BIG IDEA: God takes care of me.

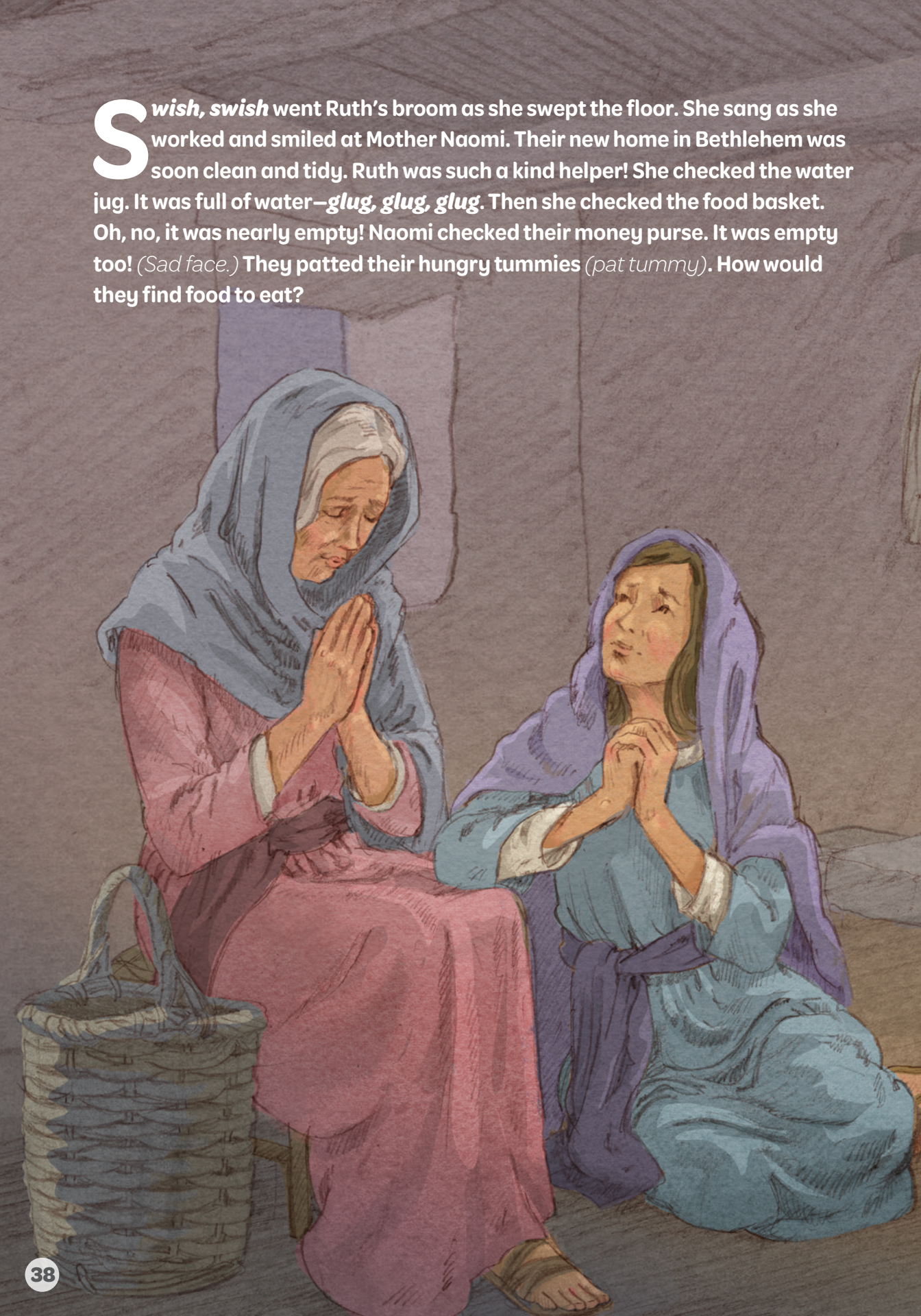
Week 5

Kind Boaz



This lesson is based on Ruth 2.

