

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for bringing us together and for Your faithful love. As we open Your Word, quiet our distractions.

Father, help us understand Your Word and become people others can trust. Give us honest questions and listening hearts.

Deepen our trust in Your promises. Help us listen to one another with grace and live faithfully in our relationships. May what we learn tonight shape how we speak and how we love.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Covenant Foundations: A Quick Recap

The main ideas from slides 1–10

- Covenants help us understand the Bible and God's faithfulness to His people.
- Berith is the Hebrew word for covenant: a binding bond with real obligations.
- A vow is a personal pledge. A covenant establishes a binding relationship that calls for faithfulness.
- Our four-mark checklist: terms, a sign, witnesses and consequences.
- Unheard, unclear or changed terms can damage trust, as the biblical examples show.
- In family, work, church and friendships, speak expectations clearly and agree on them together.



OCTOBER 14, 2026

Signs, Redemption and Loyalty

Session 1 of 2

*Covenant foundations, Ruth
and salt*

What a Covenant Sign Does

A visible reminder of a serious commitment

- **A covenant binds people**

Berith is the Hebrew word for covenant: a binding commitment.

- **A sign points to the promise**

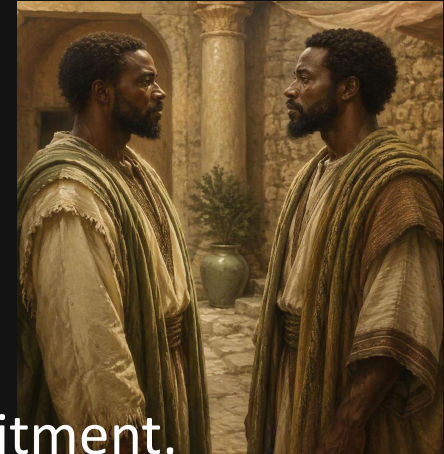
The rainbow recalls God's covenant with Noah. Genesis 9:16.

- **A reminder helps us remember**

A ring can remind a couple of the promises they made.

- **The sign needs a faithful response**

An outward sign cannot replace the heart. Romans 2:25–29.



Promises, Terms and Oaths

Clear words help us understand a commitment

What did we agree?

A simple question that prevents confusion

Look for the promise, the sign, the witnesses and the response expected. Use these as reading questions, not a rigid checklist.

An oath adds solemn weight

A person calls a witness to the truth of a promise.

Hebrews 6:13–18.

Everyday words matter too

Jesus teaches dependable speech.

Matthew 5:33–37.

Three Pictures for Our Study

A teaching framework, not a complete biblical classification

1

Shoe: a transfer

Ruth 4:7–8 describes a sandal confirming a transaction.

2

Salt: lasting commitment

Numbers 18:19 and 2 Chronicles 13:5 use the words “covenant of salt.”

3

Blood: life and covenant

Genesis 15 and Exodus 24 show solemn covenant ceremonies.

The passages establish the teaching. Illustrations help us remember it.

Ruth and Naomi

The story behind the sandal in Ruth 4

- **A family faces loss**

Naomi's husband and sons die while the family lives in Moab.

- **Ruth stays with Naomi**

"Thy people shall be my people." Ruth 1:16–17.

- **They return to Bethlehem**

Ruth gathers grain to help provide food.

- **Boaz enters the story**

He is a relative of Naomi's late husband. Ruth 2.



A Redeemer Takes Responsibility

Goel means a family redeemer

A family connection

**A relative could help
recover family property.
Leviticus 25:25**

A real cost

**Redemption requires
someone to act and
bear the expense.**

Boaz is willing

**In Ruth 4, Boaz accepts
the responsibility the
nearer relative declines.**

The concern is the family's future, not simply the purchase of a field.

RUTH 4:8 (KJV)

“Therefore, the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee. So, he drew off his shoe.”

Read Ruth 4:1–10 together.
The sandal confirms the transfer
before witnesses.



What the Sandal Confirms

The passage gives us a public transfer

A right changes hands

Ruth 4:7–8

Hand a spare sandal to a volunteer. Let the class identify the agreed action and the witnesses. This models the public sign in Ruth.

What Ruth describes

One person removes a sandal and gives it to another to confirm a transaction.

What we should not add

Ruth does not describe mutual swapping or a trade-back cancellation rule.

Salt in Three Bible Passages

The context tells us what each passage means

1 Numbers 18:19

God provides portions of the offerings for Aaron and his household.

2 2 Chronicles 13:5

Abijah recalls God's enduring promise to David's royal line.

3 Leviticus 2:13

Israel must include the salt of the covenant with its offerings.

Scripture names the covenant of salt. It does not describe a salt-pouch ceremony.

Salt as a Memory Aid

A classroom illustration of lasting commitment

01

Two bowls

Start with a little salt in each bowl.

02

Share a spoonful

Move a little salt from one bowl to the other.

03

Mix it gently

The grains look alike once they mingle.

04

Remember the point

Lasting loyalty calls for faithful action.

The illustration helps us remember. The Bible passages establish the teaching.

Teaching illustration only. The Bible does not describe this mixing ceremony.

Discussion: Dependable Faithfulness

A short conversation in pairs, followed by a few shared answers

- 1 What did the sandal confirm in Ruth 4?
- 2 How did Boaz turn willingness into action?
- 3 What can the salt illustration help us remember?
- 4 Which small promise needs your attention?
- 5 What is one realistic step you can take this week?

Our main question

What does dependable faithfulness look like in your life this week?

A useful boundary

Share only what you are comfortable sharing. Listening counts as participation.

OCTOBER 14: RECAP

A sign points to a promise.

Boaz accepts a costly responsibility.

Salt helps us remember lasting commitment.

**Before October 21: read Genesis 15:1–18 and Luke 22:14–20.
Bring one question and one example of follow-through.**