



WEEK 7

Practicing Wonder

APRIL 9 & 10, 2011 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER • PSALM 8

How many are your works, O Lord! . . . There is **the sea**, vast and spacious, **teeming with creatures** beyond number — living things both large and small. There the ships go to and fro, and the leviathan, which you formed to frolic there. *Psalm 104:24–26*

To renew your sense of wonder, consider...

1. God is unlimited by _____

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name **in all the earth!** You have set your glory **above the heavens.** *Psalm 8:1 NV*

2. Yet God is known by _____

From the lips of **children and infants** you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. *v. 2*

3. God _____

When I consider your heavens, **the work of your fingers**, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place. . . *v. 3*

4. Yet God _____

. . . **what is man that you are mindful of him**, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him **ruler over** the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. *v. 4–8*

Who am I, that God is mindful of me? I am _____

Big picture of Psalm 8:

Be _____ **and then really...**
believe _____

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! *v. 9*



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Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Psalm 8. What key phrases do you see in this passage?

What is something you learned about wonder in last weekend's sermon?

How did last weekend's sermon challenge you?

Thank God today for His Pray as you study this psalm this week the eyes of your heart will be open to God's wonders.

Tuesday: The Majesty of God

Please read Psalms 8:1, 18:7–15, 19:1–6, 24:1–2 and all of Psalm 148. Why is it refreshing to think of God's majesty?

When do you struggle with forgetting or even ignoring God's majesty?

When God and His majesty are not your focus, what tends to become the center of your universe?

Thank God today for His amazing power and creativity! Pray for a desire to focus on His majesty. Pray that as you focus on His majesty you will be refreshed and encouraged.

Wednesday: From the Lips of Children

Please read Psalm 8:2, Matthew 11:25, 18:3, 19:14 and 21:6. What is the common thread in all these verses?

What do you think it is about children that God wants us to reflect?

What is one specific way your wonder of God could be more child-like today?

Thank God today that what He wants from us is simple — so simple a child can do it! Thank Him for His love for you and the joy His creation gives you.

Thursday: Consider the Heavens

Please read Psalm 8:3. If possible, make today's devotion a walking devotion (or any kind of outside devotion!) — so that you can take time and consider the works of God's hands. Simply watch, listen and pray for at least ten minutes.

What do you see around you in nature for which you can praise God?

How does considering the work of God's hands impact you?

How does it give you a sense of peace?

How does it fill you with wonder and humility?

Thank God today for His immensity! Pray that an attitude of wonder will become your habit.

Friday: Why Does God Care for Me?

Please read Psalm 8:6–8. After studying about the wonder of God all week, these verses become all the more mind-blowing. This truly wondrous God cares for you! He has plans for you! What does it look like to live-out this truth?

How do you sometimes struggle to accept this amazing truth?

Thank God today for His personal love for you. Pray that you'll trust that truth and then live like it!

Saturday

Please read Psalm 22, the psalm we'll be studying this weekend. What initially strikes you as you read this psalm?

In what way can you relate to the psalmist?

Thank God today for His the majesty of His creation. Please pray for the coming Easter services. Pray about who you can invite and pray that our church will be a beacon of joy as we celebrate the resurrection!



When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man, that you are mindful of him? *Psalm 8:3–4*