

Experience 9

# Generosity

Co-creating a generous  
environment (1)

Generosity  
Discipleship  
Experience



# Recap



## Share stories from Experience 7 and 8:

*Habit 4 – Serve others with your time, talents, treasure and lifestyle.*

- Share your experiences of serving others with your time, talents, treasure, and lifestyle since completing Experience 7 and 8.
- What inspires you when hearing about others' experiences?

The aim of Experience 9 and 10 is to ***cultivate the habit to participate with others in taking care of your environment and to measure the impact.***

*“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.”*

- Robert Swan

# Generosity and the Environment

We've discovered that generosity is a gift from God's loving heart and includes the gift of our inheritance of the Kingdom of God. This leads to a radical kingdom lifestyle of generosity. God Himself provides enough for everyone to live with contentment and generosity. Furthermore, He has made us stewards of His provision in terms of our time, talents, treasures and lifestyle.

But there's more!

Part of God's gift to us is the environment we live in – the place where animals, trees, plants, and human beings coexist.

Everything belongs to Him and is given to us as a gift to enjoy, to take care of, and, in doing so, to become co-creators of a generous environment for everyone. This becomes our *cultural mandate* given to mankind at creation.

Experience 9 and 10 focus on how we, as stewards, ***can co-create a generous environment for everyone.***



In this experience, the focus is on our Cultural Mandate specifically that we are **created to rule in God's image and likeness.**

# Our Cultural Mandate to Rule in God's Image and Likeness

**Imagine** that you are a *photographer*, commissioned to shoot a portfolio of photos to increase awareness for the environment in your community. Imagine walking through your city, town, community or countryside.

- What photos will you take and why?
- What story do you want to tell through your photos?



**Watch:** [Creation Care](#)

What do you experience and learn from this clip about Creation Care regarding the following:

- Relationship between God and the natural world.
- Our privilege as caretakers.



**Read:** [Genesis 1:26-31](#)

God's cultural mandate comes with a responsibility to take action and care for our environment. Write down your responsibility and actions next to God's mandate.

<b>God's mandate</b>	<b><i>My responsibility and action to take are ...</i></b>
<i>Created in God's image and likeness</i>	
<i>Rule over creation</i>	
<i>Be fruitful and increase</i>	
<i>Fill and subdue the earth</i>	
<i>I give you everything</i>	
<i>God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.</i>	





**Watch:** [Stewardship of Creation](#)

*What inspires me in this story is ...*



**Reflection:**

*What inspires me in God's cultural mandate to co-create a generous environment where I live is ...*

*My answer to the Lord is...*

# Generosity Lifestyle and Habits



## My lifestyle commitment (What?):

**Make a list** of the challenges the environment you live in faces as your *Cultural mandate list*. (Think about the photos you would have taken for environmental awareness)

- *What I would see changed in my environment is ...*



**Habit 5:** *Participate with others in taking care of your environment and measure the impact.*

1. **Investigate** prayerfully if there are any projects or initiatives you could join or start to address the challenges of your environment on your Cultural Mandate List.
2. **Share:** *The person with whom I'm going to share what I have experienced and learned is ...*
3. **Pray** Proverbs 16:3 (NIV) as an answer to God. *"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."*