

Gifts and Talents

Material to explore stewardship with
Children and Young People



Children Youth and Families Team

2015

Gifts, Giving and Stewardship

Stewardship is an important topic for all ages to consider and gives us an opportunity to consider how churches use and develop everyone's gifts and talents to live out the mission of the Church.

If your church has a stewardship campaign, perhaps it might be helpful for the children and young people to use these ideas in their sessions and then share their thoughts with the rest of the church family.



Think about what you can do with the information and how you might share it with the wider church and community.

If there are challenges and/or suggestions for the church or group, how will you take them forward?

Please do not make promises you can't keep, rather think about the opportunities to move forward together.

How to use this material

This material could be used as part of a session or as a complete session using the outline below:

- ✝ Gathering Activity
- ✝ Discussion:
- ✝ Further Response Activities
- ✝ Prayer

In the activity, discussion and response time, please do not influence or censor answers but listen to and record thoughts and responses!

Remember these questions can be answered individually or as a group, in writing or by discussion.

There are no right or wrong answers and you do not need to answer them all!

Encourage the children and young people to interpret the questions as they wish. It is more important to listen to what they want to say than to stick rigidly to the questions.

It might be helpful to have a discussion as a group even if questions are answered individually, it's not a test!

Questions: Session one

- What makes you unique
- What gifts or talents has God given you
- Where and how do you use the gifts and talents that God has given you
- Are there any of your gifts and talents that you do not use
- Do you get pocket money or an income from a job
If you give money to charity, which charities do you give to
- What things do you do with or for your Church?
- What things does your Church do to help your community
- What things do you do with your Church to help your community
- Are there other ways you would like to use your gifts with or in the Church
- Is there anything else you would like to say

Questions: Session two

- What do you think is the best thing about God?
- When and how do you say thank you to God for his gifts?
- What does and should the Church say thank you to God for?
- How does your Church family thank God for the things he has given us?
- How does your Church's worship reflect the goodness and grace of God?
- If you were to change one thing in worship to show our thanks more, what would it be?
- In your Church, how do people share what they think about God?
- How does your Church decide what to spend money and time on?

- How does your Church spend time and money helping people in your community?
- How does your Church spend time and money helping people in other parts of the World?
- Is there anything else you would like to say

Prayer

ΠΡΑΞΕΙΣ

It is good to end your time together with prayer.

- ✝ Give thanks for your time together
- ✝ Perhaps you could ask the children or young people to bring some of their work or items they have been using and offer it in a time of prayer.
- ✝ You could sit together in a circle and pass around something special. When each person is holding it they can lead a prayer either out loud or silently. When they have finished they should say “Amen” and pass the object to the next person.
- ✝ You could make “Thank you” cards to give thanks for the things God has given. Take them into the Church so they can be offered with all the prayers of the Church.
- ✝ Spend some time being really quiet and make some special space by being still and listening



What now?

- What has been the best thing about looking at these topics?
- What has been the most important thing for you in these topics?
- Is there anything you would have changed about the topics and the things we asked you?
- What are your hopes and dreams for your church, your community, your school, the diocese as a result of the things you have told us?
- What would you like to be able to do in the future in your church, school, community, diocese?
- What could your church, school community, the diocese do for you?
- Is there anything else you would like to see happen?
- Is there anything else you would like to say?
- Write a prayer for your school, your church, your community or the diocese

Notes

**The Resourcing Children Youth and Families Team
Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales**

www.westyorkshiredales.anglican.org/children-youth