

## Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Psalm 8 & Matthew 6:25-34. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you hear God say to you as you read it a few times to yourself? What do you find to be most important in the texts? Why?
2. What might it mean that God's "glory is higher than the heavens"? What does that tell you about God & about us? How does God's creation reveal his greatness? How do you, created in God's image, reveal God's greatness?
3. How does the praise & witness of even children establish a stronghold or defense against God's enemies? What power have you experienced in simply speaking God's Word...even to yourself? (see also Ps 103:1-5)
4. What is a belief about human origins, purpose & destiny common among 21<sup>st</sup> century Australians? Why do many people think they are self-sufficient & have no need for God? How do these texts speak to that belief?
5. How does God bestow upon humans honour, dignity, worth, authority & responsibility? How have we treated those gifts? Can you give specific examples of our "success" or "failure" to uphold our responsibility in imitating & obeying God with respect to human honour, dignity, worth, & authority?
6. Based on God's value of humans (you), how should your identity be shaped? What can you do to remind yourself of the value that God places on you?
7. In vs 4-6, List the words that describe what God has done for humanity. Compare that to Ps 103:3-5. How do you feel as the recipient of such great grace from God who made you for his joy & delights in you?
8. Is it possible to become complacent or dull in faith by taking for granted the radical nature of what this Psalm reveals about God & us? How could repeating this Psalm to yourself a few times each day prevent that? What do you think would happen to you if 3 times daily you repeated this psalm aloud?
9. The first & last verses of Psalm 8 read the same: "LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!" The first "LORD" is the name in Hebrew used for God alone—*Yahweh*. The second, "our Lord," means "our Sovereign." Sovereign means the one in control. Why do you think David uses both God's Name & God's Sovereignty to begin and end his song of praise? Is God's Name separate from his character & rule or do they express the same thing?
10. What do you think is the central message of this Psalm? How could you share that with someone who doesn't normally experience worship or a relationship with the Father? Pray for that opportunity.

# *Living Water Fellowship*

*21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*17<sup>th</sup> October 2021*

*COME TO JESUS*

## **SONG:**

*Jesus Strong & Kind* (Colin Buchanan) CCLI 384660

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5Y8s-Sz\\_ac&list=RDT5Y8s-Sz\\_ac&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5Y8s-Sz_ac&list=RDT5Y8s-Sz_ac&start_radio=1)

## **WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*GROW IN HIS GRACE*

## **BIBLE READING:**

Psalm 8:1-9

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!  
Your glory is higher than the heavens.
- <sup>2</sup> You have taught children and infants to tell of your strength;  
silencing your enemies and all who oppose you.
- <sup>3</sup> When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—  
the moon and the stars you set in place—
- <sup>4</sup> what are mere mortals that you should think about them,  
human beings that you should care for them?
- <sup>5</sup> Yet you made them only a little lower than God  
and crowned them with glory and honour.
- <sup>6</sup> You gave them charge of everything you made,  
putting all things under their authority—
- <sup>7</sup> the flocks and the herds  
and all the wild animals,
- <sup>8</sup> the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,  
and everything that swims the ocean currents.
- <sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!

## **FAITH CHAT:** *(with Philippa Prenzler)*

What does this mean to me?

## **SONG:**

*Rest My Soul* (Tim Timmons) CCLI 384660

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgOwUhlw3Mc>

**THE MESSAGE:** *ANCIENT CREED – LIVING FAITH: I BELIEVE IN GOD WHO IS CREATOR*

## PRAYERS:

Individuals joining us on-line are encouraged to pray for one another in their households & to include prayers for the wider Living Water family, the Wagga Wagga community, our nation and the world's leaders.

Individual households may also choose to celebrate Holy Communion after the online service concludes by using the included form of the Words of Institution.

## The Communion:

*Since we have been raised with Christ Jesus, let us set our minds on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth. Let's pray together...*

***Gracious God, in our wanderings & selfish desiring we often forsake fellowship with our families, our friends, & our neighbors; we neglect our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures over truth, justice, & righteousness. In a world of plenty, we hoard our earthly blessings while others lack. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. Amen.***

*Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:*

*For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)*

***Where is another God like you, who pardons the guilt of the remnant, overlooking the sins of his special people?***

***You will not stay angry with your people forever, because you delight in showing unfailing love.***

***Once again you will have compassion on us.***

***You trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean! Amen. (Micah 7:18-19)***

*Hear the good news: every lost sheep is worthy of rescue, every lost coin is missed, sought, found & rejoiced over, & every lost child is welcomed home with rejoicing in heaven. Hear the good news: God's love is stronger than all things & his power is poured out freely & alive within you now & forever. Amen.*

*Worship Video during Communion: To The Table (Zach Williams) CCLI 384660*

**Video Link:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwW\\_n4X\\_Se8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwW_n4X_Se8)

## GO IN HIS POWER

## BLESSING:

**† (Name), child of God, you are wonderfully made, incredibly loved, abundantly blessed & called to responsible service by the Father! Amen.**

## Announcements:

## SONG:

Be Unto Your Name CCLI 384660

**Video Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8P7HW0IpvLU>

## SHOW HIS LOVE