

How to Refine a Periodical Database Search

You have the option to search Keywords (Select a Field (optional)) or you can search for subject, or other modifiers :

The screenshot displays the EBSCO Host search interface. At the top, it shows the search context: "Searching: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials" and a "Choose Databases" link. Below this are three search input fields, each with a dropdown menu set to "and". A "Search" button and a "Clear" button are visible on the right. A dropdown menu is open, listing various search fields such as "TX All Text", "AB Abstract", "AU Author", "CA Corporate Author", "TI Title", "BT Book Title", "CC Classification Code", "CO Conference Name", "DO Document Object Identifier", "IS ISSN", "IB ISBN", "LA Language", "PB Publisher", "PP Place of Publication", "PT Publication Type", "SC Scripture Citation", "SO Source", "ST Series", "SU Subjects", "GD Subject Genre", "GE Subject Geographic Name", "NA Subject Name Personal", "UT Subject Uniform title", and "YR Year Published".

Search Options

Search modes ?

- Boolean/Phrase
- Find all my search terms
- Find any of my search terms
- SmartText Searching [Hint](#)

Limit your results

Full Text

Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

Publication Type

- All
- Article
- Book
- Essay

Exclude In-Process Records

Advanced Search

Visual Search

Search

Clear

Add Row

Language

- All
- Afar
- Afrikaans
- Arabic

I did a Key word search on children's ministry and came up with 71 results. These results did not appear appropriate so this particular term is not a good one. There are two ways to solve this dilemma, one is to look on the **left column** of the result screen and you will see that there are "**Subject Headings**" you can use; you can click on "**Church Work with Children**" to narrow your current results or you can copy and paste the subject heading to get results that will be helpful for your research.

New Search | Publications | Scriptures | Indexes | Sign In to My EBSCOhost | Folder | New Features! | Ask-A-Librarian | Help

Searching: **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** | Choose Databases >

children's ministry in Select a Field (optional) Search Clear ?

and in Select a Field (optional)

and in Select a Field (optional) Add Row

Basic Search | Advanced Search | Visual Search | Search History/Alerts | Preferences >

Narrow Results by

- Source Types
 - All Results
 - Journal Articles
 - Books
 - Essays
 - Reviews
 - Subject**
 - Children's sermons
 - Church work with children
 - Christian education of children
 - Preaching to children
 - Lent
 - Peer reviewed
- Publication

Results: 1-10 of 71 Page: 1 2 3 4 5 Next Sort by: Date Descending Add (1-10)

Results for: children's ministry Alert / Save / Share >

Search Mode: Boolean/Phrase

- [Children's ministry in August](#)
By: Hamilton, Roddy. Source: Expository Times, 120 no 10 Jl 2009, p 504-505. Publication Type: Article
Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
Add to folder
Request this item through interlibrary loan Check for full text journal availability
- [Children's ministry in July](#)
By: Hamilton, Roddy. Source: Expository Times, 120 no 9 Je 2009, p 452-453. Publication Type: Article
Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
Add to folder
Request this item through interlibrary loan Check for full text journal availability

Limit your results

- Full Text
- Abstract Available
- Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

Filter by Publication Date: 1983 2009

Update Results

< Search Options

When I used "Church Work with Children" as a subject heading I got **406 results**

New Search | Publications | Scriptures | Indexes | Sign In to My EBSCOhost | Folder | New Features! | Ask-A-Librarian | Help

Searching: **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** | Choose Databases >

church work with children in SU Subjects Search Clear ?

and in Select a Field (optional)

and in Select a Field (optional) Add Row

Basic Search | Advanced Search | Visual Search | Search History/Alerts | Preferences >

Narrow Results by

- Source Types
 - All Results
 - Journal Articles
 - Books
 - Essays
 - Subject
 - Church work with children
 - Peer reviewed
 - Children--Religious life
 - Church work with the poor
 - Children--Socio-economic conditions
 - Christian education of children
- Publication

Results: 1-10 of 406 Page: 1 2 3 4 5 Next Sort by: Date Descending Add (1-10)

Results for: SU church work with children Alert / Save / Share >

Search Mode: Boolean/Phrase

- [The congregation as the village](#)
By: York, Terry W.; Bradley, Randall (Author of afterword, colophon, etc.). Source: Family and community ministries, 22 no 4 Wint 2009, p 10-20. Publication Type: Article
Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
Add to folder
PDF Full Text (2186K)
- [A noble quest: cultivating Christian spirituality in Catholic adolescents and the usefulness of 12 pastoral practices](#)
By: Canales, Arthur D.. Source: International Journal of *Children's* Spirituality, 14 no 1 F 2009, p 63-77. Publication Type: Article
Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
Add to folder
Request this item through interlibrary loan Check for full text journal availability

