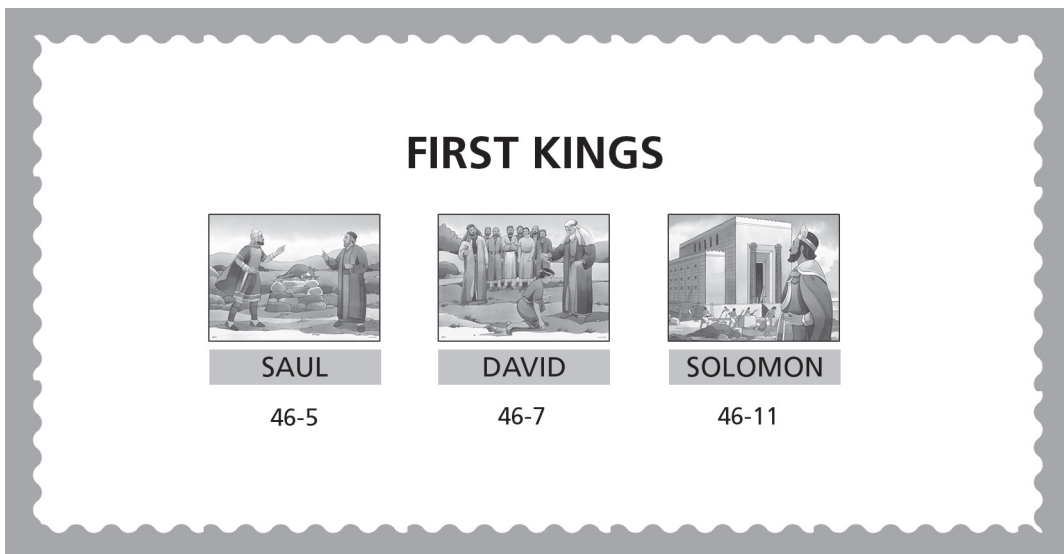
## Unit 1

The unit 1 theme is faithfulness. Lessons on Ruth and Hannah focus on loving others and loving God. Cover the board with a yellow background. Add a scalloped leaves border (available from RBP; order no. 8540). Use 3" red letters for the title: FAITHFUL (EZ letters; order no. 8511). Center the title on the board as shown. Print the following teaching pictures from the resource CD: 46-2 and 46-3; mount as shown. Use flannelgraph figures 46-20, 46-25, 46-18, 46-26, and 46-28 to make a mural on a sheet of 12" x 18" construction paper as shown. Talk about the faithfulness of these women throughout the unit.



## Units 2, 3, and 4

These three units comprise nine lessons on the first kings of Israel. Use the scalloped rainbow border (order no. 8541) with blue backing. Use 3" yellow letters for the title: FIRST KINGS (order EZ letters 8513). Print the following teaching pictures from the resource CD: 46-5 (SAUL), 46-7 (DAVID), 46-11 (SOLOMON). Mount the pictures in sequence. Print the kings' names on word strips. Mount as shown.



LESSON 1 | UNIT 1

# Ruth's Selfless Love

Ruth's selfless love for Naomi

## Scripture Focus

Ruth 1

## BuildUP Theme



UPLIFT OTHERS

God wants us to think of others above ourselves.

## Measurable Response

The student will look for ways to put others first.

## Memory Verse

"A friend loves at all times"  
(Proverbs 17:17). NKJV, ESV

## Teacher Preparation

Read the Scripture Focus, Ruth 1. We live in a self-centered society that emphasizes "me first." The idea of looking out for others is fine if it uplifts, brings attention to, and fits into the schedule of the participant.

And no one is more egocentric than toddlers and preschoolers! You will see it in a dozen little ways every day. Preschoolers want to be first in line, first to be served, have first choice, and have all the teacher's attention. It is a vivid display of that old sin nature. Your students need multiple reminders each day to take turns, share, help, and put others first, none of which is natural for any of us.

