



A FIVE WEEK COURSE FOR

New Local Congregations

***On stewardship and
generosity***





Introduction

During this series we will be looking at what it means to be a steward of all that God has created. All five sessions were designed to be adaptable to your setting. The aim is to teach anyone of any age or background what a steward is and how to be generous with all that God has entrusted to us.

How it works

Each session includes a range of activities and resources for you to choose from. You know your group best and you know what will be most appropriate. Included each week is:

Prayer: A prayer you can use or adapt as you see fit.

Icebreaker: A suggested icebreaker that fits the theme of the lesson which you can adapt for the age or preferences of your group if you choose to use it.

Bible Reflection: Scriptures and a prompt to help you shape your lesson, along with some suggested discussion questions.

Make it interactive: A suggested activity to turn your talk into something everyone can take part in or join in with.

Song bank: Suggested songs for all ages.

Media: Suggested video to help you tell the bible story.

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Session One



AIM

To see that we were all called to be Stewards of all God's creation from the very beginning. To develop a rich understanding of what it means to live for God and how to take care of the things that belong to Him.

KEY QUESTION

What are Stewards and what do they do?



Prayer

Loving God,
Thank You for creating the world and everything in it, including us. Help us to be good stewards of Your creation, caring for the earth and all living things. Show us how to love You with all our hearts and to love others as You've asked. Guide us to honor You in everything we do.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.



Ice Breaker

Take a look at some of these nature live streams:



Jellyfish:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rvCfsW_qTA

Tropical Reef:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHUnz4dyb54>

And more at Explore Live Nature Cams:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ExploreLiveNatureCams/streams>

Session One



Check out the Media Library for some helpful Visual resources

Genesis 1:24-31 & Mark 12:28-34

Bible Reflection:

These passages should help the group to understand that God created everything, including us. Use the passage in Genesis to explore what our duties are as Stewards of all creation. By pointing to our passage in Mark we get some helpful extra detail two simple steps to acting as Christian Stewards and demonstrate our Love for God.



Song available in Appendix one



Make it interactive

STEWARDSHIP

Do one this this week to care for creation. This could be anything from making a hedgehog hotel or taking a meal to a friend in need

CHALLENGE

Discussion Prompts:

- What are some ways to care for the world around us?
- Why is it important to love and care for each other?
- How do these two commandments mentioned in Mark help us in our role as Stewards?
- What role do you think you can play?
- After hearing these bible passages what do you think it means to be a Steward?

Session One Appendix

Make it interactive



If you have an outdoor space why not try putting together a nature scavenger hunt? Can the group find things that represent the days of creation?

Or

Why not take inspiration from this lesson linking learning the alphabet to learning the two most important commandments?:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lux8SNsh6Ic>

Songs

- **All Creatures of Our God and King (SovereignGraceMusic)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhyCL4h64_s
- **Indescribable (christomlinmusic)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IIVfkY5q54>
- **Great Are You Lord (Kids Version)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzSKDT34BXg>



Media



Jesus reveals greatest commandment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_SVpWee2MA

Creation story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teu7BCZTgDs&list=PL5aPdmniG3y_n7hXEKTV4qQnIeCe-p6Ws&index=66

Session Two



AIM

To understand that God has withheld nothing from us and to consider what we may be withholding from God.

KEY QUESTION

What am I holding back from God in my life?



Prayer

Generous God,
Thank you for the generous gift of your son, Jesus Christ.
We give our lives to you today, holding nothing back.
Bless us and use us, to the Glory of your name.
Amen



Ice Breaker



Play 2 truths and a lie.
Go around the group asking everyone to share two truths and a lie about themselves. Can people guess the lie? If the group is too big for this ask people to turn to the person next to them.

Session Two



Check out the Media Library for some helpful Visual resources

John 3:16-21 & Romans 8:31-39

Bible Reflection:

Briefly recap last weeks focus. Highlight God withholding nothing from us to offer forgiveness of sin. Explore what Paul means by 'all things'. Reflect on God's generosity and what he has done, won and given to us. Pose the question 'What would we hold back from Him in response?' hint: nothing!



