



**MAY 2, 2021 | CRAIG REES**

**Big Idea:** Because creation is valuable to God, it is valuable to us.

**Key Scripture:**

Genesis 1:31	Psalm 8	Psalm 104	Proverbs 6:6	Jeremiah 27:5
Numbers 14:21	Psalm 13	Psalm 111:2	Isaiah 40:26-28	Habakkuk 2:14
Job 12:7-9	Psalm 19:1	Proverbs 3:19	Jeremiah 5:22	Romans 1:20

1. Share how you discover God's wisdom on a difficult topic. How do you discern between the sources that are reliable and those that are not? How do you discern between worldly wisdom and God's truth?
2. Read Genesis 1:31 recalling how this verse subtly tweaks the six other appreciation summaries (4,10,12,18,21,25) to show God's deep satisfaction at what He'd created. It's as if God takes a step back and gets genuinely excited by what He sees. In what ways does taking a step back to look at the breadth of creation impact you (and it can impact us in many different ways)?
3. Pastor Craig shared four ways in which we can understand the high value God places on His creation. With these four ways in mind consider these questions:
  - a. How have you seen God's glory in creation this last week?
  - b. Read Proverbs 6:6. How does looking closely at creation impact you?
  - c. How have you seen God's power in creation this last week?
  - d. Read Romans 1:20. How has creation revealed God's presence to you this last week?

Consider how each of these four truths could impact your interaction with creation were you to consistently hold these truths in mind

4. This question is a deeper question that we will continue to examine as we proceed through the series. If it's true that it is God's opinion of creation that gives it its value, how should God's opinion of creation, irrespective of what it gives us, influence how we engage with it?
5. Discuss this statement: "When we do not value what God values, we move from responsible enjoyment to irresponsible exploitation. Exploitation begins when I fail to value the things God values." In what ways are you tempted to only show value to the things you value? What helps you refocus and reorient your priorities?
6. "If we care about what God cares about, we will care for what God cares for. Exploitation thrives when we only treat as valuable something that has value to us." In what ways could you choosing to value all of creation (incl. people) impact your family, your neighborhood, your town, and your country? What small steps can we take to show honor to those who feel overlooked and marginalized?
7. Read Psalm 8. In your own words, how can God's view of you, described in these verses, help you when you are feeling forgotten, overlooked, used, and unappreciated? Share how you take the truths of Scripture and get them to sink deeply into your soul?