



STEWARDSHIP

Parents, please take some time to consider your own attitudes about stewardship. Are you involved in ministry within the Church? Are you involved in other types of service in your community? Do you willingly help others in need? Do you consider the time, talents, and material things you have to be gifts from God or fruits of your own labor? Do you give to the Sunday collection on a regular basis? Do you give money to missions and other out-of-parish needs? Do your children see you doing these things?

You may be wondering what the last question on this list has to do with the others. Just this: giving of self is a highly personal commitment. Yet we, as parents, are constantly communicating what is important in our lives to our ever-watchful little ones. If your children see you paying a large cable TV bill each month, but only putting pocket change into the Sunday collection, they will naturally see where your priorities lie. Likewise, if you are not giving of your lives in service to others, they will conclude that "someone else" should do it.

The way we live out this call to stewardship is unique in each of our lives. There are some things, however, that we all have in common:

1. We have all been given gifts of time, talent, and treasure.
2. Everything we have is a gift from God, and nothing in our lives is totally, exclusively our own (except our sins). God wants to be the Lord of all areas of our lives. How we work and play, how we treat our bodies and the earth, where our money goes, our relationships with others, and all our thoughts and words are part of this relationship we have with God. Gratitude is our natural response to God's incredible generosity.
3. When we see how the Lord is constantly caring for all our needs, the next mature step is to share what we have received with others.
4. As with all areas of our lives as Christians, that of stewardship is constantly changing and growing in response to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Read more about this topic in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*:

CCC 2429 (contributing our talents for the good of society)

CCC 2443-2449 (love for the poor)

What Did You Learn About Stewardship?

for younger saints

1. Why should we share what we have with others?
2. What is one way you can share your time with God?
3. What is one way you can share your talents?
4. How can you share your treasure?
5. Where did we get everything that we have?
6. Recite your memory prayer.

What Did You Learn About Stewardship?

for younger saints

1. Why should we share what we have with others?

We share because God first shared with us.

2. What is one way you can share your time with God?

Answers will vary.

3. What is one way you can share your talents?

Answers will vary.

4. How can you share your treasure?

Answers will vary.

5. Where did we get everything that we have?

In some way, God made everything we have.

6. Recite your memory prayer. **The Hail Mary:** Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

What Did You Learn About Stewardship?

for older saints

1. What is tithing?
2. What is stewardship?
3. This lesson taught about showing our gratitude to God by sharing
our _____, _____, and _____ with Him.
4. By reading the Bible, we can learn about how to spend our money.
true false
5. Kids cannot volunteer to help with jobs at church.
true false
6. Giving money to someone in need is the same as giving it to Jesus.
true false
7. The talents you have are gifts from God.
true false
8. Recite your memory prayer.

What Did You Learn About Stewardship?

for older saints

1. What is tithing?

Tithing is the Biblical principle of giving back to the Lord the first tenth of everything we receive.

2. What is stewardship?

Stewardship is the care and wise use of the gifts God has given to us.

3. This lesson taught about showing our gratitude to God by sharing our time, talent, and treasure with Him.

4. By reading the Bible, we can learn about how to spend our money.

true

false

5. Kids cannot volunteer to help with jobs at church.

true

false

6. Giving money to someone in need is the same as giving it to Jesus.

true

false

7. The talents you have are gifts from God.

true

false

8. Recite your memory prayer. **The Memorare:** Remember, O most gracious Virgin

Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.