

“Unless We Change...”
2021 Lenten Midweek Devotions



“Wonder”

“Unless you change your whole outlook and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of Heaven. --Jesus

I still remember the many times my Dad took my brother, my sister and me to the mountains in northern New Mexico for a weekend camping trip in order to give my mother a break from a long week with three young children under the age of eight. It seems like yesterday that we were hiking, swimming, riding horses, building campfires and sleeping out under the stars. Tucked into our *Mickey Mouse* sleeping bags, the four of us would gaze up at the brilliant stars in the sky and sing our favorite children’s lullaby,

*“Twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are.
Up above the clouds so high, like a diamond in the sky,
Twinkle, twinkle little star how I wonder what you are.”*

Psalm 8 is a lullaby written by King David, the most powerful person of his day. He had experienced great success as a teenager with a slingshot in one hand and a dead giant at his feet. As a grown man, he became a powerful military leader. David also knew great failure and shame as a man who committed adultery and murder against a loyal soldier and his family. Life had humbled King David. One evening, David stepped out into the night sky and was overwhelmed with the majesty of the universe as seen in the thousands of stars strung across the heavens. Gazing up at the brilliant stars in the sky, I like to believe David recalled the innocence of his days as a young shepherd boy falling to sleep under the brilliant stars in the dark desert sky. He began to sing a lullaby,

“O Lord, our Lord, when I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is humanity that you are mindful of us? You have made us a little lower than the angels and crowned us with honor and glory” (Psalm 8:3-5)

Little children are captivated in wonder as they encounter God’s majestic creation in bugs, worms, birds, puppies, oceans and starry nights. The more complex life becomes, the more we are in danger of losing a sense of child-like wonder. Maybe that is why Jesus placed a little child in the midst of his disciples and said, *“Unless you change your whole outlook and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of Heaven.*

If it is ok with Lynne, I think I will take our puppy, Sophie, and sleep in the back yard tonight under the stars!