

Name _____ Date _____

**from the Bible: The Book of Ruth and
Psalms 8, 19, 23, and 137**

Literary Analysis: Theme

The **theme** of a literary work is its central message or insight into life. It **expresses** what the writer perceives as a truism about human behavior and attitudes. In the **Book of Ruth**, one of the prevailing themes relates to faith in God. The same theme is also prevalent in the four selections from the Book of Psalms.

DIRECTIONS: Examine the themes of the biblical literature in this grouping by answering the following questions.

1. In the Book of Ruth, what is Naomi's attitude toward God, as exhibited by her comments to Ruth and Orpah?

2. How can you tell that Boaz possesses a strong belief and faith in God?

3. What do Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz have in common regarding their attitude toward God?

4. How is the speakers' attitude toward God similar in Psalms 8 and 19?

5. How is the speakers' attitude toward God different in Psalms 23 and 137?

6. Write a statement expressing a common theme of the Book of Ruth and Psalms 8, 19, 23, and 137.