Limit your results

- Full Text
- Abstract Available
- Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

Filter by Publication Date: 1908 2009

Update Results

< Search Options

1. You can add modifiers to your search by entering another term to the second box, combining your terms with the **Boolean “and”** thereby asking the database to find all the articles with BOTH terms in them.
2. Note the box on the left side that states **“Narrow results by”** This lists other subject headings you can click on to access other articles
3. Note the box on the right side that states **“Limit your results”** You have a lot of options in this box
 - a. You can limit to only full text articles. If you are not on the SWU Central campus or have limited time this option will allow you to find articles within the database without having to request them on interlibrary loan.
 - b. **Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) journals.** Your professor may tell you that only scholarly articles are acceptable for your paper or project. You can click on this box and your search will be limited to only scholarly articles.
 - c. Filter by Publication Date: Again, your professor may require that you use articles that are less than five years old. You can either slide the date bar over to that year or enter it in the box.

It is extremely important that when you “Limit your results” from this box you click on the “Update Results” box. If you do not click on that box, nothing will change in your results.

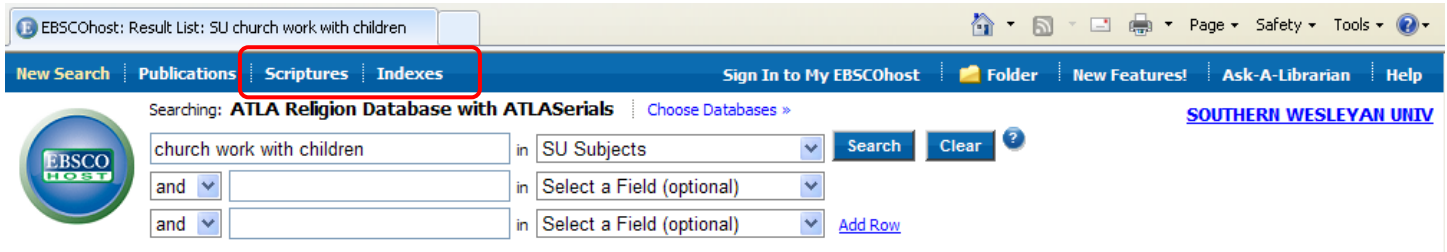
SCHOLARLY (Peer Reviewed) Journals

When you use a “periodical” database you will be searching for information from magazines or journals. Magazines are characterized by flashy covers, advertisement and popular subject matter. When you are searching an online database it can be difficult to recognize whether an article is from a magazine although some full text articles will have advertisements on the pages. The articles themselves will most likely be less than three pages, also.

Scholarly journal articles are often reviewed by experts in the field of authorship. The editor of the journal will give a submitted article to a couple of reviewers excluding the author’s name. For more information about the peer-review process, please refer to: <http://www.unf.edu/library/guides/refereedarticle.html>

MORE SEARCH TOOLS

Other very important tools for researching in ATLA Religion Database are the “Scriptures,” and “Indexes” tools



EBSCOhost: Result List: SU church work with children

New Search | Publications | **Scriptures** | Indexes

Sign In to My EBSCOhost | Folder | New Features! | Ask-A-Librarian | Help

Searching: **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** | Choose Databases >

SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIV

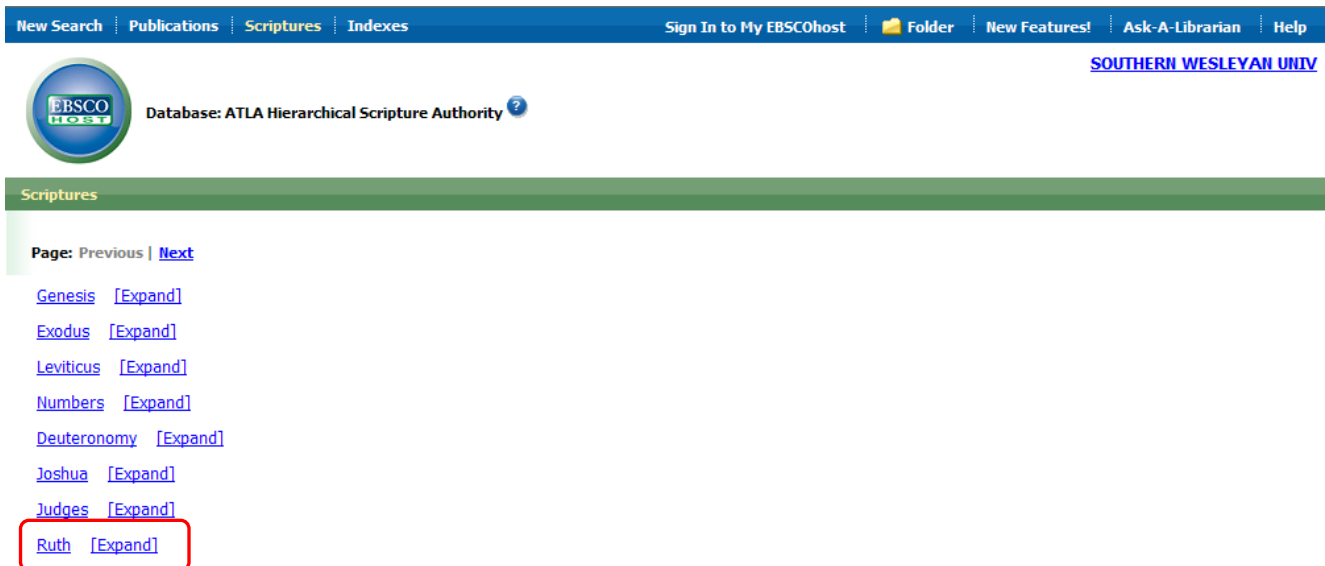
church work with children in SU Subjects Search Clear

and in Select a Field (optional)

and in Select a Field (optional) Add Row

Scripture references are never the easiest searches to accomplish so it is helpful to use either the “Scriptures” or the “Indexes.”

If you use the “Scriptures” tab you simply click on it and it gives you a listing of the books of the Bible. **“Expand”** the book from which you want information. I chose Ruth.



New Search | Publications | **Scriptures** | Indexes

Sign In to My EBSCOhost | Folder | New Features! | Ask-A-Librarian | Help

SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIV

Database: ATLA Hierarchical Scripture Authority

Scriptures

Page: Previous | Next

[Genesis](#) [Expand]

[Exodus](#) [Expand]

[Leviticus](#) [Expand]

[Numbers](#) [Expand]

[Deuteronomy](#) [Expand]

[Joshua](#) [Expand]

[Judges](#) [Expand]

[Ruth](#) [Expand]

Click on the chapter for which you want to find information (I chose Chapter 1)

Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#)

[Ruth](#) [\[Previous Level\]](#)

[Chapter 1](#) [\[Expand\]](#)

[Chapter 2](#) [\[Expand\]](#)

[Chapter 3](#) [\[Expand\]](#)

[Chapter 4](#) [\[Expand\]](#)

Then determine which verses you wish to study.

Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#)

[Ruth](#) [Chapter 1](#) [\[Previous Level\]](#)

[Verse 1](#)

[Verse 2](#)

[Verse 3](#)

[Verse 4](#)

[Verse 5](#)

[Verse 6](#)

[Verse 7](#)

[Verse 8](#)

[Verse 9](#)

[Verse 10](#)

[Verse 11](#)

[Verse 12](#)

[Verse 13](#)

[Verse 14](#)

[Verse 15](#)

When you click on the verse you are studying the results will come up in another screen with the citations you need to do your research.

[New Search](#) | [Publications](#) | [Scriptures](#) | [Indexes](#) | [Sign In to My EBSCOhost](#) | [Folder](#) | [New Features!](#) | [Ask-A-Librarian](#) | [Help](#)

Searching: **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** | [Choose Databases >](#) **SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIV**

in

in

in [Add Row](#)

[Basic Search](#) | [Advanced Search](#) | [Visual Search](#) | [Search History/Alerts](#) | [Preferences >](#)

Results: 1-4 of 4 Page: **1** Sort by:

Results for: SR "Ruth 1:1" [Alert / Save / Share >](#)

Search Mode: Boolean/Phrase

- [Symmetry, Ruth and canon](#)

By: Bovell, Carlos. Source: *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*, 28 no 2 D 2003, p 175-191. Publication Type: Article
 Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
- [From a post-monarchical to the pre-monarchical period of the Judges](#)

