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## What Is Stewardship?

Hymn

[We Give Thee But Thine Own, Hymn 218](#)

D&C104:13-15

“For it is expedient that I, the Lord, should make every man accountable, as a steward over earthly blessings, which I have made and prepared for my creatures. I, the Lord, stretched out the heavens, and built the earth, my very handiwork; and all things therein are mine. And it is my purpose to provide for my saints, for all things are mine.”

Corinthians 4:2

“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

[Spencer W. Kimball](#)

“We are stewards over our bodies, minds, families, and properties. ...A faithful steward is one who exercises righteous dominion, cares for his own, and looks to the poor and needy.”

[Ezra Taft Benson](#)

“Stewardship in the Church is a very important matter. The Lord has mentioned it in the revelations. (See D&C 59; 104.) We are stewards over these earthly blessings which the Lord has provided, those of us who have this soil and this water. We have no moral latitude, it seems to me. In fact, we are morally obligated to turn this land over to those who succeed us—not drained of its fertility but improved in quality, in productivity, and in usefulness for future generations.”

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If every Latter-day Saint is a steward, what does it mean to be a steward?

We are taught in [Gospel Topics](#) that stewardship is the “responsibility to administer or attend to the assignments one receives in a church calling, or to take care of those things with which we are blessed from God, including families, neighbors, and even temporal blessings.” A steward is a person who takes care of something.

A parent takes care of their child. A farmer takes care of the land. A doctor takes care of sick people. A teacher takes care of their students.

Every thing we have been given comes from God. One of the best ways to show our gratitude is by taking care of what we have. When we are good stewards, it makes Heavenly Father and Jesus happy.

## Activity Idea

Make a list of all the different areas over which you have a stewardship.

Think about the many roles of steward you play in your life. An adult might have stewardship responsibilities as a parent, a gospel doctrine teacher, a ministering sister or brother, a homeowner, and an employee. A child could have responsibility for their bedroom, their body, a spot in the garden, a pet.

Talk about specific ways each member of your family can take care of their individual stewardship with love to help it flourish.

Explain that the earth is also part of our stewardship. All of us benefit from the air, the land, and the water. When we keep our environment clean, we show love for our brothers and sisters, and for future generations who also rely on its bounty. Our stewardship is important for helping others.

## Treat Idea

Make fried scones! Teach your children that fry bread requires special attention and care in the rising of the dough and the responsibility around the hot oil.

Here are a few recipes you could follow:

[Utah Buttermilk Scones](#)

[Utah Scones with Honey Butter](#)

[Pioneer Scones](#)

## Additional Resources

Look at what President Russel M. Nelson said in 1971 in a talk called ["The Five A's of Stewardship."](#)

Read or watch Elder Quentin L. Cook's talk ["Stewardship—A Sacred Trust."](#) He compares the pollution of a pure water source to the importance of safeguarding chastity. This is a good reminder that we should value pure water as much as we do pure bodies.

In ["The Moral Imperative of Environmental Stewardship"](#), Elder Steven E. Snow provides ten suggestions on what we can do to be better stewards.

This fun comic, ["Caring for the Earth"](#), from The Friend magazine is a good visual for younger children.