S*wish, swish* **went Ruth's broom as she swept the floor. She sang as she worked and smiled at Mother Naomi. Their new home in Bethlehem was soon clean and tidy. Ruth was such a kind helper! She checked the water jug. It was full of water—*glug, glug, glug*. Then she checked the food basket. Oh, no, it was nearly empty! Naomi checked their money purse. It was empty too!** *(Sad face.)* **They patted their hungry tummies** *(pat tummy)*. **How would they find food to eat?**





Ruth and Naomi knelt down. They folded their hands and prayed *(praying hands)***. God could help them find food! God gave Ruth an idea. There were lots of farms nearby that were full of grain. The grain could be made into soft, yummy bread. "Let me go to the fields," she said to Naomi. "Maybe someone will be kind and let me gather the grain he leaves in his field"** (Ruth 2:2, ICB)**. Naomi clapped her hands** *(clap hands)***. What a great idea! Thank You, God!**



Ruth walked slowly through a nearby field. Her back bent over. Her eyes looked at the ground. Ruth looked for grain that had been dropped by the farmers. ***Looking, looking, looking . . . There's some!*** Quickly, she picked it up and put it in her basket. The sun was hot. But Ruth kept ***looking, looking, looking***. She found one . . . two . . . three bundles!

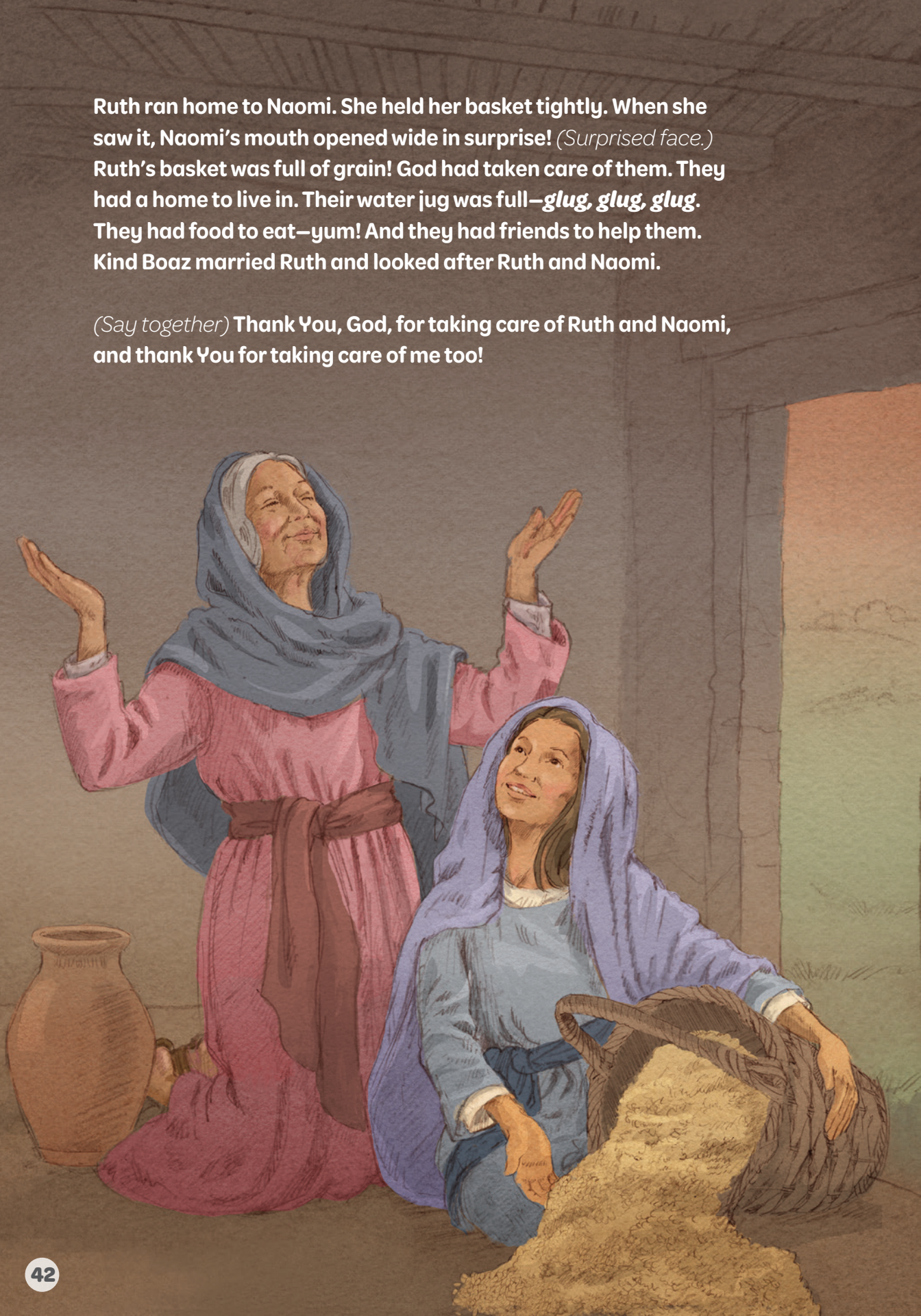
A man named Boaz saw her working. He owned the field and wanted to help her. He loved God and was very kind. Boaz told his workers to do something nice for Ruth. ***Whisper, whisper***. Shh! It would be a surprise.

