



Water *is Life*

**STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM
CHURCH LEADER'S GUIDE**



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**WATER IS LIFE
NO WATER, NO LIFE
A TOPICAL STUDY OF WATER IN THE BIBLE**

*Developed by MC Sparks Commissioner,
DeSoto County SWCD, Hernando, MS*



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References used by MS Sparks: King James Version

Please submit information to share with others on your successful stewardship programs or conservation education activities. stewardship@nacdnet.org Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP WEEK 2008 APRIL 27 TO MAY 4, 2008

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Stewardship Week is one of the largest conservation-related observances. The 3,000 conservation districts that make up NACD, manage soil and water conservation programs in virtually every community in the United States. Since 1955, NACD has sponsored the national Stewardship Week program by selecting a theme and developing materials for schools, communities and churches of all denominations. **Stewardship Week, celebrated annually between the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May,** reminds us of our personal responsibility to care for the natural resources which we all depend upon. The celebration and observance of Stewardship continue throughout the year not for just one week. The concept of Stewardship involves personal and social responsibility. We have a duty to learn about and improve natural resources as we use them wisely. By doing this we can achieve material and spiritual growth in our own lives, and leave a rich legacy for future generations. Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District to see how you can become more involved in conservation activities in your local community.

“Water Is Life”

By: MC Sparks, Commissioner, DeSoto County SWCD, Hernando, MS

- Leader: Almighty God, Creator of earth and its resources,
People: *We thank you for life and the provisions necessary for living.*
- Leader: O’ Lord our God, Guardian and sustainer of planet earth,
People: *We thank you for nourishment, strength, and refreshment.*
- Leader: O’ Lord, you have made us as creatures whose lives are dependent on water,
People: *We thank you for rain and snow that recharges earth aquifers.*
- Leader: O’ Lord, provider and keeper of the fountain of the deep,
People: *We thank you for clear fresh water.*
- Leader: Almighty God, by your providences, earth is blessed with all necessities,
People: *We thank you for the clouds of heaven that pour out water for the continuance of all life forms.*
- Leader: O’ Lord, it is your requirement that we serve our fellow man,
People: *We thank you that earth’s water resources enable us to share cool water with those who are thirsty.*
- Leader: O’ Lord, our God, you have created a fruitful landscape for earth’s surface,
People: *We are thankful that the fruits of the land are nourished by water born nutrients.*
- Leader: O’ Lord, your creation of water reflects your Power,
People: *Help us as mortals to harness the power, to manifest your glory.*



WATER IS LIFE
NO WATER, NO LIFE
A TOPICAL STUDY OF WATER IN THE BIBLE

*Developed by MC Sparks Commissioner,
DeSoto County SWCD, Hernando, MS*



The title and subject of this material for use by churches and others in study of soil and water stewardship, emphasizes the vital, essential and indispensable necessity of water.

The absolute undeniable fact of truth is that physical life cannot exist on planet Earth or any other location without water. Simply put, the fact is no water, no life. A few thoughtful considerations from scripture on this subject are in order.

An adequate Bible study of the 2008 Stewardship theme, “Water Is Life”, should begin with a limited consideration of the term, “Water,” its definition and reality. The word water appears more than 700 times in the Bible. Perfectly pure, unpolluted water in pristine condition is best defined according to its molecular structure, H₂O. The liquid substance created by exact proportioned molecular combination of hydrogen and oxygen plus clean, fresh air and clear sunshine are major factors contributing to the delight of living life. Remove water, and human life along with all other life forms including animals and plants of both high and low degree, will cease to exist. In order for life to flourish, there must be an adequate supply of clean, clear, fresh, pure water.

The substance of water, in response to prevailing environmental conditions, becomes evident in various forms, such as rain, snow, hail, fog, steam, ice, dew etc. Words such as well, cistern, spring, stream, river, flood, lake, sea, gulf, and ocean, imply the existence of water at certain geographical locations in varying amounts. Words such as sweat, tears, and saliva, imply water in certain special personal forms and locations. Terms such as dry, drought, parch, bake, burn, and fire, obviously imply absence of water. Forms that imply water plus the word itself appear so many times in the Scriptures, that it could be easily said, “The vocabulary of Bible history is almost overflowing with water.”

References to water in the Scriptures occur both literal and/or symbolic according to context. Within the scope of divine history involving God, His creation, His purpose, and His people, numerous events in which water was an important factor occurred. Events in this topical study may be generally classified as: (1) Events of original creation, (2) special miraculous events, (3) events of providential occurrence, and (4) symbolic use of water.

CREATION

The first two chapters of the Holy Bible, the sacred Scriptures for Christian people, describe God’s creation of the universe, earth and man. This description is accurate and complete. Appearance, presence, and functions of water are of primary interest to this study.