Ruth made a bold and sacrificial choice. She left her home, her family, and her religion. The Bible doesn't tell us the details, but Ruth must have learned about the One true God from her husband and in-laws. Realizing that the Lord is the One and only God, she sought to make Him "her God." She put her trust in Him and reached out to Naomi in compassion.

## Transition from Sunday School

### Snack Time

1. Children should use the restroom and wash hands.
2. Serve cracker snacks. Show box fronts. Talk about farmers who grow grain to make the crackers.
3. Choose students to help distribute napkins, cups, the snack. Ask a volunteer to pray. Talk about how serving others is a way of being kind.



# Guided Play

Guided Play is designed for students to explore the concepts in the Bible lesson for themselves. You may choose to use these ideas or create more of your own. You may prefer to set up stations that the students can choose from as they finish their snack, or you may conduct one of these activities as a group.

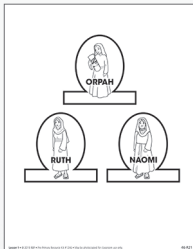
## Option 1—Finger Puppet Play

### Gather

- Resource 46-R21.
- Coloring supplies.
- Children's and teacher's scissors; tape.

### Steps

1. Before class, print a copy of resource 46-R21 for each student. Make sample puppets.
2. Students color and cut out the characters. Help younger students with cutting.
3. Help students tape the sides of the finger puppets together.
4. Use the puppets to role-play the conversation and action between Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah. It is best to have Naomi on one hand and Ruth and Orpah on the other hand. NOTE: Students may also move puppets on the tabletop.



46-R21

## Option 2—May I Serve You? (Kitchen Center)

### Gather

- Secure children's play kitchen items (play food, utensils, pots and pans, dishes).
- Placemats or small tablecloths.

### Steps

1. Encourage the children to pretend to make and serve a meal in a restaurant. Other students are customers.
2. Encourage them to act out excellent service by listening closely to the order, serving with care, asking the customers if they need anything, and being polite.
3. After a few minutes, switch roles.

## Option 3—Action Rhyme Review

### Gather

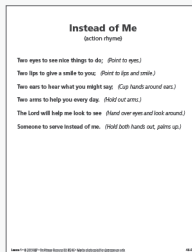
- Resource 46-R1.

### Steps

1. Teach the action rhyme (resource 46-R1). If students practiced the rhyme in the Sunday School hour, let them teach others.
2. Discuss.

**ASK:** What things might you see to do? (Let students act out what they might see and do.)

**ASK:** How might you use your arms to show kindness to someone? (Students give suggestions like carry things, pull a wagon with a younger child, push a swing, open a door for someone).



46-R1

## Bible Study Review

For your convenience, you will find the same Bible lesson that was taught in Sunday School printed below. Review the key points as you interact with the students. Use your open Bible as you teach and read directly from Scripture when appropriate.

### Gather

- Flannelgraph figures 46-15—46-22.

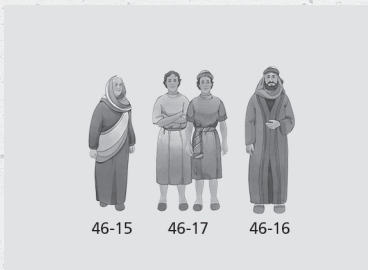
### Ruth's Selfless Love (Ruth 1)

