

Part 3 – Psalm 8
Discovering Humility and Gratitude in Creation
Leader's Guide
(Video 18 minutes)

Warm up questions pre-video: (15 minutes)

- ❖ When we look up at the stars and the sky at night what do we see?
 - The greatness of God.
 - God's work and his majesty.
 - The vastness of the universe.
 - How small and insignificant we truly are compared to the bigness of everything around us.
- ❖ Where do we see man's place in the overall kingdom of God?
 - Highly placed due to being made in the image of God.
 - Lowly placed compared to our surroundings.
 - Displaced based on our sinful nature.
 - Found because of Christ's love for us.
- ❖ What is the difference between a person who deals in big pictures and a person who is detail-oriented?
 - The big picture is the overall perspective or objective.
 - Detail-oriented means to pay attention to every detail, no matter how insignificant.
- ❖ What does "having dominion" mean in a worldly sense?
 - Control, or the exercise of control.
 - Sovereignty, rule, or power.
 - A territory, realm, or sphere of influence.
- ❖ Read Genesis 1:26–30
- ❖ What does "having dominion" mean according to Scripture?
 - Having domination over creation as we recognize that all has come from God.
 - Representing the image of God in humanity.
- ❖ Was man given the authority to be a steward of God's creation or to rule God's creation?
 - To be a steward of God's creation.
- ❖ What can be lost as man becomes more dependent on technology?
 - We lose a sense of God's design.
 - Works of human hands take precedence over the wonders of God.
 - We don't navigate by the stars anymore.
 - Naming the constellations has lost its significance.
 - Due to genetically modified seeds planting and harvesting is not necessarily based on the patterns of the seasons.

Read Psalm 8

Post-video follow up questions: (27 minutes)

- ❖ What does the Psalmist attempt to teach us in Psalm 8?
 - The relationship of God with his creation.
 - Man's place in God's created world.
- ❖ What is the first mystery that is revealed in the psalm?
 - God's strength is established in man's weakness.
 - God's word confounds our idea of scale.
 - Overturns hierarchies.
 - Messes with the way we conceive of things.
- ❖ What does the psalmist point out in verses 1–4?
 - In the vastness of God's creation we see how insignificant man is.
 - God deals with the big picture parts of creation and also the detail-oriented parts.
 - God is personally involved with all of his creation.
- ❖ Compared to the vastness of God's creation what does the psalmist ask in verse 4?
 - As insignificant as man is why does God still care about man?
 - Why would God consider sending us a Savior?
- ❖ Read Genesis 2:1–7
- ❖ What is the second mystery that is revealed in this psalm?
 - Man is not insignificant in the eyes of God.
 - Man is made in the image of God.
 - Man was made lower than the heavenly beings: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.
 - Man was not made lower than angels who were made by God's word alone and not in the image of God.
 - Only man was charged to have dominion over God's creation, caring for it in a godly way.
- ❖ What are the differences in Psalm 8 between verses 1–4 and 5–8?
 - Perspectives.
 - 1–4 speak of man's perspective of his place in God's creation
 - 5–8 speak of God's perspective of man's place based on God's grace in God's creation.
 - The difference is between God's view of man within creation and man's view of his place in God's creation.
- ❖ Read Genesis 3:1–6
- ❖ The professors stated that we want to “fall up.” What is the big temptation in Genesis 3:5?
 - Man not being satisfied to be in the image of God but wanting to go all the way to being “like God.”
 - To be more than and rise above our creaturely-ness.