

A Christian Steward is one who:

- Receives God's gifts with gratitude
- Cherishes and tends gifts in a responsible and accountable manner
- Shares gifts in justice and love with others
- Returns gifts with increase to the Lord

Bishops' Pastoral Letter of 1992 Stewardship: A Disciple's Response

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"Gratitude in Action"

Office of Stewardship and Development
Sixth Grade Curriculum

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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY

STEWARDSHIP Gratitude in Action Sixth Grade Curriculum

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General Instructions

Explain to the students:

"You are reaching an age where you are capable of making some decisions on what you want to do in you life. Your contributions can make a difference. You can be anything and do most anything in this world if you set your mind to it and plan to succeed. It does not happen by accident, what you do now can and will effect what you can and will do in your future. *In each Session there is a scripture reading, ask yourself how this reading can apply to you.*"



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Lesson 1

Knowing Your Gifts

Scripture:

Read Mark 1:16 -20

Lesson:

You are at an age where you can be an equal partner and contribute to the activities in your home, your community and your church.

First you must begin to know yourself. Learning what your gifts are:

Assignment:

- Make a list.
- Ask yourself What Are Your gifts or talent, what am I good at?
- After some thought, answer each of these questions. Record your answers
 - 1. What you like to read and learn about.
 - 2. What interests you? What do you want to know more about?
 - 3. What is fun?
 - 4. What is hardest for you to do?
 - 5. What do you care about?

Remember we all have difference skills, interests and abilities. Each of us is unique in their own way; the trick is discovering that uniqueness and use it to help others.

- Discuss your ideas with your parents or close friends; they may see things in you that you do not see in yourself.
- From what you have recorded list one or two "talents" that you would like to explore and develop.

Closing Prayer:

Lord help me to learn about myself as your servant and steward so I may help others to know of your love.



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Lesson 2

How to Share Your Gifts

Scripture:

Read 1Peter 4-10

• What is this reading saying to you today?

Lesson:

By sharing your gifts (talents) that god has given you, in a spirit of love and duty, you will become the steward God asks you to be.

Assignment:

Ask yourself how your gifts could help someone else.

Remember don't be selfish, it is one thing to say you care about other people it is another thing to show it.

- Think about the people who you can help. Who can you make happy, or help with a chore?
- Who could use your help fixing something for cleaning up after a task?
- Who could you comfort when they are feeling bad or are hurt?
- Make a list of the people you thought of.

Do you share with just the people you are close to, with just your friends or family or are there others who can benefit by your help?

Remember Jesus helped everyone who needed his help.

Action:

Put your ideas to work: Pick a person to help or a task that on it outside of the classroom.

Closing Prayer

Lord help me to understand that in helping others and being a good steward I am helping them and me bring about God plan for his people.





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Lesson 3	
Vocations	

Scripture:

Read 1Timothy 3:15

• What is this reading telling you about you duty to the church?

Lesson:

There places in your religious education classes or at church where you can help your faith community, where you can be the example of a person committed to service and integrity.

Remember, you don't have to save the world; you only need to find one place where you can sever. Once you start serving you will learn more about that issue it will become part of you, you will start thinking about it and want to learn more. You may find related topics and things you want to know more about.

Assignment:

• When serving your church community, look for what impact your work has made. Record the things you have done and how that work was a benefit to others.

Closing prayer:

Lord, help us to be good and faithful stewards of all you have given us. Help us to be better follow Jesus as his disciple.



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Prayer

Scripture:

Read Mark 8: 34, Mathew 16: 24 and Luke 9: 23

Lesson:

Prayer is a powerful tool to connect you to God's will and what he wants to you to do for him and his people

Assignment:

Use prayer every day:

• As you learn more about yourself, your world, you're God, and your faith community you will be able to return to your lists and make them even better.

