

## ONE CONVERSATION

**Parents:** *If you could change any one thing about your life, what would it be? How do you think your life would be different if that one thing were different? If we were to ask Ruth that question based upon the situation she found herself in at the end of chapter 1, she would probably say that she would have her husband back from the dead. Ruth, however, did not waste time wishing her circumstances were different. Instead she demonstrated her trust in God by sacrificing her own livelihood in order to protect, provide, and care for her mother-in-law, Naomi. By looking at the end of Ruth's story, we are reminded that our current circumstances don't have the final word. God does and though we will face much difficulty and pain this side of eternity, He is always at work in our lives, writing a better story for us than we could write for ourselves.*

*Read these two passages from Ruth with your son or daughter if time permits. Then discuss how God was at work in Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz's lives even though they might not have fully grasped and understood where He was leading and guiding them until further on in their journey. Share some trials you are facing and ask your son or daughter what trials they are facing that you can pray with them about.*

## CENTRAL TRUTH

*God is always at work in our lives. He is writing a better story than we could write for ourselves.*

## PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** Read Luke 14:15-24. The parable of the banquet further illustrates a truth that the Book of Ruth introduces: God has a heart for outsiders and goes out of His way to graciously include them in His plan of redemption. What does this mean for you? Who are the outsiders in your city, community, school, and extracurricular activities? How might you reach out to them with the hope of the gospel this week?
- › **Memorize:** Ruth 2:20
- › **Pray:** Thank God for telling a better story in your life than you could tell for yourself. Spend some time thinking about difficult situations you and your family have faced in the past and how God has used those situations for your spiritual growth and to bring Him glory. Thank Him for always being at work in your life and pray that He would help you to grow to trust Him more and more, specifically understanding that His story is the best design and plan for your life.