The sovereign creator of the universe has developed a structure in His creation that allows Him to reveal His infinite attributes, nature, and relationships to finite human minds. This portrait of the family relationship of Boaz to Ruth illustrates the future redemption to be accomplished by Jesus Christ that draws us into God’s family.

As we explore the story unfolding in the book of Ruth, we will see five comparisons to the redemption of sinners by Jesus Christ.

1) We must see the Need for a Redeemer

Ruth 1:21 – I went out full, but the Lord has brought me back empty.

Like Ruth, unregenerate sinners are viewed as “helpless,” “spiritually dead,” and incapable of doing anything to help themselves.

2) The Redeemer must be a Blood Relative

As prescribed by Deuteronomy 25:5,6 the Levirate marriage was provided as a strong option so that the name of the brother and the family inheritance would not be lost.
Ruth 2:1 Now Naomi had a kinsman of her husband, a man of great wealth, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.

Comparison to Christ
In order to redeem mankind from our helpless condition, Jesus became a man so that he could be our representative.

Hebrews 2:14-17 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, . . . and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. For assuredly He does not give help to angels, . . . Therefore He had to be made like His brethren in all things . . . to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

3) The Redeemer must have the Ability to Pay the Purchase Price
Ruth 2:1 Now Naomi had a kinsman of her husband, a man of great wealth, . . .

Comparison to Christ
Jesus was the only one possessing the required payment necessary to redeem sinners.

Philippians 3:9 . . . not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, . . .
2 Corinthians 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Romans 3:24 . . . being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

Redemption: The imagery behind this Gr. Word comes from the ancient slave market. It meant paying the necessary ransom to obtain the prisoner or slave's release. The only adequate payment to redeem sinners from sin's slavery and its deserved punishment was found in Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:18, 19 . . . knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.


4) The Redeemer must be Willing to Buy Back the Forfeited Inheritance

   Ruth 4:1-6 Boaz presents the possibility to redeem the inheritance to a closer family relative.
Ruth 4:6  The closest relative said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance.”

Comparison to Christ
Jesus willingly brings us into the family and shares His inheritance with us.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, . . .

2 Corinthians 8:9  For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

5) The Redeemer must be Willing to Marry the Wife

Boaz demonstrated great love for the foreigner
Ruth 2:21  Then Ruth the Moabitess said, “Furthermore, he said to me, ‘You should stay close to my servants until they have finished all my harvest.’”

Comparison to Christ
Jesus is portrayed as the loving husband of the church
Ephesians 5:25  Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, . . .
Ruth is commended for her willingness to appeal for levirate redemption

Ruth 3:10 Then he said, “May you be blessed of the Lord, my daughter. You have shown your last kindness to be better than the first by not going after young men, whether poor or rich.”

Ruth personifies excellence in every way

The prayer of every mother for the future wife of her son.

Proverbs 31:10-31