

INTRODUCTION

A simple definition of stewardship is the responsibility and care for the resources God has given us for His purposes in the world. Resources include creation, gifts and talents, money, time, and the Gospel.

The Bible is clear that stewardship is an integral part of a child's faith education. In Proverbs 22:6 ERV it says, "Teach children in a way that fits their needs, and even when they are old, they will not leave the right path." Stewardship is not just about money in an offering plate; it's also about the heart. We are called to nurture our hearts and the hearts of our young ones, teaching them to see that everything and everyone is created by God. He wants us to treat all that He created with respect and to use everything He gives us in a wise manner.

Our hope is that as time goes by, joy will be central to your child and your family's giving whether you give time by volunteering and helping others, or you give financially, sharing the resources God has blessed you with. Our goal is that these lessons will form children's understanding of how they should use their resources over a lifetime.

BIBLE TRUTH

Our first lesson is based on Genesis 1:1 ERV: "God created the sky and the earth..." God created everything. All that we have, He gave us.

ACTIVITY

ITEMS REQUIRED:
Two different colored sticky notes

Send your kids through the house and yard (*don't forget to go inside the fridge*) to explore everything you have. Use one color sticky note to mark all things created by God and the other color to mark all things not created by God.

Go through all the different notes and let your children describe how they think each thing was made and who made it.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:1-31. As you read, use a calendar and note something God created on each day of the month. Here are a few discussion topics from this Scripture:

- God created people, so even the things that are made by people are a part of God's creation. Some things made by people are good and others are not so good.
- God gave Adam and Eve a job. What was that job? (See Genesis 1:27-30.)
- How were Adam and Eve supposed to take care of the resources God gave them?
- God gives us resources to use wisely. How does our family use our resources wisely? Resources include creation, gifts, talents, money, time, and the Gospel.

APPLICATION

Ask one thing your child can do at home, at church, or at school to take good care of what God has given us. For example, can they be in charge of recycling or cleaning their room once a week? Can they help load the dishwasher to save water? Can they turn off the lights when they or someone else leaves the room to save electricity?

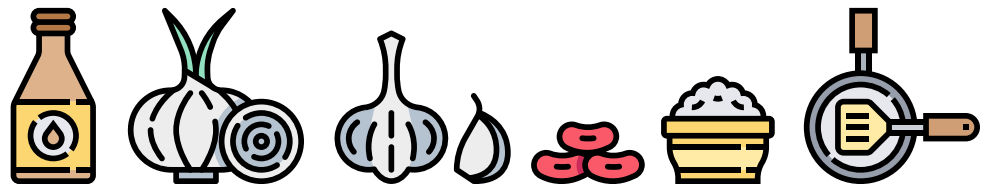
EAT LIKE A NICARAGUAN

This week's story is about kids in Nicaragua learning about God through *Project Philip Bible studies*. What's it like living in Nicaragua? Your family can learn more about the culture of Nicaragua through food!

GALLO PINTO

Gallo pinto (*pronounced Gl-yo PIN-toe*) is a favorite

dish of Nicaraguans that is enjoyed at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The name translates as "painted rooster," which comes from the food's reddish color. It is typically made of red beans, white rice, and diced onions fried together in a large skillet.



WHAT YOU NEED:

- 2 Tbsp. Zesty Italian Dressing
- 1 cup thinly sliced onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups cooked, dried red beans, with ½ cup of the cooking liquid reserved
- 2 cups cooked white rice

COOKING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cook dressing, onion, and garlic in large skillet on medium heat until onions are tender.
2. Stir in beans with the reserved cooking liquid.
If using canned red beans, use ½ cup of liquid from the can.
3. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring gently to avoid mashing the beans.
4. Add cooked rice; cook 7 to 8 minutes or until heated through, stirring occasionally.

ADDITIONAL TIPS:

- Do not add salt to the water when cooking the beans as salt tends to toughen the beans.
- If you don't have any of the cooking liquid from the beans, use ½ cup chicken broth instead.
- Enjoy this flavorful side dish with a serving of cooked fish or chicken.
As a bonus, the beans are a good source of fiber.

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