By: Guillaume, Philippe. Source: *Biblische Notizen*, no 113 2002, p 12-17. Publication Type: Article
 Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials
- [Ruth 1:1-18](#)

By: Howell, James C.. Source: *Interpretation*, 51 no 3 JI 1997, p 281-284. Publication Type: Article
 Database: ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials

Another way to find Scripture references is to use the **"Indexes"** tab. (See the steps below)

[New Search](#) | [Publications](#) | [Scriptures](#) | [Indexes](#) | [Sign In to My EBSCOhost](#) | [Folder](#) | [New Features!](#) | [Ask-A-Librarian](#) | [Help](#)

Searching: **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** | [Choose Databases >](#) **SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIV**

[Basic Search](#) | [Advanced Search](#) | [Visual Search](#) | [Search History/Alerts](#) | [Preferences >](#)

Indexes

Browse an Index: **#1**

Browse for: **#2**

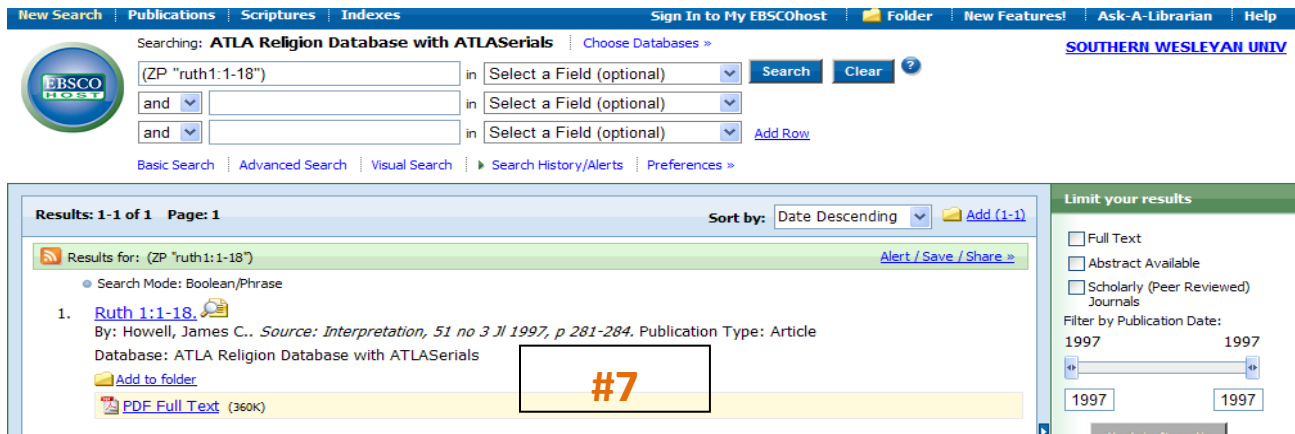
Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#)

Select one or more terms and add to search using: **#4**

Term	Records Count
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth	87
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1-4	2
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:1-18 #3	1
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:1-3:3	1
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:1-6	1
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:11	1
<input type="checkbox"/> ruth1:11-12	1

The steps to use the “Index” tab may have seemed to be somewhat overwhelming but you must *carefully* follow the steps to use the Scripture search from the Indexes tab.

1. Use the “**Browse an Index**” menu to drop down to the Scripture Citation
2. Type in the book of the Bible you are searching for in the “**Browse for**” box
3. Put a **check in each verse** on which you are doing research
4. THIS IS IMPORTANT!!! Click on the **Add button**
5. Note that the **Scripture reference(s) will appear in the search box**
6. Click on “**search**”
7. You will get your **results**. Also note: This is a Full Text Article, click on the PDF and you will have the article on the screen.



The screenshot displays the EBSCOhost search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'New Search', 'Publications', 'Scriptures', and 'Indexes'. The search bar contains the query '(ZP "ruth1:1-18")' and is set to search in the 'ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials'. The search results section shows one result: 'Ruth 1:1-18' by Howell, James C., from the journal 'Interpretation', 51 no 3 J1 1997, p 281-284. The result is sorted by 'Date Descending' and is the only item on the page. A large orange '#7' is overlaid on the result. On the right side, there are filters for 'Limit your results' including 'Full Text', 'Abstract Available', and 'Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals'. The 'Filter by Publication Date' is set to 1997.

QUESTIONS? Feel free to contact your reference librarians:
Anita Gray (agray@swu.edu) and
Erin Washington (ewashington@swu.edu).
We are always happy to hear from you and help you!