



**BIBLE READING FOR  
REASONING LESSON PLANS**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

~ PSALM 119:105 ~

# RUTH AND ESTHER

# 3

**Time:** 45 minutes

**Reading:** Proverbs 31:10-20

**Review:** Man and woman have equal worth but different roles in life.

**Principle:** Biblical femininity flows from the heart of the woman who radiates the beauty of Christ.

## TEACHER



### Vocabulary:

**beauty** (n.) 1) Adornment. 2) A particular grace, feature, ornament, or quality that reflects the excellencies and virtue of the Creator God.

**gentle** (adj.) Kind; calm; meek; not rough, harsh, or severe.

**quiet** (adj.) 1) Being in a state of rest; content. 2) Peaceable; not giving offense; not exciting controversy, disorder, or trouble.

**virtue** (n.) 1) Moral goodness; the practice of moral duties and the abstaining from vice. 2) A particular moral excellence, such as chastity, charity, temperance, etc.



### Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Make certain you understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle, and background content.

**Principle:** Biblical femininity flows from the heart of the woman who radiates the beauty of Christ.

*Let not your adornment be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:3, 4).*

## STUDENT



### Key Word:

**femininity** (n.) Qualities and traits traditionally associated with a woman or a girl.



### Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally, as assigned by the teacher.



### Reason Questions:

1. How do you define beauty?
2. Compare the way the world defines beauty and femininity with the way God has defined them in His Word.
3. If you are a young girl, describe the qualities and virtues that define your beauty.
4. If you are a young boy, describe the qualities and virtues that define the beauty of your mother and sisters.
5. From our Scripture reading today, name the qualities of the Proverbs 31 woman that describe her beauty.

*God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7).*

*Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised (Proverbs 31:30).*

*Thanks be to God who always leads us in His triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place (2 Corinthians 2:14).*

*As a man thinks within himself, so he is (Proverbs 23:7).*

What we believe to be true about the nature of man and woman is the foundation for how we view and judge others, as well as how we see ourselves and make our daily choices. The world looks at the outward appearance of others—their physical attributes, clothing, and material possessions—and makes a judgment about their value and worth. Sadly, many Christians do this as well. Beauty and value are not based on one's outward appearance and material wealth. We need the Christian view of womanhood and manhood. We need God's vision of what is valuable, beautiful, and worthy of praise.

God looks at our heart. He looks within at our inner man and our motivations. He examines our priorities and where we spend most of our time. It is important for young children to be taught that beauty and virtue come from within. "The King's daughter is all glorious within" (Psalm 45:13). As the Scriptures teach us, how we think about and view ourselves is how we project ourselves to others (Proverbs 23:7).

The first step to being beautiful is to invite the Lord Jesus Christ to live within our hearts. We must be born again in the Spirit and receive the beauty of the Lord within. Isaiah 61:3 relates that when we receive Jesus as our Savior and Redeemer, God turns our ashes into beauty. He takes those things in our lives that are ugly and transforms them into something worthy of praise.

The second step to being beautiful is to read and meditate upon God's Word every day and to obey His commands and precepts. As we grow in the knowledge and fear of the Lord, we become more like Jesus and thus grow more beautiful every day.

3. Gather resources: Bible, student vocabulary card, Biblical Femininity graphic organizers, memory verse card, and parent prayer and blessing cards.



### Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Biblical Femininity graphic organizer:

- Is the daughter of the living God
- Fears the Lord
- Places her home and family first
- Rises early to serve her family
- Has many profitable businesses
- Is industrious and energetic
- Gives to the poor



### Memory Verse:

Your beauty should not come from outward adornment . . . Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight (1 Peter 3:3, 4, NIV).



### Take Blessing and Prayer Cards home to parents.



# Biblical Femininity

*Your beauty should not come from outward adornment . . . rather that of your inner self,  
the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight (1 Peter 3:3, 4, NIV).*

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# RUTH AND ESTHER

# 10

**Time:** 45 minutes

**Student Reading:** Ruth 3:6-18 (NIV)

**Review:** Kinsman redeemer Boaz is a type of Jesus Christ.

**Principle:** A woman of virtuous character is a model of biblical femininity.

## TEACHER



### Vocabulary:

**character** (n.) The qualities that comprise one's personality and distinguish him or her from others; one's reputation.

**efficacious** (adj.) Effective; producing the desired results.

**excellence** (n.) Showing qualities of high moral character, such as courage, generosity, or honor.

**integrity** (n.) 1) The state of being pure, whole, or complete. 2) Steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code of conduct.

**kindness** (n.) An act of good will; benevolence; that quality within which delights in contributing to the happiness of others and which is exercised cheerfully in gratifying their wishes, supplying their wants, or alleviating their distresses.

**noble** (adj.) Virtuous; dignified; being above everything that can dishonor one's reputation.

**startle** (v.) To surprise, shock, alarm, or frighten.



### Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Make certain you understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle, and background content.

**Principle:** A woman of virtuous character is a model of biblical femininity.

## STUDENT



### Key Word:

**virtuous** (adj.) Acting and speaking in conformity to moral goodness from a sincere love of God and His laws.



### Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally, as assigned by the teacher.



### Reason Questions:

1. Upon what did Boaz base his promise to Ruth "to do for her all that she asked"?
2. Define "moral goodness."
3. How did Ruth's words and actions reflect the meditation of her heart?
4. How do Ruth's words and actions reflect our definition of biblical femininity?
5. What lesson(s) did you glean from the lives of both Ruth and Boaz in this reading? Explain how you will apply this wisdom to your own life.