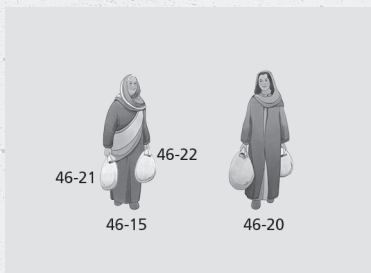
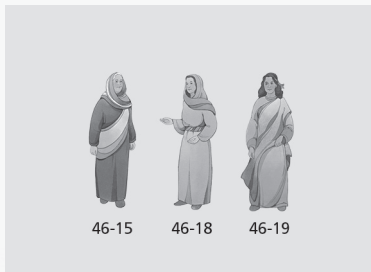
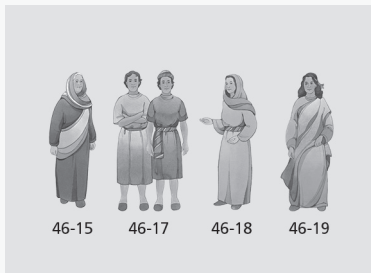
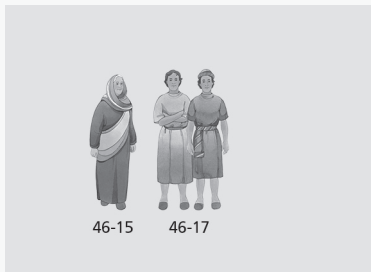
(Place flannelgraph figures 46-15—46-17.) Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and their two sons were Israelites. They worshiped the one true God.

Elimelech and his family lived in Bethlehem. One year, Elimelech's crops did not grow. No crops grew because there was no rain. The corn and wheat and barley plants dried up and died. There was no food for the people or their animals. This is called a famine.

Elimelech heard that there was good land and food in the country of Moab. The people of Moab did not worship the One true God; they worshiped idols. But Elimelech's family needed food. They packed up their belongings and moved to faraway Moab.

**ACTIVITY:** Role play walking to a new land. Walk in a large circle around your classroom or walk in place.





Naomi and Elimelech were happy in Moab. Their boys grew up into tall, handsome young men. They had everything they needed.

Then something sad happened. Elimelech died. (Remove 46-16.) Naomi's sons had lost their father. The sons continued to work and take care of the crops. The sons married two beautiful girls from Moab. Their names were Ruth and Orpah. (Add 46-18 and 46-19 to the board.)

Years went by. Then both of Naomi's sons died! (Remove 46-17. Move 46-18 and 46-19 closer to Naomi.) Now Naomi was old and all alone. What would she and her two daughters-in-law do? Who would care for them? They were all widows. A widow is someone whose husband has died.

**ASK:** How do you think Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah felt? *Sad, lonely, scared.*

But God had not forgotten about Naomi. He had a plan to take of her.

One day, Naomi said to Ruth and Orpah, "I am going back to Bethlehem. There is nothing here for me. My husband and sons are dead. I have heard that the crops there are growing again. I have a house and land there. You are both young and beautiful. You can find new husbands here."

But Ruth and Orpah loved Naomi. They decided to go Bethlehem with her. (Replace 46-18 with 46-20. Add bundles 46-21 and 46-22 to Orpah and Naomi.)

**ACTIVITY:** Stand and walk in place.

After walking awhile Naomi stopped and said, "I don't want you to go with me. Please, go back to your families."

**READ:** Ruth 1:14.

Orpah decided that maybe Naomi was right. She left Naomi and Ruth and walked back to her home of Moab. (Remove 46-19 [Orpah]. Give 46-21 [bundle] to Naomi.)

"Ruth," Naomi said. "You go too. I am old. I am sad and bitter. Go home."

"Please don't ask me to leave," Ruth pleaded. "I will go wherever you go. Your home will be my home. Your family will be my family. Your God will be my God."

Ruth had learned about the one true God from her husband and Naomi. She put her trust in God, not idols.

**ACTIVITY:** (Do a finger play to review the story so far. Have students hold up 4 fingers on the right hand.) Four people moved to Moab: Naomi, Elimelech, and their two sons. **ASK:** What sad thing happened?



*Elimelech died.* (Put one finger down.) **ASK:** What happy thing happened next? *The boys married Ruth and Orpah.* (Put two more fingers up.) Now there are five happy people. **ASK:** But what happened? *The two boys died.* (Put down two fingers.) And Orpah decided to go home. (Put a finger down.) Only Naomi and Ruth went on to Bethlehem.

