

A photograph showing the hands and forearms of two women with dark hair, holding a white sign against a blue background. The woman on the right is wearing a ring on her finger.

a tale of two women

a study of the book of Ruth

Two women with dark hair are visible from the chest up, holding a light blue banner. They are looking directly at the camera.

a tale of two women

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. (Ruth 1:1-2, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. (Ruth 1:3-5, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

**TRUE BELIEFS ARE
REVEALED WHEN
SUFFERING COMES!**

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a light blue sign. Their eyes and hands are visible as they hold the sign.

a tale of two women

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. (Ruth 1:6-7, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a light blue sign. Their eyes and hands are visible as they hold the sign.

a tale of two women

But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

(Ruth 1:8-10, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a light blue banner. Their eyes and hands are visible as they hold the banner.

a tale of two women

But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." (Ruth 1:11-13, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are visible from the chest up, holding a light blue banner. They are looking directly at the camera with neutral expressions.

a tale of two women

Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

(Ruth 1:14-17, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

**ORPAH DOES WHAT IS
ORDINARY, WHILE
RUTH DOES WHAT IS
EXTRAORDINARY.**

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a light blue sign. Their eyes and hands are visible as they hold the sign.

a tale of two women

And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more. So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?" (Ruth 1:18-19, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

(Ruth 1:20-21, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a light blue sign. Their eyes and hands are visible above the sign.

a tale of two women

So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest. (Ruth 1:22, ESV)

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22

Two women with dark hair are peeking over a white sign with a blue border. Their eyes and hands are visible above the sign.

a tale of two women

Truths from the Tale:

1. You Can't Run from God

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

Truths from the Tale:

1. You Can't Run from God
2. **God's Hand is in Our Lives**

suffering
Ruth 1:1-22



a tale of two women

Truths from the Tale:

1. You Can't Run from God
2. God's Hand is in Our Lives
3. **The Goodness of God Shows Up**



a tale of two women

Truths from the Tale:

1. You Can't Run from God
2. God's Hand is in Our Lives
3. The Goodness of God Shows Up
4. **Freedom Comes through Faith in a Sovereign and Good God**

A photograph of two women with dark hair, seen from the chest up, holding a white sign. They are positioned against a light blue background. The woman on the left is holding the sign with her right hand, and the woman on the right is holding it with her left hand, which has a ring on the ring finger.

a tale of two women

a study of the book of Ruth