



Co-Redeeming the World

Although Jesus is the redeemer of all, we cooperate in the work of redeeming ourselves and others. By the choices we make we hope open ourselves and others to redemption.

Sin is a part of the human condition. It manifests itself in greed, in the quest for inordinate pleasures, and in an unbridled selfishness and craving for power, riches, and control. Such consequences of sin violate the trust God gave us to cultivate the earth and care for others.

Christian stewardship is an ongoing daily conversion. It is a constant striving to evaluate life, people, and the resources of the world

against a backdrop of God's will. As faithful stewards we try to make right choices in our care of others and in the use of all things, We try to let redemption truly happen in ourselves and in the small area of the universe entrusted to our care.

Personal Reflection

- Do I reverence life as God's gift for which I will some day have to give an account?
- Does my attitude and relationship with the people around me show that I am fulfilling God's mandate to lovingly care for others?
- Does my cultivation and use of the world's resources show that I am a good steward of the gifts God entrusted to me?

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"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied graces" (1 Peter 4:10).



Caretakers of the World

Life is a Precious Gift

Sometimes, because of the busyness of our days, we take LIFE for granted. We fail to appreciate how precious every minute of time really is.

Growing in an understanding of the gift and meaning of life, and reassessing our priorities as we journey through life, gives us the base for Christian stewardship.

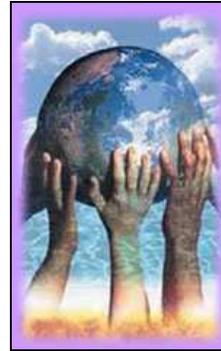
God's Personal Gift

We became living beings when God breathed into us the breath of life. We continue to pulsate with that breath of God until, at the end, God “catches His breath” and takes us back to Himself, Life is a sacred trust. We determine how we use it, moment by moment, by the choices we make.

Stewardship is growing in the ability to make the choices to be all we can be, and do all we should do, according to God's plan for the life we were given.

Co-Creating the World

In the story of creation we read that God settled humankind “in the garden of Eden to cultivate and care for it.” (Gn 2:15) This divinely mandated human activity enables us to collaborate with God in co-creating the world around us. Work is a fundamental aspect of the human vocation. It is necessary for human happiness and fulfillment. Our work and our choices enable us to advance the beautiful order of things which God intended.



Spirituality of Work

The Christian spirituality of work calls us to reflect on our stewardship roles. It leads us to a profound reverence for life, our own life and the lives of others. It gives us the readiness to do what we can to preserve and enhance the people and things around us.

Simplicity, moderation and discipline, the earmarks of the Christian steward, empowers us to faithfully cultivate and care for the people and that portion of the world which God has entrusted to us.

