

**Transforming Daily**  
**“ . . . *this man is a relation of ours . . .*”**  
*Ruth 2:20*

When Naomi found out that Ruth gleaned in one of the fields of Boaz, Naomi told Ruth that he was one of their relatives, “one of our close relatives.” The bells and whistles started going off in Naomi’s head. So Naomi told Ruth not to go to any other field to glean except his. Then she put together a plan to get Boaz and Ruth together.

The story is very romantic. It is also historical and prophetic. However, there was a nearer kinsman to Naomi than Boaz, so why didn’t he get together with Ruth instead of Boaz? Why didn’t Naomi put together a plan with the other kinsman? The bottom line is that the nearer kinsman was not qualified. Boaz was the only qualified near kinsman to redeem Naomi and Ruth.

Our Christian school has a policy for picking up children from the main office, carline, or daycare. No one is permitted to pick up a child unless the parent or legal guardian puts their name on a pickup list. The process is simple, but the person picking up the student, even an older sibling, must be on the list, and they must show some kind of picture ID when they come to pick up the student that proves they are who they say they are. In other words, the individual must show that they are qualified (usually pertaining to a relative) to remove the student from the premises.

Traditionally Boaz is considered a typification of Christ. Here’s why. Like Boaz in relationship to Naomi and Ruth as the only qualified kinsman to redeem them from physical loss, Christ is the only qualified kinsman to redeem the sinner from their spiritual loss. The New Testament speaks of Christ as the believer’s older brother (a close relative). There are many reasons why Jesus is qualified to redeem us. He fulfilled the law. He satisfied the requirements of God on the cross of Calvary (propitiation). He was raised from the dead. All this and more to say that Jesus Christ, who would come by way of the union between Boaz and Ruth, was the only one uniquely qualified to save us from our sins.

Are you a child of God? Do you claim Jesus Christ as your older brother? Do you willingly share that He alone is uniquely qualified to redeem us from our sins? The believer is not only a bond servant, and friend of God, but just as important, the believer is a sibling to our older brother Jesus Christ. Therefore, the believer can and should proudly say of Jesus Christ, “this man is a relation of ours.”