

# A Stewardship Minute

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving  
An introduction of Stewardship to the congregation

AUGUST 2018

Young friends, do you know about the life of St. Francis of Assisi? He was one of the most fascinating Christians who ever lived! You will be astounded as you find out about this very faithful follower of our Lord.

You should know that St. Francis believed and taught that the world and all that exist in it: people, animals, plants, mountains, insects, and so forth, were all gifts of God's love. According to the Bible, immediately after God finished creating everything: "God saw everything he had made, and indeed, it was very good." (Genesis 1:31) He believed that since God created the earth and all good things in it, that God intended for us to be stewards (or caretakers) of the world.

St. Francis did his part. He lovingly cared for the earth and all on it as best he could. Every man was his brother; every woman his sister. He even thought of animals as his brothers and sisters. He cared for them all. It is said that one day he saw a worm crawling on a road, picked it up and carried it to a place where it would be safe. After all, did not God have a purpose for the worm? It could help cultivate the soil for one thing. It could be used to catch a fish for another. There are many stories of Francis, another of which is in this month's issue of Stewardship. It will help you think about how God has provided for you and how you can show gratitude to God.

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord for St. Francis and his wonderful example of caring for the earth and all its inhabitants. Amen.

*"A Stewardship Minute" is provided as a supplement to the **Stewardship** newsletter as part of your subscription. It can be read by the pastor, stewardship leader or lay reader during worship to briefly introduce and remind the congregation about the principles of stewardship each month. It may also be edited to fit specific needs. Used in this manner, it can significantly increase the general understanding of true giving.*

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