Close Prayer

Dear God, I thank you for everything you have given me. My gifts of time and talents are precious; help me use them to do your will. Please help me realize that I need to share all of my gifts with the Church and others. Help me be generous, patient and forgiving. I offer you this day all I think, and do, and say. With the help of Jesus, your Son, I will try to love everyone. **Amen**



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Lesson 5

Stewardship: Tending Our Own Garden

Scripture:

Read 1 Corinthians 6: 19-20

Lesson:

In a sense the metaphor of the "Garden" is symbolic of the way we choose to live our lives. Good stewards need to examine themselves on how well they are tending to their body, their mind and their sprit.

The Garden of the Body: Steps to good health

(Record your answers about your physical behaviors for future reference)

Physical garden:

- 1. Do you eat properly, not too many sweets, fast food or soda? Good nutrition is important to having the energy and strength to work and serve others.
- 2. Do you get enough sleep? Being tired all the time makes it very difficult to pay attention in school and at home or Church.
- 3. Do you get some exercise every day, or do you spend all your spare time playing video games? Being physically active helps you become strong and energetic. It makes you more alert and capable.
- 4. Do you keep yourself clean? Proper hygiene is very important to a health body and reduces sicknesses such as colds, flu, and infections.

Stewardship is not just about helping others. It is also about helping yourself to be strong, fit, and capable, so you can serve others to the best of your ability.

Assignment:

• Write down something about your physical condition and behavior you are going to improve upon and then go and do it!

Closing Prayer:

Lord help me to care for myself and to build good habits of fitness, and nutrition so I may better serve you and your people.



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Lesson 6

Stewardship of Your Mind and Spirit

Scripture:

Read 1Tim 6:12

Lesson:

We must take care of our spirits, that part of our being that allows us to connect with God.

In order to fill our minds with good things and align our will with the will of God, we must guard our hearts against negative emotions and allow the Holy Spirit to produce in us his fruit. The Holy Spirit offers us his gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

- 1. Do you get angry at your siblings or your parents when things don't go your way?
- 2. Do you get impatient when waiting for something you really want?
- 3. Are you gentile with someone smaller or weaker than yourself?

Assignment:

• Of the list of the gifts of the Holy Spirit above, which is the hardest for you to see in yourself? (Record your answers)

<u>Prayer is a powerful tool to connect you to God's will and what he wants to you to do for him and his people.</u> It is an important tool to enrich your spirit.

Closing prayer:

Lord help me to use the gifts of the spirit to become more gentile, loving, and caring as I grow in stewardship of your will.



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Lesson 7

Stewardship of the Earth

Scripture:

Read Prov. 16:4

Lesson:

The resources of the earth are intended for all humanity, and our use of them should reflect our understanding that we are not the only users. In other words, it's not just how we use it, it's also how leave it for others who come after us.

1. Do you practice conservation?

- a. Do you shut of lights when you leave your room?
- b. Do you use only the water you need or do you leave he faucet running?
- c. Do you recycle the paper and aluminium you use around your home?
- d. Do you waste the food that is served to you?

<u>Caring for the resources of the earth, which God created and gave to us are very important tasks of stewardship.</u>

Assignment:

- List some of the things you can saver or recycle that will help protect our environment.
- Share your ideas with your instructor and other students
- Prayer:
- Lord you gave us the earth and all its plants and animals to care for. Help us always to learn to use and protect them so they may always be kept safe for all your people.

Closing Prayer:

Lord help me to always remember that this earth and its resources are yours to care for, and keep for all your people.



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Lesson 8

Stewardship of Your Faith

Scripture:

Read Exodus 20: 8-11

Lesson:

The second Commandment, Keep holy the Sabbath.

Take time for God in your life. Remember that he is always close to you, cares for you and wants you to know and love him. Take some quit time to listen to God and to look for God in all that you see and do. Remember God is love, and Loving, Caring and Sharing are the most important things you can do for God and all the people around you.

Assignment:

- On every Sunday and at other times as you can, take some quiet time to listen for Gods voice in your heart.
 - 1. Ask God to show himself to you in the people and things around you.
 - 2. Ask for his blessing as you learn and grow in stewardship

Closing Prayer:

Lord, you created me in your image to help you to bring your word and message of love and care for the earth and all your people.

Help me and show me your will as I labor to be your "Good and faithful servant"