Naomi saw how much Ruth loved her and wanted to stay with her. Naomi was glad Ruth chose to stay with her. Now she would not be lonely.

Naomi and Ruth walked on to Bethlehem. The men were gathering the grain in the fields. There was a good harvest. God was pleased that Ruth had shown love to Naomi by staying with her.

## Application Story

### Gather

- Michael and Emily Storybook.

### The Visiting Baby

Emily and Michael came home from school and suddenly stopped and stared. A baby was in their living room! She was happily chewing on a teething ring.

Then Mommy came in. "I see you have met Olivia."

Emily laughed and ran to play with the baby. (

**DISPLAY:** Show picture 46-ME1.

"Is it ours?" asked Michael. He was a bit concerned.

Mommy laughed, "No silly. It's not our baby. This is Olivia Roberts."

"Good," Michael said. "When does she leave?"

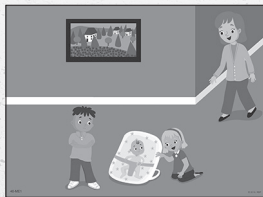
"Her big brother is having surgery today," Mommy informed them.

"Mr. and Mrs. Roberts need to be at the hospital with their son. They needed someone to care for Olivia. She will be here a day or two, depending on how her big brother recovers."

"Oh wow! Two whole days!" Emily was delighted.

Mommy said, "I will need help taking care of Olivia."

Emily said she would love to help, but Emily had no idea how to care for a baby.



45-ME1

After dinner, baby Olivia became quite fussy. She didn't want to play peek-a-boo or sing songs, and she didn't want a bottle. Emily was upset. This was supposed to be fun, but Olivia wasn't fun right now.

"Maybe she is cutting a tooth," Mommy said. She felt a little tooth. "I'll walk and bounce her. "

Soon, Baby Olivia was quiet. Mommy put her to bed in Emily's room.

"Thank you for helping in the kitchen, Emily," Mommy said. "Now, tiptoe into your room, don't turn on the light, and put on your pajamas for bed."

In the middle of the night, Olivia started crying and woke Emily. Mommy rocked and patted and hummed softly. The whole time Emily wished she could sleep!

In the morning, Olivia took up lots of Mommy's time!

Michael and Emily had to get their own breakfast and pick out their own clothes. Mommy barely got their lunches made before Michael and Emily rushed to catch the school bus.

All day long Emily felt like she was going to fall asleep at her desk. She was tired from being awake in the night. When Michael and Emily came home from school, Olivia was still there. Michael and Emily just looked at each other.

Mommy sighed. "I need to shower. Emily, you watch Olivia. Michael, I haven't had time to wash your soccer uniform."

"What?!" Michael exclaimed. "But Mom, I have practice tonight. I can't wear a dirty uniform!"

"I'm sorry, Michael. Olivia's teeth are hurting. I have rocked her all day," Mommy was tired. "What time is practice?"

"Five o'clock," Michael answered.

"Let's put the uniform in the machine while I'm in the shower. Maybe we can get it done in time. Get yourself a snack." Mommy went upstairs.

"I hope this baby goes home soon," Michael said to Emily.

"I thought this would be fun. Olivia is grumpy," Emily said.

"Her crying woke me up last night," Michael added.

"Well, I had to have her in my room," Emily complained.

Soon Mommy got Olivia's bag ready with diapers and a bottle. Emily packed Olivia's toys and books. Michael changed into his clean uniform, and they raced out the door.

Mommy put Olivia in her car seat. Michael and Emily sat on either side of her. They couldn't even see each other. They made it to the park just in time.

"Get out, Michael. Take your equipment," said Mommy.

"Aren't you going to stay and watch me?" Michael asked.

"Not today. I need to get Olivia home. Daddy will pick you up when you are done," Mommy said as she drove off.

Dinner was pizza because Mom was busy. Michael and Emily loved pizza. After dinner, the phone rang. Daddy answered. It was Mrs. Roberts. She said they would be at the hospital one more night. Michael and Emily groaned.

