

Remembering

Remember we are special

Foundation

Bible passage: Psalm 8

Psalm 8 was written by David who had been a shepherd boy and then in his late teens and twenties an outlaw. He would have had plenty of experience of sleeping rough under the stars. With no air or light pollution, it would have been possible for him to see far more stars with the naked eye than we can today. However, whether with simple binoculars or complex telescopes people today can see more of the incredible vastness of the universe.

The Psalm shows that the David considered the immensity of creation he felt very small and wondered why it was that people matter to God. Others might think that if there is a god then he must be so remote and our lives so insignificant that he does not care about us or how we live.

“You made him little lower than the heavenly beings”

But in his Psalm David reminds us of what we are told throughout the Bible, that people are special. Mankind was made at the climax of the physical creation, a little lower than the heavenly beings. We alone amongst all the creatures on earth are made in the image of God. What is more David does not begin his Psalm with the name God, but with the divine name usually translated into English as LORD and then describes God as “our Lord”. God was not remote for David as many of his Psalm’s show.

At times we may not think much of ourselves. Children and adults can feel that they are



unimportant and insignificant when we look at the world around us, and even more so when we think about the vastness of the universe. But the Bible reminds us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps 139.14) and that God is mindful of us (Ps 8.4). This is not because of what we have made ourselves or achieved, but because we are God’s handiwork.

We might sometimes look down on others, perhaps despise them, because they are not as good as us at something, or have a different background, language or country. But should remember that all people are made by God and we should not hate what God has made.

In Unit 1 we thought about what it means to remember our Creator. In Psalm 8 verse 2 David writes about babes and infants praising and his Psalm deliberately begins and ends with words of praise; “how majestic is the name of God in all the earth”. These verses also talk about mankind being given dominion over creation. Sadly, in this as many other things we do misuse what God has given, but we are called to use creation well, recognizing that God has made it, and us and we are not free just to do whatever we want.



Remember that God has wonderfully made, and is “mindful” of us. He knows us and wants us to know Him.