

Bible Month June 2020 – Zoom Bible Study for young people.

The Book of Ruth

Week 4 – The Idea of Family

To do in advance

The idea of 'family' is no longer the idea of the nuclear family. All families can look different. This is something that needs to be handled sensitively. It may be helpful to let parents/carers know what you are going to be talking about, in case any of the young people may struggle with the topic. This would allow you to tailor the session appropriately.

For you to prepare in advance or ask the parents or young people to have set up in advance

1. Set up the prayer space. You will need a photo album, or photos of friends and family, these could be physical or digital. Print out copies of the 'ohana' page, and have pens and pencils for colouring and drawing available.
2. Download the story board to have a look at, for under 10s. See the link in the Bible section.
3. Print out the journal to complete over the next few weeks, one for each member of the family.
4. Find a Bible suitable for each member of the family, or you can use the one version.
5. Have colouring pencils and pens ready.

Opening chat

As the young people 'arrive', welcome them and chat about their week. What has gone well? What has not been so good? As lockdown is slowly lifting, are they being able to see more people? Who would they really like to go and see?

Opening game/scene setting

Show a short clip from Disney film *Lilo and Stitch* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U37cChUfHk0> try this one. If this is difficult put together a group of stills from the movie.

In the film, family is an important concept. It is defined by the word 'ohana', a Hawaiian word that means 'welcome'. Ohana is more than a word, it is an idea, and encompasses friends and neighbours as well as people we may be related to by blood or legal ties. It is the idea that we are bound together with those we love, that we have to work together and not forget anyone.

What words can the group think of that express welcome or love? You could use the scrabble scoring system to make it more competitive, depending on the age of the group.

From this go on to talk about what family is or is not. Who lives in their houses? Who are they missing during lockdown? Where does church fit into this?

Bible Reading: Ruth chapter Ruth 4 1-22

The rules of 'family' can seem strange and even funny to today's audience.

https://bibleforchildren.org/PDFs/english/Ruth_A_Love_Story_English.pdf

This link shows slides of the story. For week 4, recap the previous slides if needed and then go to slide 14-17.

Read from a different version too if you wish.

Wondering Questions:

1. I wonder who you think of as your 'family'.
2. I wonder how some families might look a bit different from ours?
3. I wonder if you belong to other groups you think of as a bit like a family?
4. I wonder if your family has ways of doing things or different traditions?

Prayer Time

Ask the young people to get the Ohana template sent out to families earlier, and pens or pencils for colouring and writing. They also need some pictures of friends and family. These can be digital or physical.

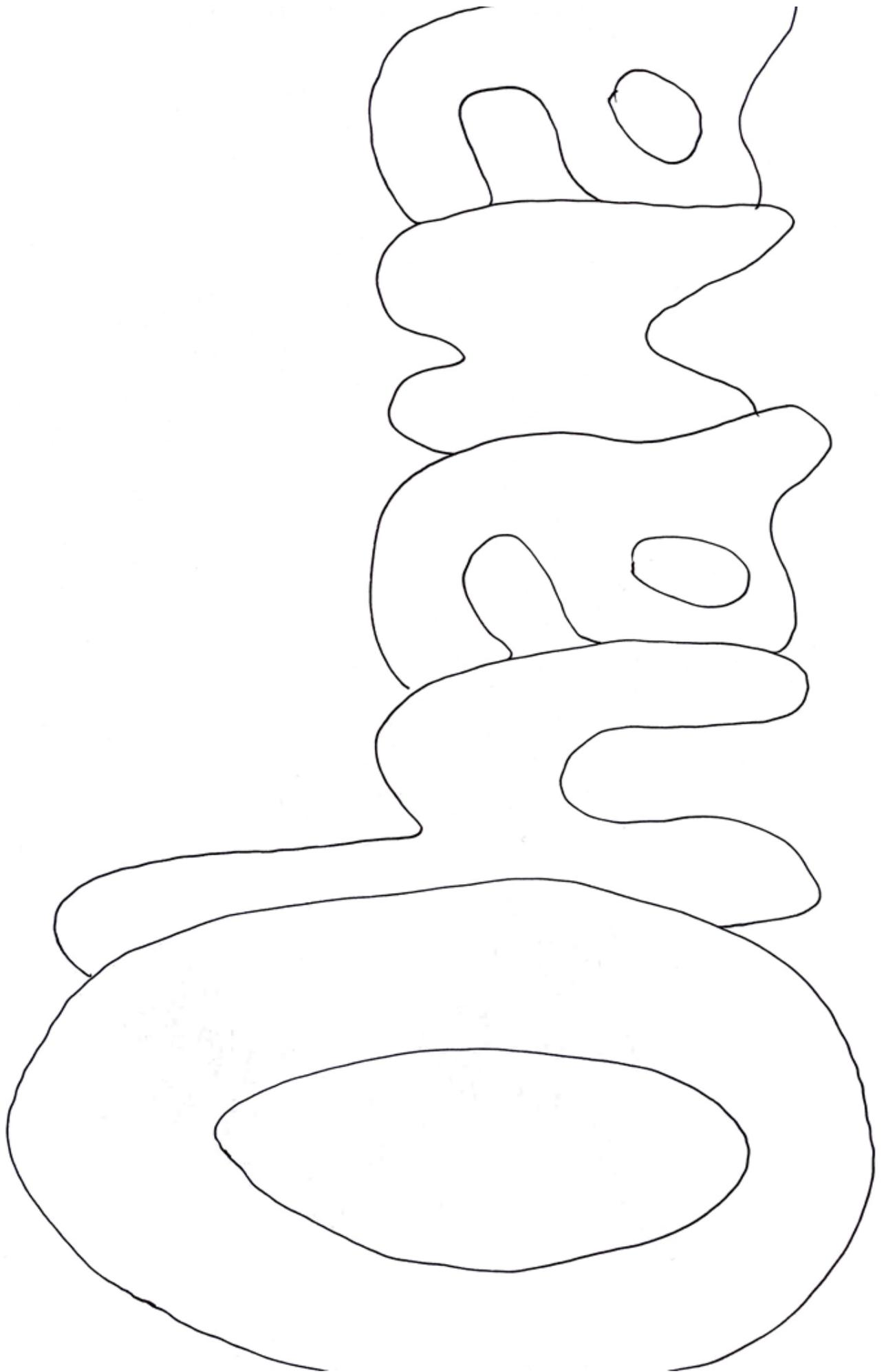
Allow them time to look through the photos. Then using the 'Ohana' page below, spend a few minutes writing the names or drawing the people you love. Add your prayers for them. You can share these prayers together or keep them private.