"What's wrong? Emily, I thought you would be happy to have Olivia stay another night," Mommy said.

"She's crabby and cries and stays up at night," Emily cried.

"And we are having to do all the work," Michael added.

Daddy had a stern look on his face. "I hear some selfish kids! We are babysitting to show love to the Roberts family. Their boy is very sick and needed an operation. We cannot make their boy better, but we can watch Olivia, so Mr. and Mrs. Roberts don't have to worry about her."

"This is what love looks like," Mommy chimed in. "Love is not just sweetness and fun and hugs. Love is wanting the best for others and being willing to serve and help, even when you receive nothing in return."

Michael and Emily knew they had been selfish. They were thinking of themselves instead of the Roberts family.

"I just wanted to play with Olivia," Emily admitted. "But I understand. It is sort of like Ruth and Naomi. Ruth could have left Naomi and gone back to her family. But instead, she loved Naomi so much that she moved to a new place so she could care for Naomi. Ruth didn't do it for herself."

"Will you help me get her ready for bed?" Mommy asked.

"I'll clean up dishes tonight," Michael volunteered.

"Now that's love," Daddy smiled. "I'll help you."

## Questions

1. Who was visiting at Michael and Emily's house? *Baby Olivia*. Why? *(Her parents were staying with her brother at the hospital.)*



2. How did Michael and Emily feel about the baby? (*They did not like having her at their house. She cried a lot and took all of Mommy's time.*)
3. What did Michael and Emily learn about love? (*Love is wanting the best for others and being willing to serve and help.*)

## Application Craft

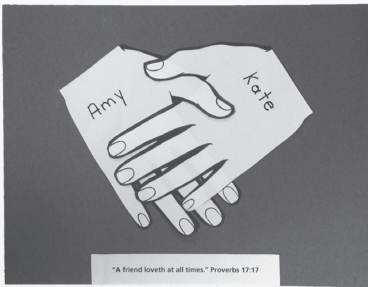
### Hands of Friendship

#### Gather

- White copy paper.
- Colored construction paper.
- Pencils and coloring supplies.
- Scissors.
- Glue sticks.

#### Steps

1. Before class, make a sample project. Write the memory verse, Proverbs 17:17, on the bottom of each piece of construction paper. Older students may trace over your printing.
2. Pair students together. Students will trace each other's hands on the copy paper, color them, and cut them out. They will print their names on both hands.
3. Students will trade one hand each. Each student needs one right and one left hand.
4. Demonstrate how to weave layer the hands. Glue the palms down on the construction paper, like the two hands are holding hands.
5. Students print names on their papers.
6. Encourage students to say "thanks for your help" to their partner and work to clean up the craft area together.



## Clean Up and Say Good-bye

#### Gather

- Strong Kids at Home take-home paper and outside cover wrap for each student.
- Students' crafts and student book pages (from Sunday School).
- Paper lunch bag for finger puppets.
- Video 1, "Ruth's Selfless Love" (DVD).

Video 1, Ruth's Selfless Love



## Steps

1. Enlist the students' help to clean up the craft area and your classroom.
2. Let students view Video 1, "Ruth's Selfless Love" (DVD).
3. Give each student a copy of Strong Kids at Home take-home paper for Pre-Primaries and the outer wrap. The take-home paper has additional activities for parents to complete with their children as a way of reinforcing the lesson and measuring spiritual growth.
4. Close in prayer and thank each child for coming to church today.
5. Sing the "Good-bye Song" to the tune "If You're Happy and You Know It."

### "Good-bye Song"

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| It's time to say good-bye to all our friends.     | (Wave to a friend.)       |
| It's time to say good-bye to all our friends.     | (Wave to another friend.) |
| We have learned a lot today.                      | (Nod yes and tap head.)   |
| May God keep you in all ways.                     | (Praying hands.)          |
| Oh, it's time to say good-bye to all our friends. | (Wave.)                   |