

Theology on Tap teams with Disneynature's *earth*
Stewardship Information Sheet

Disneynature's *earth* is a wondrous and moving epic which details a year in the life of our planet and the creatures that share our home. It offers us a reminder of the beauty of creation, and invites us to contemplate God's handiwork and to share our responsibility in being good stewards of the earth.

Respecting and caring for God's creation is a key component of our Catholic faith. As Pope Benedict XVI said during World Youth Day 2008, "The wonder of God's creation reminds us of the need to protect the environment and to exercise responsible stewardship of the goods of the earth."

To learn more about Catholic Social Teaching on environmental stewardship, please see the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website at: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/ejp/>

As the U.S. Bishops stated in their 2007 document on faithful citizenship,

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of God's creation. Care for the earth is a duty of our faith and a sign of our concern for all people. We should strive to live simply to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We have a moral obligation to protect the planet on which we live—to respect God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for human beings, especially children at their most vulnerable stages of development. As stewards called by God to share the responsibility for the future of the earth, we should work for a world in which people respect and protect all of creation and seek to live simply in harmony with it for the sake of future generations.

May we be good stewards of the gift of God's creation.

A Prayer to Be Good Stewards

Compassionate and merciful God,
you adorn the earth with lush treasures
and clothe it in royal attire.
You provide human beings
with every good gift
and you feed us with spiritual food.
Your compassion is endless;
your mercy flows freely like a river.
Gift us, your faithful servants,
with your wisdom and creativity,
so we may be good stewards
of the wealth you have entrusted to our care.
Strengthen us as we go forth
to share your truth with the rest of the world.
Grant this through your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

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