

Serpents And Skyscrapers

This is rather an odd phrase to pick on but snakes and mountains didn't have quite the same poetic ring and there are not many mountains where we live! Come to think of it there aren't many serpents either! Needless to say, with images of snakes and mountains, this was written for a Sunday in Roots Worship magazine on the story of Moses, though the images seem to have somewhat run away from the story and taken on a life of their own here. I guess it is really an opening prayer about the macro and the micro of life.

God of serpents and skyscrapers
We praise you for lofty cloud covered mountains
and the wind rushing over grassy cliff tops
We praise you for the grandeur of church bell towers
and the community nurtured in tower blocks
We praise you for skyscrapers that crane our necks with awe
and for millennium wheels and match-stick people views.

God of serpents and skyscrapers
We praise you for secrets seen under a microscope
the beautiful double helix of life
We praise you for the bug-life hidden in the grass
and the seeds yet to spring from the ground
We praise you for the little details of daily life
a smile, a hug, the glimmer of a laugh.

God of serpents and skyscrapers
Forgive us when we get too caught up in the big picture
to see how it affects individual people
Forgive us when we retreat to our ivory towers
and fail to be present with the people around us
Forgive us when we are too involved in detail
and can't see the wood for the trees.

God of serpents and skyscrapers
Help us to reach for the skies
and realise our full potential
Help us to appreciate the intricate details of life
and be present in the moment
Help us to hold both views in tension
and to keep a level head.

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