

Stewards of God's Creation

For each of the following scenarios, identify the passage of Scripture from the list below that provides a biblical principle to apply to the issues. Then write a short, God-honoring response to the situation. We know that we live in a world that belongs to God and will be handed on to future generations. This should call us to think about how we might honor God and show respect and love to others.

Exodus 20:1-7

Romans 13:1-7

Romans 1:18-23

Philippians 2:3-7

1. You have a neighbor who is constantly watching nature shows on television, and each weekend he is involved in many different clubs that do projects to restore animal habitats. As you talk to him over the fence, he frequently speaks of the spirits of the animals and trees and how he feels connected to them in a special way while he is walking through the woods. He often prays to these creatures and believes humans, as the most highly evolved animals on earth, must honor and protect their fellow animals. How might you use Scripture to point out his flawed thinking?
2. One of your teachers is quite involved in making sure that everyone in the classroom is recycling every scrap of paper and every soda can or bottle. She has organized a student committee to evaluate the energy efficiency of the light bulbs in the school, and during one of those meetings, she mentions that everyone needs to honor Mother Earth so that the planet can be in harmony with the universe. She also speaks of planting trees to make up for the sins the school has committed against the Mother. How might you point her to the true source of hope for this planet?
3. Your best friend has developed a habit of tossing trash out of his car as he is driving down the road. You confront him on this practice in an attempt to help him see how this is disrespectful to others and not showing honor to God. What might the initial part of this conversation sound like?
4. A friend from down the street invites you to go fishing with him and his dad in their new boat. You venture out early in the morning, and by 10:30 you have all caught your legal limit. His father shows you a secret compartment he has placed in the boat to allow a few extra fish to be caught and encourages you to keep fishing on this beautiful day. How could you respond to show him your commitment to following all God has revealed in His Word?