Songs Available in Appendix Two



Make it interactive

STEWARDSHIP

This week consider 'what am I holding back from God in my life? How can I hand that over to God?'

CHALLENGE

Discussion Prompts:

- What are your thoughts on the passages we looked at today?
- How did it make you feel?
- Considering all that God has given to us, what are some ways we can respond to His generosity?
- What do we hold back from God?

Session Two Appendix

Make it interactive



You will need: A pie dish, cranberry juice or red water, a candle, matches, a large glass or a medium sized vase.

The Lesson: Pour a little cranberry juice into a pie dish, just enough to cover the bottom. This represents sin. Then place a small candle in the middle and light it. Once the candle is lit place the large glass or medium sized vase over the candle. As the candle goes out watch as the cranberry juice is sucked into the glass. This represents Jesus taking on all our sins on the cross.

Songs

- **Come Thou Fount (Celtic Worship)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKOoeTbjSeI>
- **Reckless Love (kids version)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hbmVun8H6g>
- **What a beautiful Name (Kids Version)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znkWkjbh6sA>
- **John 3:16 (For God So Loved The World) (The Rizers)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2iHNzNJKJw>



Media



John 3:16 Slapstick theatre
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JJ3EuuTkWw>

Session Three



AIM

To understand that the best gifts in life come from the people who know us best and the one who knows us best of all is God. To teach the group that our gifts were made to give away.

KEY QUESTION

What do I do with the time and Gifts God has given to me?



Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank You for giving each of us special talents . Help us use our gifts for a greater purpose. Show us how we can use our time and talents to help others and bring glory to You.

In Jesus' name,
Amen



Ice Breaker



Host a talent show or go around the room and ask people to share if they have a hidden talent. If you have a shy group ask the leaders to share a hidden talent of theirs.

Session Three



Check out the Media Library for some helpful Visual resources

Exodus 35:10-35 & Acts 9:36-42

Bible Reflection:

Highlight that our talents are unique gifts from God meant for a greater purpose. Look at the different examples in the bible passages. Encourage the group to consider how they currently use their time and talents.



Songs Available in Appendix Three



Make it interactive

STEWARDSHIP

Commit to giving a portion of your time, or a talent back to God this week.

CHALLENGE

Discussion Prompts:

- Do we consciously set aside time and use our talents for God's purposes?
- What do you do with the time and the gifts God has given you?
- What was the best gift you ever received? Who was it from and why was it the best?
- Do you think Tabitha could immediately sew clothes? Or did she have to learn and practice?

Session Three Appendix

Make it interactive



You will need: Paper cut into the size of business cards. Enough for two each.

The Lesson: At the beginning hand out two slips of paper to each person and ask them to write down one thing that they are good at on each piece of paper and keep hold of them. At the end pass around the offering plate and ask them to consider putting one of the slips of paper on the plate as a symbol of what they would like to give to God this week. Keep the other back to practice and strengthen.

Songs

- **I Surrender All (Reawaken Hymns)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSPcuV5Sli8>
- **Yes I Will (Kids Version)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cu-zKsGOepg>
- **I'm So Blessed (Allstars Kids Club)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9NWmC8CnRQ>
- **I Like To (Yancy & Little Praise Party)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpbKbSjMc7Y>



Media



The story of Tabitha

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWpUAkm1740>

Tabitha (Short)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPr0O6hnmwQ4&list=PL5aPdmniG3y_n7hXEKTV4qQnIeCe-p6Ws&index=71

Session Four



AIM

To consider what role money plays in our daily lives and in our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

KEY QUESTION

Is money a bad thing?



Prayer

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for reminding us that it's not money itself, but loving it too much, that can lead us away from You. Help us to make wise choices, and use what we have to serve others. Teach us to put You first in our hearts and to trust in You, not in things. May we always choose kindness and love.

Amen.



