

December 7, 2017

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“Star of Wonder, Star of Light, Star with royal beauty bright....”.

When I look into the night sky there is so much to wonder about! When I am away from the city lights, I see so many stars. It always makes me feel very small and insignificant, and yet I am reminded that to God I am not insignificant. I am known and loved. When I stop focusing on myself, I am awestruck by the numbers of stars twinkling in the sky and the absolute beauty of the cosmos. Then I wonder how anyone was able to look into the sky and decide that those three stars up there are someone’s belt, and over there is a lion, and there are even bears up there—a big one and a small one. I do get how they came up with the dippers, both big and little. They seem far more obvious to me.

I do wonder at the story of the star shining brightly both day and at night showing the way to a very special baby. I have seen the shows on television about how it really could have happened. How much time and effort have astronomers and other people of science spent to prove or disprove this event? I grew up thinking it must have happened just the way it was written. Why else would it be in the Bible, sung about in church, and handed down through the ages in families like mine? Then I wonder if it is a necessary part of the story. It would not be as magical a story without the star guiding the magi and the angels surprising the shepherds. While the birth a child, any child, is miraculous and awesome, it is the life that comes from that birth, however lowly or grand, that can change the world.

Christ came to be an example for us, to teach and inspire us to live in the Kingdom. It is not a royal kingdom by earthly standards, but a Kingdom where all are accepted and loved, including me, as I sit in the wilderness trying to count all those stars.

Dear God, help me remember that I am loved, and that while I may feel insignificant, I am not to you. Help me to love your people and treat them as truly loved as you would. Amen.