

*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, what is man that you should be mindful of him?*

I've always thought that kind of put us in our proper place. insignificant in comparison to the vast universe. Flawed in comparison to the other parts of God's creation. Irrelevant. In other words, how could I as an individual possibly matter to the God who made all this? How could we as a group of people living in Utah in the 21<sup>st</sup> century matter to the God who stretched the stars across the unlimited sky? And then I am reminded by the Holy Spirit through scripture that same God created me, lived and died and longs for me, and continues to cascade God's love around me.

That same God is continuing to create and renew, continuing to be part of the human story, your human story and mine, and drawing us to himself, continuing to whisper love and push us sometimes not so gently in the direction of God's purpose.

That is a *human* flow of thought. Wondering if you're good enough, whether you matter; then being reminded by the Spirit that you matter so very much to our loving God.

We are that part of creation that witnesses and is humbled by God's creative, redemptive, constant care of us. We're "man" that God is mindful of --- "Man" made in the image of God.

Our attempts to put any image of God into words are humbling. The language of God the Trinity is language formed in the community's experience of God. The church over the years has tried to make sense of it, molding the experience into doctrine. But a doctrine has never really covered the truth of essence of God, and sometimes obscures it. If we are made in the image of God, perhaps we can work backwards, and witness God's character and work in us and see if we can learn more about God in doing that.

God made us to be ... at our very best

- 1) Open to each other, Dependent on each other, delighted in each other.
- 2) Motivated by love between us and moved to love
- 3) Living in the NOW
- 4) So much more than the eye can see
- 5) known by our actions
- 6) The perfect balance of doing and being
- 7) Delightful and joyful

We are all those things and more. God, in three persons, is all that and so much more. When we experience the wonders of creation, as part of that creation, the Holy Spirit enables us to experience the essence of God, essence of God and the mystery of God as best we can.

The Spirit also uses words to help us experience the Trinity's work in us: Paul clearly articulates the role of Jesus Christ in writing to the church in Rome that Jesus Christ is the one who brings about our peace with the Father, who gives us hope and clears the way for the Spirit to pour God's love into us.

Our trinitarian language is the most basic and unique of Christian theologies: God, who has created heaven and earth, has become one of us and still dwells in each of us and guides us. God the Father is the source of all; God the Son opens to us the way of eternal life and God the Holy Spirit compels us to accept and share this, and "pours God's love into us."

**Having our creator's love poured into us – that's an awesome experience of our awesome Triune God.**

The Spirit has much work to do. Pursuing us, opening our eyes and hearts, breaking down our resistance to mystery. Empowering us to embrace God's love for us and enabling us to respond with love.

We will **never** grasp the richness of God's Triune nature just as we will **never** reach the depths of God's love for us. Our human **minds** may be limited by Time and space and language. But our spirits can be moved and reshaped by truth and mystery.

The written word, no matter how many or how beautiful, is inadequate to describe God. when the Spirit opens us to **experience** our awesome Triune God.....all we can do as God's beloved children is lift our hands, bow our heads and join the host of heaven saying HOLY HOLY HOLY.

In a few moments we'll affirm our connection to this God in Three persons. then we will make our way to the font in the entryway and joyfully witness God acting, this time in the life of our friend Dean. Dean's baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, is a moment of pure grace: God has claimed Dean as his beloved, and continues to make his presence known in Dean's life, drawing him into the mystery and wonder of God.

Come, Holy Spirit come. Please. Holy Spirit, remind us who we are and put us in our proper place: as children of the God who created us, gathers us to himself and continually pours his love into our hearts. Amen.