

Sample questions for a child's lay witness interview

1. We have been promoting stewardship here at _____ for many years. I know you have watched the adults come up here and talk about stewardship. What do you think stewardship is all about?
2. If stewardship is really all about “thanking” God for all the wonderful things He has given to us, what are some ways you use your time to thank God?
3. We are reminded that all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. He gives everyone special talents--that’s just how God makes us--with special talents and abilities. “Billy”, what are some of the special talents that God has given you?
4. How do you use those talents here at our parish as a part of stewardship? How do you use your talents in the community?... in your school?
5. When you share your gifts of talent and time with everybody here at church, how does that make you feel?
6. In stewardship, we are told that our money (or treasure) is one part of the many gifts God has given us. How can your treasure be given as a gift of gratitude for God’s many blessings?
7. You seem to really enjoy living as a good steward of God’s many gifts. Do you have anything more you would like to say to your friends?
8. How would you encourage the other children to get started in stewardship? The pastor (or other adult “interviewer”) will help guide and direct the lay witness testimony.

Using this format, the child won’t have to worry about what comes next. He or she can speak from the heart in a relaxed and comfortable manner.

At the conclusion of the dialogue, the pastor should thank the lay witness for sharing his or her thoughts on stewardship and encourage all the children to think about their own special gifts and talents, and how they might use them to serve God and one another. Tell the children that they will have an opportunity, just like the adults, to fill out a commitment card on Commitment Sunday. Explain that those children who do wish to make Stewardship a way of life, and fill out a commitment card, will soon thereafter receive a box of envelopes. The envelopes will have a place for them to write down those special things they do each week in thanksgiving for everything God has given to them. Children always have time and talent to share with others as a way of thanking God, and many children have treasure to share as well.