

Marinating in God's Word: Psalm 8

The Psalms shape the language of the New Testament, our worship, and our prayers. Other than that they aren't very important – ha! We're focusing on one Psalm each week.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- By the time you were 21, what factors had impacted your sense of identity? Which of those were to the good, and which were not?
- Look at the structure of the Psalm. Which verses repeat? In brief, what are each of these verse groups saying: 1b-2, 3-4, 5, 6-8?
- This Psalm, unlike some others, is all addressed to God, describing who he is and what he does. But in the process, it also describes us and our place in God's creation. What does this Psalm tell you about who God is and what he does? And what does it say about who we are and what we are to do?
- The culture's wisdom is that we know who we are by looking within. The Psalm's wisdom is that we know who we are by looking at God. How does this work?
- Ecology has always been controversial, and is even more so now with discussions of climate change. Whatever you think of that, what does the Psalm say our role is as keepers of the creation? How do you do so yourself?
- This Psalm is quoted in Hebrews 2:5-9, which brings Jesus into the picture. Psalm 8 describes God's intended role for us in his creation, and Hebrews describes how Jesus restores us to that role. How does Jesus do this?

Next week we'll focus upon Psalm 23.