



THINK ON THESE THINGS.....

Reading: Psalm 8:1,3 - 5

- ¹ Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.
- ³ When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
- ⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?[Ⓜ]
- ⁵ You have made them[Ⓜ] a little lower than the angels[Ⓜ]
and crowned them[Ⓜ] with glory and honour.

Reflection:

Last week the Swindon Advertiser reported that Swindon had been crowned the most thoughtful community in the UK, thanks to its community gardening schemes, number of charities, volunteering opportunities and impressive recycling rates. In order to uncover the research, a team from “Bloom and Wild” analysed areas in the UK by looking at five factors, including:

- Number of registered charities
- Number of volunteering opportunities
- Number of community gardening schemes
- Recycling rate
- Electric car ownership

After all the numbers were crunched, Swindon came out on top! Now I'm sure there are many other communities around the UK that have done just as well, as we have, but it's good to know that Swindon has made the headlines for all the right reasons!

I'd like to think that the churches have played their part in our town being given this accolade, as over the years we have sought to support many of these charities, been involved in volunteering for a variety of organisations (not least Lunch club and Link), and made great strides in our “Eco-friendly” church award.

In a sense though being a people who value compassion, service and a respect for our environment should come naturally, as these are the things God values and delights in. He cares for these things, and rejoices together with us as in our small ways we seek to make a difference in this beautiful world he has provided for us.

Breath - Prayer for Today: Thank you Lord God for giving us so many opportunities to make this world a better place for all in which to live and thrive!

