



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

Small Stewards – Big Blessings

Biblical Stewardship Lessons for and with Children

(You are invited to share this lesson with children in Sunday school openings, classroom devotions, children’s worship messages, or other congregational settings. The lesson can also be used by the family. “Notes to Family” provides home applications and explorations. May the “small” Biblical stewardship mentors provide “big blessings” for children growing and sharing as God’s stewards.)

I Samuel 16:14–16, 19–23

David, the youngest son of Jesse, and the one anointed (I Samuel 16:12–13) to be the future king of Israel is asked to share his musical gifts with the tormented present king, Saul. David’s love and gift of music is evident in the Book of Psalms, the hymnbook of the Old Testament, where half of the Psalms are the inspired words of David. Some of the Psalms were sung accompanied by musical instruments.

David’s gift of music provided spiritual relief to King Saul. Hymns today bring the words of Scripture to fight temptation and drive the devil away. In Psalm 101 David directs his gift to the Lord, “To you, O Lord, I will make music.” (vs. 1) David, the ancestor of the Savior, directs his praise to the One who would save him and the world.

God gifts His children of all ages today. Evident in Lutheran schools, Sunday school rooms, church preschool classrooms and other contexts are the musical gifts of children. Some may be as spontaneous as a preschool “band” with noise makers. The Sunday school children’s choir blesses the worship of the congregation on Christmas Eve or at other times. The gifted youth pianist offers a service prelude. The high school band trumpeter joins the Easter Sunday brass team. God gifts His children and invites them to be stewards of their talents.

Lutheran Church Extension celebrates stewardship of time, treasure, and talent. The churches and schools built with the dollars invested in ministry become places where musical talents are identified, developed, and celebrated. LCEF invites children to not only be stewards of their talents but to invest their treasures in a Young Investors Club account. An investment of only \$25 opens an account.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for the ways that you gift Your children. We thank you especially for their musical gifts. May all their gifts be used to Your glory. Amen.

Small Stewards Bring Big Blessings Home—Notes to Family

Today’s lesson celebrates the music gift of David, the shepherd boy, future king, and lyre player. How is the gift of music enjoyed by your family? What musical gifts has God given to the children in your family? How can those musical gifts be a blessing to the family, to the church, and to others?

Some families invest in the musical gifts of their children (instrument or voice lessons, dance lessons). Lutheran Church Extension Fund invites parents, grandparents, and others to enroll children in the Young Investors Club so that resources are available to support the future explorations of children in a variety of endeavors. See your congregation’s Y.I. Club coordinator or visit www.lcef.org for more information.