



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

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Small Stewards - Big Blessings

Biblical Stewardship Lessons for and with Children

(You are invited to share these lessons with children in Sunday school openings, classroom devotions, children's worship lessons, or other church settings. They can also be used in the home for family devotions. Each month a Biblical "small steward" will share a "big blessing" as a Spirit-blessed example of stewardship).

Text: Luke 2:41-52

How did the boy Jesus use His time? The Bible tells us very little about Jesus' life as a little boy in Nazareth. The Bible tells us that "Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man." As a human being Jesus was a typical child (except that He was perfect!) He probably played with other children in the neighborhood. He helped His father and mother.

We know that Jesus loved to learn. He loved to learn about God's Word and wanted to grow as a Child of His heavenly Father. When He was twelve years old Jesus was in the temple exploring the truths of the Old Testament with the temple teachers. Jesus who fulfilled God's promises was learning about those promises.

Jesus is an example of being stewards of our minds. God has given us our minds to learn about the wonder of God's world, but to especially learn the truths of His Word. When small stewards (children who see God's gifts and take care of those gifts) increase in wisdom they experience big blessings. God wants us to use our minds to not only learn math, reading, social studies, and other subjects, but especially to use our minds in Sunday school, worship, and family devotions to learn more about God's love for us in Jesus.

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund Young Investors Club encourages us to be good stewards of our money as we add to our savings accounts but also encourages us to be wise stewards of our minds. Y.I. Club members help others learn about Jesus and can also earn up to \$25 per year for good grades.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, open up my heart to learn about You. Fill my mind with the truths of Your Word. Keep my heart and mind pure like Yours. Amen.

Small Stewards Bring Big Blessings Home—Notes to Family

Jesus loved to learn! The small boy Jesus was a steward (caretaker) of His mind. Families have the joy of seeing hearts and minds develop as parents encourage reading and learning times in the home. Parents can ask: What did you learn in school today? What was your Sunday school lesson about? Do you have your homework done? Is that television program or internet game good for your mind?

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund Young Investor Club encourages wise stewardship of money and minds. Find out more about the good grades incentive from your church's Y.I. Club coordinator or by visiting www.lcef.org. Let me learn like Jesus. Let me learn of Jesus!