

Esther and Emmett:

Emmett: Hi Esther.

Esther: Hi Emmett. Have you noticed the trees?

Emmett: The trees? You mean the ones outside?

Esther: Yes! Have you noticed that the leaves have started changing colour?

Emmett: Oh, yah, autumn is here.

Esther: There's some trees down the street whose leaves are now a bright yellow. It's like God has started painting our neighbourhood in amazing, brilliant colours!

Emmett: I saw those trees. God sure is a good painter!

Esther: And last night I stood outside and looked up and saw the stars...

Emmett: I tried counting all the stars once, but I ran out of fingers!

Esther: And I saw the moon...the work of God's fingers!

Emmett: Does God have fingers? I guess you can't hold a paint brush unless you have fingers!

Esther: Actually Emmett, when I say that the moon and the stars are the work of God's fingers, I am quoting one of the Psalms from the Bible.

Emmett: I thought it sounded like something from the Bible. Which Psalm is it from?

Esther: It's Psalm 8. The writer begins the Psalm by talking about how glorious and amazing and wondrous God's creation is – the earth and the heavens...

Emmett: And the moon and the stars! This sounds like a beautiful Psalm.

Esther: It is beautiful.

Emmett: You know, Esther, when I look at the stars I think about how beautiful they look...but sometimes I also think about how many of them there are, and how many stars and planets there are that I can't see, and then I realize just how big space is, how big everything is...and then I start to feel kind of small standing there looking at the stars.

Esther: Guess what Emmett, the writer of Psalm 8 felt exactly the same way!

Emmett: And then, sometimes, I think, “Wow, if God has all this to look after, I wonder if God even notices me – I mean, no one could miss my amazing hair – but, I just wonder sometimes, if God knows I’m here!

Esther: O Emmett! That is exactly what the writer thought. The writer looked at all those stars and then asked God a question. The writer asked, “With all those stars and all this huge incredible creation, how do we humans living on earth fit in? Do you ever think of us, God? Do you actually care for us?”

Emmett: Wow! That writer of the Psalm sounds just like me. I wonder if the writer had amazing hair!

Esther: After the writer asked God those questions, the writer thought about God’s response!

Emmett: And what did the writer think God would say?

Esther: The writer thought that, even though we human beings might seem really small in comparison to EVERYTHING that God has created, God has given us a special place in creation.

Emmett: That sounds good! What kind of place? I hope it has good internet reception...

Esther: Not a ‘place’ place. I mean God has given us a special role.

Emmett: Oh, you mean that God wants us to do something?

Esther: Yes...it’s like the story the Bible tells about God creating the world, and creating two people...

Emmett: I know that story. God created Adam and Eve.

Esther: Yes, and do you remember what their ‘place’ was...what their role was?

Emmett: Uh...could you give me a hint?

Esther: They lived in the ‘Garden’ of Eden...

Emmett: Hmm...could they have been...gardeners?

Esther: Right. They cared for the plants and the animals God had created.

Emmett: So...God wants us to care for plants and animals?

Esther: Maybe God created us to care for God’s world...that means caring for other people but also caring about the air and the water and the soil and the dolphins...

Emmett: And the trees and all the colourful leaves?

Esther: Yes! So God thinks about everything God has created and God loves everything God has created... that means not only the moon and stars but also us.

Emmett: And God wants us to also love everything God created!

Esther: God wants us to notice stars and yellow leaves and to say, "Thank you God for Your wonderful creation...or maybe just to say...Amen!"

Emmett: Amen!