

## Reflection Questions: Psalm 8

For the message, "Crowned with Glory and Honor" given by Pastor John Ferguson  
at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on March 20, 2022

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*These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures  
by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life.  
You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion.  
To review the message, go to [MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages](http://MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages).*

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Pray.** Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

**Read the Scripture text:** Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.
  - 2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,  
    you have established strength because of your foes,  
    to still the enemy and the avenger.
  - 3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
    the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
  - 4 what is man that you are mindful of him,  
    and the son of man that you care for him?
  - 5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings  
    and crowned him with glory and honor.
  - 6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;  
    you have put all things under his feet,
  - 7 all sheep and oxen,  
    and also the beasts of the field,
  - 8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,  
    whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
  - 9 O Lord, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!
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### **Let's get started...**

- Recall a time when you stood outside on a clear, star-lit night and looked up at the sky. What was going through your mind? How did you feel in that moment?

## **QUESTIONS**

### **1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.**

- The psalmist gazes at the nighttime sky—the moon and the stars which our Creator God has set in place—and it causes him to ask the question, “What is man that you are mindful of him?” How have you struggled to comprehend how the God of all creation is mindful of you? What feelings or emotions or questions come to your mind?
  - Reflect Psalm 139:17-18, “How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You” (NRSV).
- How does the psalmist answer the question, “What is man that you are mindful of him?” What has God done for humanity that causes him to break out in praise for the Creator?

### **2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.**

- In your experience in Christian communities, which chord seems to be struck more, the dignity of humans or the depravity of humans? Is one more important than the other? Discuss.
- What would it look like if we at Mercy Hill not only affirmed the dignity and worth of every person who comes through our doors, but actually sought to honor that dignity and worth? What are the implications for how we might greet one another, and especially how we might welcome guests (Romans 12:10)?

### **3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.**

- What would it look like for us to see our neighbors and co-workers and people we cross paths with in our city as crowned with glory and honor (that is, the image of God)? How might that affect the way we treat and interact with them? And how might this dignifying treatment of them be a different experience for them from what they've experienced before from Christians?
- How does the fact that Jesus in His crucifixion was crowned with reproach and shame actually propel us into the mission of sharing the good news about Jesus with our city?

## **CONCLUSION QUESTION**

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

## **PRAYER**

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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