

**When The Speed of Life is Out of Control**  
**Hope Rising, Part 2**  
**Pastor Darren Emory**  
**Psalm 8**

**Three Choices When Life Is Out Of Control**

#1: Establish my **STRONGHOLDS**, my way

*Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and  
infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the  
foe and the avenger.  
Psalm 8:1-2*

*“Truly I tell you,” He said, “unless you change and become like little children, you  
will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like  
this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”  
Matthew 18:3-4*

**Three Choices When Life Is Out Of Control**

#2: Ignore my **PURPOSE** and responsibilities

*You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory  
and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put  
everything under their feet.  
Psalm 8:5-6*

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and  
take care of it.  
Genesis 2:15*

**Three Choices When Life Is Out Of Control**

#3: Worship and **LEAN** into God

*What is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for  
them?... Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
Psalm 8:4, 8:9*

*Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or  
if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil,  
know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in  
heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!  
Luke 11:11-12*

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## HOPE RISING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

When life seems to be out of control we can find rest in our heavenly Father. Exodus 20:8-11 instructs us to observe the Sabbath Day. Why do you think God wants us to do this? How did God model this for us in the creation story? Isaiah 58:13-14 tells us that we can find joy in the Lord when we keep the Lord's Day honorable. Let's explore the rest we can find in Psalm 23.

### GROWING TOGETHER

1. What sometimes threatens your peace of mind or sense of security?
2. What do people usually take for granted?
3. When do you most want peace and quiet?

### GOING DEEPER

1. How did David describe the Lord? What is God like? (1)
2. What mental picture did David use to describe his role in relationship with the Lord? (1-3)
3. What comforted David? (1)
4. How does the Lord provide for His people? How did God help David? (1-3)
5. How has the Lord guided you through difficult times?
6. In what ways does God "restore our souls"?
7. What motivates God to guide His people? (3)
8. What gave David the confidence to face death? How was David comforted in difficult times? (4)
9. What were David's fears? (4-5)
10. What are some of your fears?
11. How can you follow David's example in dealing with your fears?
12. How far does the guidance and protection of the Lord extend for His people? (4-5)
13. How does God provide for His children, even in the face of death? (4-5)
14. How has God provided for your needs in the past?
15. How does God honor those He loves? (5-6)
16. What did the Lord give to David? (5-6)
17. What good things in life do you find it easy to take for granted?
18. How can we thank the Lord for the many blessings He has given us?
19. How did David feel about his future? (6)
20. How does this passage encourage you to face the future? How has this Psalm changed your perspective of the challenges you are facing?

### SHARING TOGETHER

1. What can you do to celebrate God's goodness and provision?
2. How could you comfort or encourage a friend who is struggling with fear or grief?
3. What good things, experiences, and people do you want to thank God for now?

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