

Gathering

STEWARDSHIP

With spring upon us, our thoughts turn to the out-of-doors. Scripture makes it clear that we are caretakers and stewards of all that God has made. Genesis 1:28 and 2:15 recount God's ecological mandate to Adam and Eve: "...*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*" Christians are to exercise loving dominion that honors scriptural values and leaves future generations what they will need. Let us heighten our awareness of God's natural resources and our role in its preservation.

After sharing Scripture use at least three of the questions below with your group:

- How does God view your use and care of natural resources?
- Where have you taken for granted God's good gifts in this world?
- Who goes without these gifts?
- What is God asking of you to change or reconsider?

We pray this prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola: *Take Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace; that is enough for me.*

After the sharing, you may wish to take time to discuss how, as a group, accountability can be held to encourage a deeper exploration of scripture or even offer a fun challenge of memorizing a new verse per week.

Be sure to hand out the Monthly Scripture Card and Take Home Sheet.

Complete your monthly report and turn it in to the Corps Officer.

Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)



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How does **God** view
your use and care of
natural resources?



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Where have you taken
for granted **God's** good
gifts in this world?



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Who goes
without these gifts?

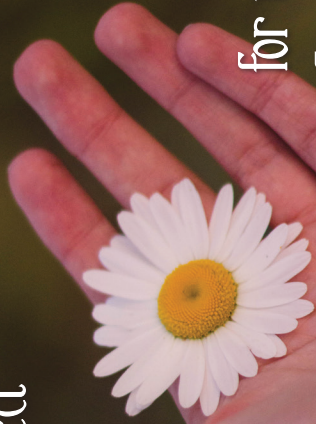


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What is **God asking** of you
to **change** or reconsider?

Let's not neglect
what is good
and share
what we have,



for these
sacrifices also
please God.

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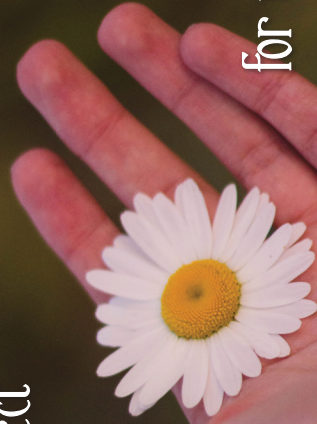
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If you are caring for the environment already, then you are probably recycling paper & plastic, using LED lights and turning the water off while brushing your teeth.

We want you to begin thinking about trash as treasure. Begin looking around your home or work space to find items to repurpose or upcycle? If you google “upcycle”, you will find hundreds of ideas. You will be inspired to turn the old galvanized trash can into a new planter. Maybe you will even begin to grow your own herbs or vegetables! Use your imagination to create something new.

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