*And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman (Ruth 3:11, KJV).*

Virtue is the efficacious power and force that should permeate the Christian's thoughts, actions, and relationships. It is cultivated by reading and meditating on the Word of God and applying His precepts to our lives. In Ruth 3:11 (NIV), Boaz refers to Ruth as a woman of noble character. In the King James and New Living translations this is translated "a virtuous woman." King Solomon wrote a description of the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31, but Ruth is the only woman in the Bible who is called "virtuous," a high tribute to her character and reputation.

Boaz, a man of integrity and noble character himself, recognized in Ruth the qualities of excellence, virtue, and kindness. He blessed her for choosing him, as opposed to a younger man, as her kinsman redeemer. Boaz was probably closer to the age of Ruth's father-in-law, Elimelech. Both Ruth and Boaz were characterized by integrity and virtue, and they recognized the same qualities in each other.

Ruth was a woman who had learned to trust the God of Naomi, the one God of Israel. She was a woman of virtuous character qualities who gained this reputation in quiet and humble service. She attended her business with devotion and honor, making her a shining star, just as Naomi had been to her. She is truly a role model for all young girls and women desiring a noble and virtuous character.

3. Gather resources: Bible, student vocabulary card, and Portrait of Ruth graphic organizers.



### Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come, Holy Spirit, into our class and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds with an understanding of godly manhood and womanhood. Help us to know Jesus Christ better and to grow in the knowledge and understanding of your Word, the Holy Bible. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the concept of kinsman redeemer and Boaz as a type of Jesus Christ.
4. Pin the student vocabulary card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the lesson's principle. Teach the principle and remind the children to look for this principle as they read the Scriptures.



### Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Portrait of Ruth graphic organizer:

- A young, childless Gentile widow
- A worshiper of Israel's God
- Followed and served Naomi selflessly
- A woman of virtuous character



### Memory Verse:

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer (Psalm 19:14)

# RUTH AND ESTHER

# 15

**Time:** 45 minutes

**Student Reading:** Esther 2:1-11 (NIV)

**Teacher Reading:** Esther 2:12-18

**Review:** The principle of submitting to those in authority over us

**Principle:** When truth and kindness guide our words and actions, we attain favor with God and man.

## TEACHER



### Vocabulary:

**citadel** (n.) A castle or fortress, usually built on a high place in or near a city and intended for its defense; a place of arms.

**harem** (n.) [Turkish, forbidden place] A house where Eastern princes and kings confined their wives, female relatives, concubines, and servants.

**kindness** (n.) An act of good will promoting the happiness or welfare of others and exercised cheerfully.

**liberality** (n.) An act of generosity.

**repute** (n.) One's reputation.

**truth** (n.) 1) The true state of facts or things. 2) God's Word (John 17:17). 3) Jesus Christ (John 14:6). 4) Purity from falsehood; honesty.

**virgin** (n.) A woman who has not been married and has no carnal knowledge of men.

**virtue** (n.) 1) Moral goodness; the practice of moral duties and abstaining from vice; the conformity of life and conversation to the moral law. 2) Obedience to truth.



### Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned reading. Make certain you understand it in the context of the entire book.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary, principle, and lesson background.

## STUDENT



### Key Word:

**favor** (n.) An act of gracious kindness shown by word or deed.



### Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally, as assigned by the teacher.



### Reason Questions:

1. How did the king arrange to choose a new queen?
2. What qualities did Esther possess that gave her favor with all those she met? Were these external or internal qualities?
3. Name other biblical characters to whom God showed favor.
4. Scripture doesn't tell us, but how do you think Esther developed such godly virtue and wisdom at such a young age?
5. How did the Persians prepare the young women to meet King

3. Gather resources: Portrait of Queen Esther graphic organizers, student vocabulary card, memory verse card, and parent cards.



### Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Dear Lord Jesus, your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of your people. You are near to all who call upon your name in truth. You keep all who love you, while the wicked you destroy. We will extol you, our God and our King, and bless your name forever and ever. How blessed are the people whose God is the Lord of lords and the King of kings! Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the principle of submitting to those in authority over us.
4. Pin the student vocabulary card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.

Connect the vocabulary word to the principle and teach the principle.

**Principle:** When truth and kindness guide our words and actions, we attain favor with God and man.

*Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man (Proverbs 3:3-4).*

*The LORD favors those who fear Him, those who wait for His lovingkindness (Psalm 147:11).*

*I sought your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to Your word (Psalm 119:58).*

*Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men (Luke 2:52).*

5. The Book of Esther highlights the power and influence that one individual who has been prepared by God for His gospel purposes can exercise. In this chapter the young Esther was chosen to enter the contest for the next queen of Persia and won the favor of the king. What is amazing about her testimony is that even though she was beautiful in form and features, she was an exile without rights—an orphan and a Jewess. What was it about her, then, that won the king's heart, since all the other young women must have been beautiful as well? She had the favor of the living God resting upon her. God's Word tells us that "the king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns

Xerxes? Upon what kind of beauty were they focused?

6. How is God preparing you to meet and serve King Jesus? Upon what is God focused?



### Notebook Record:

1. Record these phrases on the Portrait of Queen Esther graphic organizer:
  - A young, beautiful Jewess living in Persian exile
  - An orphan raised by her older cousin, Mordecai
  - Hebrew name "Hadassah," meaning "myrtle"
  - Persian name "Esther," meaning "star"
  - Found favor with King Xerxes and crowned queen of Persia
2. Sketch the star-shaped flower of the myrtle bush on your graphic organizer and color it with your colored pencils.



### Memory Verse:

Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man (Proverbs 3:3-4).



### Take Blessing and Prayer Cards home to parents.