

Generosity Across the Generations

An Intergenerational Stewardship Curriculum



“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”

Maya Angelou

This resource is the result of collaboration between the Minnesota United Methodist Foundation and the Minnesota Annual Conference Christian Educators Fellowship.

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We dedicate this work to the glory of God – our great big, generous God!

Stewardship is... the management of God's household. It is much more than making a pledge of money, it is also the way we manage our lives, our gifts, our talents, our resources, and our time and energy. Stewardship is our "whole-life" response to God.

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Week 1: “Our God is a Generous God!”

Genesis 1

Week 2: “We Can Be Generous Too”

Luke 21: 1-4

Week 3: “Our Giving Makes A Difference”

John 6: 1-14

Week 4: “We Share Our Gratitude and Make Promises”

Luke 16: 1-13

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

Welcome to Generosity Across the Generations!

This curriculum packet has been created to help churches provide an interactive, intergenerational faith formation experience that explores generosity and stewardship.

This curriculum is designed to help learners discover not only how generosity touches each of our lives in our everyday ordinary places and spaces, but also how we may be vessels of generosity to others in very important ways.

We show generosity through acts of kindness and showing support to others in need. This set of four lessons specifically helps each of us learn how to be generous in our personal support to our local church.

Using the material as presented in this packet, learners will understand the true definition of generosity: what it looks like, sounds like, and feels like. Through Bible stories, games, song, literature, and hands-on activities, learners together discover how God has been actively involved in the ministries of the church and how we as children and families can offer meaningful and important ways to offer generosity back to the local church. In doing so, we support meaningful ministry programs within our church so that others may come to know of our generous God.

Each week's lesson includes many tools and ideas for learning the week's objective. It is designed to be used as an intergenerational experience – children learn from adults and adults can and do learn from children.

The curriculum also allows for flexible use of time so whether you have 45 minutes or 90 minutes, a meaningful time together of learning about generosity is offered to you.

As the leader for this class be sure to read through the overview page (Pg. 6) to be certain you have all of your supplies lined up and ready to go prior to each session.