Ice Breaker



Take several items and ask the group to guess how much they are worth/cost. For an extra twist add something that is sentimental i.e. invaluable.

Session Four



Check out the Media Library for some helpful Visual resources

1 Timothy 6:10 & Luke 16:19-31

Bible Reflection:

Start by looking in Timothy with the commonly misquoted verse. Spend some time focusing on how it is the love of money that is the root of all evil, rather than money itself. Highlight how there are many wealthy people in the bible like Abraham and Abigail, who were not judged by their wealth but by their choices just like the rich man and Lazarus.



Songs available in Appendix Four.



Make it interactive

STEWARDSHIP

Commit to asking God this week what you should do with your treasure.

CHALLENGE

Discussion Prompts:

- If everything belongs to God, does that include our treasure?
- Have you ever thought about your giving, or why you may give?
- Do you find it easy to think about giving away your money/ treasure or is it hard? Why?
- Can you share a time someone was generous with you?
- If what you gave came back to you would it make a difference? Would you notice?
- If you give, why?
- What holds you back from giving?

Session Four Appendix

Make it interactive



You will need: The Rich man and Lazarus script
To view click [here](#).

Use the script to get people involved in the story of the rich man and Lazarus.

Songs

- **We Give Thee But Thy Own (Parklands Ward Social Media)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ha3KLi3nKO4>
- **Do Be Give Love (Yancy)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf9ivUsbUSU>
- **Every Day & Every Night (Yancy)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXCA_0zNvhs



Media



The rich man and Lazarus (2:03)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahs59MRgUbo>

Session Five



AIM

To challenge us to see our financial giving as an act of worship and gratitude, recognizing that everything we have belongs to God. To understand the biblical principle of giving back to God what is already His.

KEY QUESTION

What's the point of giving?



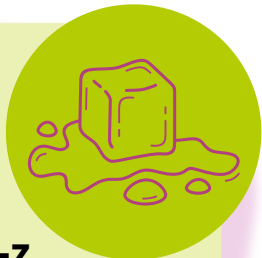
Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for everything we have comes from You. Help us to give freely and joyfully, just like David did, knowing that what matters most is the heart behind our giving. Teach us to be generous with what You've given us, whether we have a little or a lot, and to always remember that it all belongs to You.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.



Ice Breaker



Blessings A-Z.

Sit in a circle. The first person mentions something he or she is thankful for that starts with 'A' (such as apples or art). The next person calls out a 'B' blessing, and the next person does 'C'. Continue until the group gets all the way to Z.

Session Five



Check out the Media Library for some helpful Visual resources



Hymn: Freely, Freely
Modern: God of Wonders



Make it interactive

1 Chronicles 29: 1-14 & 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Bible Reflection:

Delve into the story of David and his generous contributions from his own treasury. Discuss why David made these contributions and the purpose of the temple. Remember that people in our community give different amounts, but as we see in 2 Corinthians, what matters most is giving freely, wholeheartedly and joyfully. King David had lots but he knew that everything really belonged to God.

STEWARDSHIP

Commit to giving something Joyfully this week. Whether that is giving away a toy to someone who needs one, or the offering that you give to church.

CHALLENGE

Discussion Prompts:

- Would you consider yourself a cheerful giver? What would it take to be?
- What does King David teach us about giving?
- How can we be cheerful givers?
- What does generosity mean to you?
- What does generosity have to do with stewardship?
- What does giving from the heart mean?
- What do you think stops people from giving generously?

Session Five Appendix

Make it interactive



You will need: The Building The Church Together template

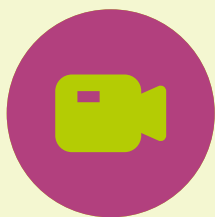
Use the Building the Church together template to make the story of David fun for all ages. Click [here](#) to access it.

Songs

- **Freely, Freely You have Received (Divine Hymns)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mo3MGpcBC5M>
- **Gratitude (Allstars Kids Club)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2aoDdwjSLU4>



Media



How to be Generous

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdozVTbgQB8>