



For Further Study



Read and meditate on the passage below:

*⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?
⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
⁷ all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
⁸ the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas. (Psalm 8:4-8)*

The above passage is from the book of Psalms, which is full of worship songs from ancient Israel. These songs invite us to turn to God in a variety of different circumstances (both enjoyable and painful). Psalm 8 is a praise psalm that centers on creation; all of God's creation points to the divine majesty. This is especially true of humanity.

Humans are created in the image or reflection of God. We are to create just as God creates; we are to care for creation just as God cares for it. Being "rulers" is not a title that we wear, sitting back on our laurels. Rather, it is a calling to be the presence of Christ in the world and to care for the creation with the love and compassion of God. Everywhere our feet take us, we are to use our hands to show the care of God to every creature. What a huge task! What a privilege.



REFLECTION:

Consider what you can do to show God's care to something in this beautiful creation.

PRACTICE:

Take time to be more observant of creation by going on a walk in nature.