

Creation Care in Daily Living

IMAGINE THAT...Members are routinely challenged to adopt earth stewardship practices at home. Individuals have moved toward lower consumption lifestyles in the last five years.

Don't forget to invite: Pastor, small group coordinator, anyone who is interested.

Step 1: Discuss...

- Who in your congregation models environmental responsibility in their daily lives? Do their stories reach youth, new members?
- How are members made aware of lifestyle issues in a world of limited resources? How often do creation care practices come up in Christian education courses?

Step 2: Rate your congregation's daily living practices from zero to five. A zero indicates that people assume consumption and energy use issues are their own business and have little to do with the Christian life. A five indicates that the majority of the group is actively engaged in lifestyle practices that have reduced their ecological footprint over the last five years.

Step 3: How might your congregation find joy in simpler lifestyles? What are the trade-offs?

Examples:

- Members invest their money in funds that screen for environmental problems.
- Members walk, bike, carpool when possible.
- Members attend to the energy usage of their homes.
- Newsletter articles or announcements offer creation care tips.
- Fossil fuel consumption is a factor when considering travel and time commitments.
- Members with home repair skills help others with tasks like changing to low-flow showerheads.
- A congregation encourages its members to practice low-impact alternative Christmas celebrations.