



Sharing in Community of Christ: Exploring Identity, Mission, Message and Beliefs

Lesson 10 - Whole Life Stewardship

This lesson is based on 'Sharing in Community of Christ' pages 39-43 and 28.

Guide Times

- Grace and Generosity – 25 minutes
- Our Finances – 25 minutes
- Whole-Life Stewardship – 20 minutes
- What Do We Achieve Through Our Generosity? - 20 minutes

Grace and Generosity (25 minutes)

Aim – to explore and gain a better understanding of what grace and generosity can achieve and how to work to be better stewards of our whole life.

Focus point – Mission Initiative Abolish Poverty, End Suffering.

Volunteer(s) to read

*Mission Prayer – God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.
Grant me courage to risk something new
and become a blessing of your love and power.
Amen.*

Faithful disciples respond to an increasing awareness of the abundant generosity of God by sharing according to the desires of their hearts, not by commandment or constraint. Give generously according to your true capacity. D&C 163:9

Small group discussions

1. What do you have to share?
2. Give examples of when
 - sharing or giving has made you feel good or positive.
 - sharing or giving has not gone well and left you feeling negative.

Share discussion points with the whole group.

Volunteer to read

To be generous for the sake of others, we must grow in our capacity to share our gifts from God. As God's generosity transforms us, we want to use our life to serve others.

Our Finances (25 minutes)

Group discussion

1. Sharing our finances – How do we decide how much and where to give?
2. What barriers are there to sharing more?
3. How much does faith influence your giving?

Share discussion points with the whole group.

Handout copies of Disciples Generous Response. Giving Opportunities -What Funds Can I Give To?" and briefly discuss.

Whole Life Stewardship (20 minutes)

Group Discussions

1. What do you understand by the word 'Stewardship'? What are the responsibilities of a steward?
2. What is the significance of using 'whole-life' alongside the word 'stewardship'?
3. Can we become whole-life stewards? Or can we really only aim to become better stewards?

Share discussion points with whole group.

What can we achieve through our generosity? (20 minutes)

Group discussion

It's important to recognise what we achieve through our stewardship.

What might we achieve through our generosity

1. Locally / in our congregation?
2. Nationally?
3. Globally?

Share discussion points with the whole group.

Whatever we achieve we should aim to do so with humility.

Volunteer to read

So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. (Matthew 6: 2-3)

Whole Life Stewardship and Grace and Generosity are how we work to achieve our Mission Initiatives. We will need to have faith and courage at all times.

Any question?

Close with the Mission Prayer – Grant me courage...