

Christian Outreach Department

Rev. Dr. Bhavana Arthur

Aim of the Department

The purpose of the Christian Outreach Department is to encourage the Christian walk of the members, emphasizing "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13a, 14a) and to outreach to the faith community with the WCTU total abstinence message.

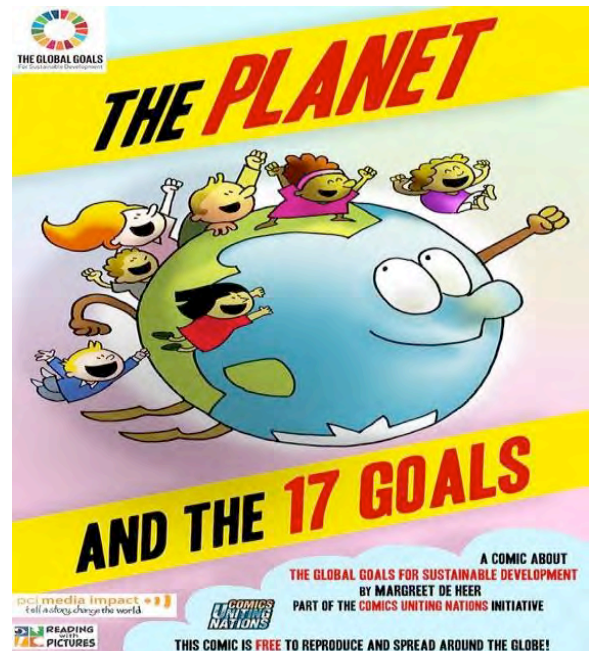
I would like to thank God for His mercy, as I believe that we all are safe and sound in this time of Pestilence. Our God is faithful, He always keeps His promise as He says, "He will never leave us nor forsake us."

I thank God, that He has given a vision to our dear World President Margaret Ostenstad - the vision to take care of God's World, to be a stewards for His whole creation. We, the Women of God have the power to change this as according to God's desire. So let's save the environment focusing on spiritual sustainability with UN's Sustainable Development Goals to save the environment.

Through Christian Outreach for the year 2021 WWCTU, the department focuses on Sustainable Goals.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform our world:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 14: Life below Water
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnership to Achieve the Goal



All the goals stated above are interlinked with each other. When we read them it makes us feel that this was exactly what God told us to do.

"God wants us to take care of His world.

God created us in His image to be stewards of His whole creation."

- ✓ God made the world and we are not to abuse it but to take care of it.
- ✓ The need to be good stewards.

Introduction

June 5th is a day used by the United Nations to stimulate worldwide awareness of environmental issues. World Environment Day began in 1972 as a day for people from all walks of life to come together to ensure a cleaner, greener and brighter outlook for themselves and future generation. We should be reminded now and then that God's creation provides us with the physical fabric of our lives; the natural environment gives us the stuff we use every day. It gives us food for our tables, the material for our clothes and the materials to build our homes and Churches. It is also a place where

people have experienced a great closeness with God through its beauty and wonder. Creation is a gift from God and He provides us with these things, the basics for our lives, therefore it should not be so easily and often taken for granted.

Bible Reference:

Key Verse

And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

(Genesis 1:28)

Expand the Idea

- God is Creator!
 - The three blessings (1) Be fruitful, (2) Multiply, (3) have dominion over God's creation.
 - Humans are destroyers because of their own selfishness and greed.
 - Heal the world, make it a better place
- ❖ In the beginning there was nothing. We know now as earth was just a big ball of accumulation of darkness, disorder, chaos and lifelessness. God saw the darkness, disorder and lifelessness and He had a plan! A plan for the creation of a bright, beautiful, ordered place of life. So for this he started creating and bringing things in to order.

He is God, who is mighty and good and wants good things for everyone. He is the great and powerful God so He gave a face-lift to this disoriented place, which is now a beautiful earth. He created everything. God looked at everything that He made and He liked what He saw. It was all beautiful and perfect – just the way He wanted it. It was good. God was not tired. God did not rest on the seventh day because He was tired. No, God rested because He was finished. Everything that He wanted to do was complete. Now God could stop creating. The earth was beautiful, so God wanted to make sure that everything was taken care of. He told Adam that humankind would be the ruler over all the creation. God wanted Adam and Eve to take care of the Garden and be kind to all the animals.

"And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28.

God gave Adam and Eve three great blessings. By fulfilling them, we can be a good representative for God. A good representative means to be the way God wants us to be, to be like him, full of love.

- ★ *BLESSING* - God's gifts to make us happy
 - ★ *FRUITFUL* - means to bear fruits
 - ★ *MULTIPLY* - means to increase in number
 - ★ *DOMINION*- means to control things
- ❖ God did not give humankind the authority to degrade and destroy His earth. We cannot blame God for the earth's ecological problems; He is not responsible for humankind's destruction of the natural world He had created. God's world is suffering because people have not treated God's creation with respect. We are selfish and wasteful with the goodness of the earth.

- ❖ There are things that we can do to help repair the damage and heal the earth.

IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT,

Read the sentences and number the pictures

1. turn OFF the light when you don't use it.
2. use filters in factories.
3. don't use coal for heating your houses.
4. use environment friendly deodorants.
5. don't use your private cars so often.
6. don't pour factory wastes into water.
7. don't use animals in experiments.
8. love all the animals.
9. use environment friendly detergents.
10. don't waste paper.
11. plant more trees and save them.
12. don't cut down the trees.
13. unplug the electric devices after use.
14. use solar energy.
15. don't pour chemicals into your sinks.
16. turn off your taps after use.
17. don't hunt the animals.
18. use public transportation more often.
19. use electric cars.
20. don't throw away rubbish.

Copyright © 2011 www.123kids.com. All rights reserved.

- Plant more trees
- Minimize Waste
- Recycle, Reuse, Reduce
- Conserve water
- Save Electricity
- No to Plastic Bags
- Educate
- Grow your own garden
- Compost kitchen waste
- Use public transportation
- *(You can add more)

Read Psalm 104



1. Why do you think God made the world?
2. Why did God make humankind?
3. What role do you think God had in mind for the humans in relation to the rest of creation?

Activities:

1. In a group each take a small ball of clay or play dough. Each one make a model of something God created. With the whole group ask each to tell about the creation. Then ask the following questions.
 - i. How does it feel to create something?
 - ii. How would you like other people to treat your creation?

Read Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

2. Four ways that I can take care of the environment, paste or draw what activity you can do. Make it as your New Year resolution.

How much do you know about the...

Environment




- 1** What do you call the area that is inhabited by a particular species?

a) Habitat.
b) Environment.
c) Biosphere.



2 What do you call the processing of used materials and their reuse?

a) Recycling.
b) Reusing.
c) Reprocessing.



3 Which layer protects the Earth from UV rays?

a) Oxygen.
b) Nitrogen.
c) Ozone.


- 4** The process by which the Earth's temperature is increasing is called the ...

a) biothermal effect.
b) greenhouse effect.
c) temperature effect.



5 Which of the following is biodegradable?

a) Plastic.
b) Paper.
c) Glass.



6 What is the term for the complete disappearance of a species?

a) Termination.
b) Disappearance.
c) Extinction.


- 7** What do you call renewable safe sources of energy?

a) Alternative energies.
b) Bio-energies.
c) Solar energies.



8 Which of these energy sources is renewable?

a) Coal.
b) Natural gas.
c) Wind.



9 What do you call the rain that contains many chemicals and is harmful?

a) Smog.
b) Acid rain.
c) Monsoon.


- 10** What do you call a substance that pollutes the air, water or soil?

a) Pollutant.
b) Pesticides.
c) Acid.



11 What is the most used renewable energy source in the world?

a) Hydro energy.
b) Solar energy.
c) Wind energy.



12 Which of these animals is not in danger becoming extinct?

a) Panda bears.
b) Polar bears.
c) Grizzly bears.


- 13** What type of shopping bag is more eco-friendly?

a) Paper.
b) Plastic.
c) Neither.



14 Global warming will cause an increase of ...

a) Heat waves.
b) Hurricanes.
c) Both.



15 Which gas is responsible for global warming?

a) Carbon dioxide.
b) Oxygen.
c) Hydrogen.


- 16** What are some of the consequences of deforestation?

a) Loss of habitats.
b) Soil erosion.
c) Both.



17 Which of the following is not a fossil fuel?

a) Coal.
b) Wood.
c) Oil.



18 Which of these human activities contributes the most for global warming?

a) Using fossil fuels.
b) Cutting down trees.
c) Riding bicycles.


- 19** Which of the following can be recycled?

a) Milk cartons.
b) Plastic bottles.
c) Both.



20 Which of the following animals is not yet extinct?

a) Tasmanian tiger.
b) Dodo.
c) Javan rhinoceros.



21 Rainforest land is most often cleared for ...

a) factories.
b) farmland.
c) pasture.





- ❖ **Nourishing your spiritual well-being** to stay positive in this negative world.

We all know that in this ever changing world one thing that doesn't change is our God and His word. In this uncertain world the only certainty is "**death**" so how we are living in this world and what heritage or legacy we are leaving for our children predicts the betterment of their future world.

Things to Do

- ★ Turn your dining table, family room, or bedroom as your family altar.
- ★ Pray with your family and read the word of God every day.
- ★ Make your children concerned and sensitive about world problems and help them to change their actions in order to not to waste water or electricity.
- ★ Treat everyone equally, respect and help the elderly, poor or less privileged people, etc.

These habits instilled in the early years will form a sustainable development life style. So pray, read the word of God, and live accordingly while growing through spiritual and good services to humanity. This will sustain anyone in any adversity.

Only with God through His words can we stay positive and do good. This is the only way we can cultivate environment sensitivity spiritually, emotionally and a physically sustainable society for a better sustainable world.

Closing Prayer

God, Creator of the Universe,

You have made all things and called them "good." We thank You for the beautiful earth that we call home. Yet people have damaged Your good works.

You have asked us to tend Your garden. Yet we have trampled the flowers, chopped down the trees, dirtied and polluted the water and air.

Also there are wars and riots because of human greed. We are sorry, and we want to make peace with Your world.

Teach us how to take care of Your creation. Only You are able, so we ask this in Your Name. Amen.

[The COVID-19 response must include solutions to clean up the environment and make cities and infrastructure more sustainable and resilient.]

God bless us all!