

“O God, Creator of Heaven and Earth.”

These words from “The Great Litany” of the Book of Common Prayer were the inspiration for the lyrics to a popular worship song by Steve Hindalong and Marc Byrd. In our world of changes and readjustments, I have appreciated this message of our greatest constant - the love and care from God and found within our families. Our scripture today is a selection from Psalm 19 which explores the majesty of God. This is one of my favorite worship songs and I encourage you to play it often. Simply let the mesmerizing melody transport your family into the deep and expansive nature of God’s love and holiness.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIU89VB6Tm4>

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation

Of the water, earth and sky

The Heavens are Your Tabernacle

Glory to the Lord on high

God of wonders, beyond our galaxy

You are holy, holy

The universe declares Your majesty

You are holy, holy

Lord of Heaven and Earth

Lord of Heaven and Earth

Early in the morning

I will celebrate the light

And when I stumble into darkness

I will call Your name by night

God of wonders, beyond our galaxy

You are holy, holy

The universe declares Your majesty

You are holy, holy

Lord of Heaven and Earth

Lord of Heaven and Earth

Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and earth

Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and earth

Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and earth.... Source: LyricFind

This is a link to one of the articles about the background and writing of this song. <https://www.crosswalk.com/church/worship/song-story-god-of-wonders-1215414.html>

Whether perusing Google or Pinterest one of the common methods for Bible study that pops up is SOAP.¹ One of the reasons acronyms like this become popular is because they are catchy and easy to remember. SOAP stands for:

- *Scripture* - reading a passage of Scripture
- *Observation* – noticing the details of the passage
- *Application* – considering what this passage has to do with me
- *Prayer* – praying for guidance and thanking God for helping our family

For today we'll be looking at Psalm 19:1-4 and 14 (see below)

Scripture:

- The scripture passage can be read by the children or to them.
- Read it more than once, pausing to answer questions about what is being talked about. Bible language isn't always easy to understand, even when using a simpler translation.
- ***Have each person share what word, phrase, or idea stand out to them.*** If you print the text, they can highlight them. It's also alright to pass.

Observation:

- Talk with each other about what you notice in the passage. Part of *observing* is thoughtful interpretation.
 - ***What can we see in the sky that tells us God made something beautiful?*** (rainbows, clouds, tree branches, birds, etc. and at night there's the moon and stars)
 - ***How does nature "talk"?*** (*animals talk, flowers open up and bloom, and we can see things that are beautiful colors and patterns*)
 - ***Why does it say in the Psalm that the whole world hears nature's voice?*** (no matter where we are on our planet, we can see amazing things in nature – in the water, on earth, and in the sky)
 - ***Verse 14 reminds us that God is our ROCK*** (someone solid that we can count on)
- ***Have each person draw or write about their thoughts for the passage.*** (Maybe draw something they love in nature or imagine what the galaxy looks like and draw that.)

Application:

- Talk with each other about what the scripture passage has to do with us today.
- Have each person say, draw, or write about why this passage is important.
- ***Our daily routine may be different, but what can we notice in nature that is important to thank God for.*** (Try the 30 second look – take one thing, like a plant or section of grass and really look at it for 30 sec.)

Prayer:

- Ask if someone wants to pray. (Thank God for all of creation, for being holy, and for being a God that is that great and still loving us.)

Psalm 19:1-4 and 14

¹ The heavens tell about the glory of God.

The skies show that God's hands created them.

² Day after day they speak about it.

Night after night they make it known.

³ But they don't speak or use words.

No sound is heard from them.

⁴ Yet their voice goes out into the whole earth.

Their words go out from one end of the world to the other.

¹⁴ Lord, may these words of my mouth please you.

And may these thoughts of my heart please you also.

You are my Rock and my Redeemer.

An idea ... from someone to someone to Martha Kadue to me ... and now to you!

Invite your child(ren) or everyone in the family to make a cheery card. It doesn't have to be fancy, just a folded piece of Xerox paper will work. Then when one of the adults in your household is making one of your trips to the market – offer the card to the person serving you; a simple gift of cheer and thanks from one of your children for them.