



Naomi

My name is Naomi, I've a story to tell,
Full of good times and bad times, strange times as well.
My life has been hard, and life my has been long.
Sometimes it's been hard to try and stay strong.

I had a husband, we lived a good life
Our farm was near Bethlehem, I was his wife.
We were so happy, we didn't know
That one year the crops would fail to grow

**But in good times and bad times, come what may,
God sends us friends to help on the way.**

We moved to Moab, at first, I was sad,
But we got to know people, and they weren't too bad.
Then my husband got sick and he passed away
and this was the very saddest of days.

I was a widow left in a strange land
It was so lonely you must understand.
But my boys helped me through, with their two lovely wives
Orpah and Ruth who changed our lives.

**In good times and bad times, come what may
God sends us friends to help on the way.**

Ten years we lived, such good company,
But sadly my boys were taken from me.
And Orpah and Ruth and I were alone,
And I asked they return to their own family homes.

I thought I would end up quite alone
go back to Bethlehem, live on my own.
But Ruth wouldn't have it she wanted to stay
and I'll never forget what she said on that day

**Wherever you go, I will go too,
Wherever you stay, I'll stay with you.
Your friends are my friends, I'm glad to say
That your God is my God in every way.**

The walk back to Bethlehem took many days
The neighbours all saw me and shouted 'Hooray!'
But when they saw Ruth, they started to fuss
"That girl is from Moab and she's not like us."

Ruth didn't dwell on the things people said
and went to find work in the field instead
She was clever, hardworking, we made a good pair
She found a good man, and I know they're quite rare

**In good times and bad times, come what may
God sends us friends to help on the way.**

So I told her to ask him to make her his wife
And he said, 'I do!' and they got on with life.
His name was Boaz, you've heard of his mother
Her name was Rahab, brave like no other.

They had a boy, he was just like my sons
I held him and knew a new life had begun
He was called Obed and as you will see,
he grew up to have his own son called Jesse.

**In good times and bad times, come what may
God sends us friends to help on the way.**

And many years later a new baby boy
Was born into Bethlehem bringing such joy
His mother, a stranger in a strange land,
I know what that feels like, I understand.

**But in good times and bad times, come what may
God sends us friends to help on the way.**

**And friends make a difference, so I'd like to say
Could you be a friend to someone today?**

Lisa Debney 2020