Activities for after the meeting

Draw their attention to the items that have been sent to their families already. In this final part of the story, Ruth and Boaz are married, and blessed with a child.

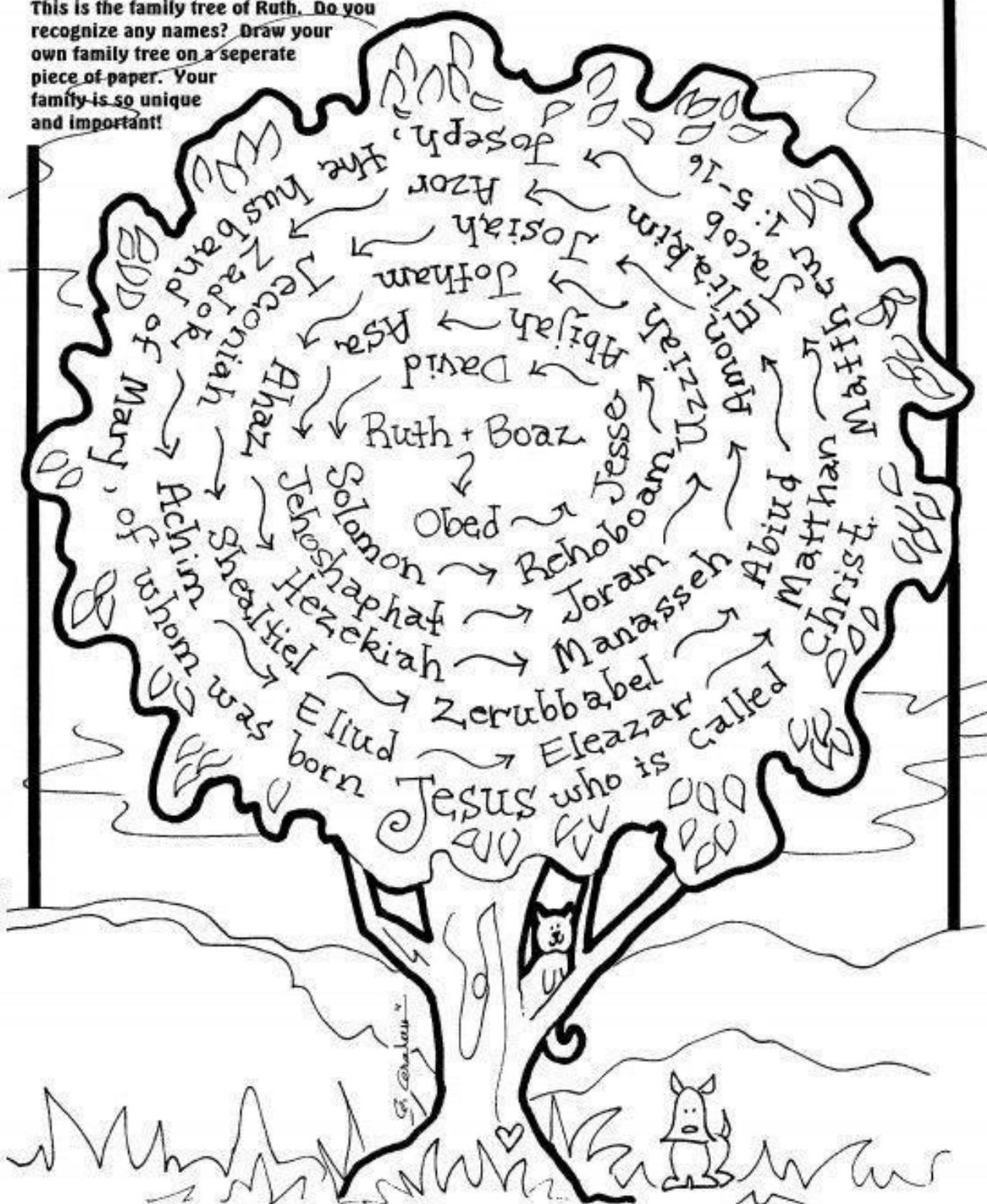
1. Check out the family tree below – it looks at the descendants of Ruth and Boaz all the way down to Jesus.
2. Talk about – or draw on a bit of paper – new ways of sealing a deal, instead of handing over a sandal!
3. Create this part of the story in lego.
4. Is there anything you would like to complete in the journal today?
5. See the attached mindfulness colouring page.

Say your goodbyes to each other. If you notice any member of the group looking affected by anything discussed, give their parents or carers a call.



The Descendants of Ruth & Boaz

This is the family tree of Ruth. Do you recognize any names? Draw your own family tree on a separate piece of paper. Your family is so unique and important!



Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a near kinsman; and may his name be famous in Israel! And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him." RUTH 4:14 & 15

*"Blessed
be God!
He didn't
leave you without
FAMILY"*

FROM RUTH 4,
THE MESSAGE