Ruth walked slowly through the field. She looked carefully for grain. ***Looking, looking, looking . . . found some***! Quickly, she picked it up and put it in her basket. She found one . . . two . . . three . . . four . . . five bundles! Boaz had told his farmers to drop extra grain on the ground for Ruth to find. What a kind surprise! Then Boaz gave Ruth a cool drink and food to eat. He told her to come and look for grain in his field again tomorrow. He would take care of her.



Ruth ran home to Naomi. She held her basket tightly. When she saw it, Naomi's mouth opened wide in surprise! *(Surprised face.)* **Ruth's basket was full of grain! God had taken care of them. They had a home to live in. Their water jug was full—*glug, glug, glug*. They had food to eat—yum! And they had friends to help them. Kind Boaz married Ruth and looked after Ruth and Naomi.**

(Say together) **Thank You, God, for taking care of Ruth and Naomi, and thank You for taking care of me too!**



play throughout the Day

Create

Use play-dough to make "grain" (barley stalks). Make a little basket for Ruth to collect it in. God cared for Ruth by giving her food to collect.

Explore

Go on a special hunt to find a bird (outside or in a book). Share how God looks after the little birds and makes sure they have food and a home. Read Luke 12:6 to your child. Explain that God loves to take care of us—just as He does the birds.

Connect

Ask your child what they would like for dinner one night. Allow them to help you make it. Together, share how God has provided food for your family. Say a special prayer thanking God for this food, and pray for other children who are hungry today.

Donate

Give food to a food pantry or cook something for someone you think might need it. Pray for the people around the world who do not have enough food. Consider giving money to a charity that helps feed the hungry.

Pray

Each night for family worship this week, thank God for one thing each that God has given you.



Extension weekly memory verse: "Those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing" (Psalm 34:10).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

Ruth's life was not easy. She lost her husband, her family, and her cultural identity, and she moved to a foreign place. She was poor and had to work hard to get life's basic needs. There were many times she could have given up, gone home, or abandoned Naomi and her God. But she was faithful.

Life is often filled with big, hard questions. *Why is this situation so hard? Why does it feel as if God is not providing in the way I need Him to? Why do I always feel as if I'm facing an uphill battle?*

Ruth could look back and see God's provision. He cared wonderfully for her and recognized her faithfulness. He promises to do the same for you too. "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows" (Luke 12:6, 7).

Whenever we feel anxious, we can trust that God will provide. Like Ruth, we should also do what we can to work hard in whatever situation we are in. While you might not know what tomorrow will bring, know that God sees all and offers peace that surpasses all understanding.