The Biblical account, inspired by God, states that:

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Through the centuries, kingdoms have risen to pinnacles of power and fallen to ruins by no particular advantage or disadvantage of the water resources, inhabitants of Bible lands, including royalty have recognized the value of water and used it sparingly. A bath has been a special luxury for residents of the land from the beginning. The Nabataeans, probable descendents of Ishmael, citizens of Petra (located south of the Dead Sea), began early efforts to conserve rainfall by building permanent terraces on their fields of highly erodible sloping land.

They also established grape vines on slopes by planting them on large hand made mounds of soil that were constructed in a fashion to hold moisture. In recent times various conduits constructed to carry water for miles and deep wells have been drilled for drip irrigation purposes. Every means currently possible is in place to use and conserve water for life.

OLD TESTAMENT

In order to establish an adequate comprehension of the importance of water in the purpose and plan of God for the inhabitations of Earth, a brief review of a few of the miracles recorded in Old Testament history is necessary.

1. Noah – Ark - Great Flood (**Genesis 6:5-8:22**). Water was the substance used by God to establish the authority of His word and will. This event is by Peter in I Peter 3:20 and II Peter 3:6. The destructive power of God was revealed by the flood water. It was by the same flood water that eight people were saved.
2. Moses-Red Sea Crossing (**Exodus 13:7-14:31**). This event is confirmed in Psalms 78:53; Acts 7:36; I Corinthians 10:1-2 and Hebrews 11:29. Israel was saved by dividing of the water of the Red Sea. Pharaoh's army was destroyed by the coming together of the water of the Red Sea.
3. Moses-Water from the Rock (**Numbers 20: 1-13**). Water came from the rock by the miraculous power of God. Moses was forbidden to enter the Promised Land because he violated God's instructions.
4. Joshua - Jordan River (**Joshua 3:14-17**). During the rivers high water stage, upstream water was cut off by a miracle. Priests and people crossed on dry land.
5. Gideon – Fleece - Dew (**Judges 6:1-40**). Signs of confirmation of God's promise were revealed when the fleece was wet with dew and ground around it dry. The next night, the fleece was dry with dew on the ground around it.
6. Elijah - No Rain - Rain (**I Kings 18: 1-46**). Elijah prayed for a miraculous drought which lasted three and one half years and was concluded with a sacrifice which included 12 parts of water followed by execution of 450 prophets of Baal. This event is confirmed by James in **James 5:17-18**.
7. Elisha - Naaman Healed - Jordan River (**II Kings 5:1-19**). This event is confirmed by Christ in **Luke 4:27**.
8. Jonah - Big Fish (**Jonah 1:1-4:11**). This miracle in the Mediterranean Sea is confirmed by Christ in **Matthew 12:40 and Luke 11:30**.

Additional miracles occurred in association with water in the Old Testament period; however, those cited in this portion of the study guide are sufficient to confirm the fact that God revealed his sovereign power by miraculous events in confirmation with the substance of water. The scope of such action established recognition of the vital importance of water.

NEW TESTAMENT

1. Jesus – Water – Wine (**John 2:1-11**)
Water receives attention as a major component of the first recorded public miracle of the ministry of Christ.
2. Jesus “rebuked the winds and the sea and there was a great calm.” (**Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25**) Water receives attention on the site of the miracle.
3. Swine into the Sea – (**Mark 5:11-16**)
A very impressive miracle occurred in the country of the Gadarenes involving a man with an unclean spirit and a herd of 2000 swine that ran violently down a steep place into the sea and were choked. The miraculous episode included the water of the Sea of Galilee.
4. Jesus – Blind Man – Pool of Siloam (**John 9:1-11**)
The miracle began when Jesus anointed the blind man’s eyes with a mixture of spittle and clay and concluded with the washing of water at the pool of Siloam. Water was involved at the beginning and end of this miracle.
5. Jesus Walks On The Sea – (**Matthew 14:22-23**)
This miracle was a very impressive miracle in the life of Christ as the maximum depth of the Sea of Galilee is 750 feet. It was also a very challenging and frightening experience for Peter.
6. Breakfast With Jesus By The Sea After The Resurrection – (**John 21:1-25**) There was a miraculous catch of fish near the shore of the Sea of Galilee after a night of no success.
7. Shipwreck On Paul’s Voyage To Rome – Miraculous Survival (**Acts 27:13-44**)
8. Paul – Melita – Father Of Publius (**Acts 28: 1-10**)
The miraculous survival of the shipwreck made it possible for Paul to heal the father of Publius and other residents of the island.

The aforementioned miraculous episodes of Bible history in which the substance of water was an important component, causes the thoughtful student to become appreciative of the vital value of water.

PROVIDENCE

God’s providence may be described as His method and means of making provision available for the continued living of life that was created by Him. There must be a properly balanced combination of essential life sustaining components in order for life to enjoy a successful continuation of living. One of the most vital components in the living life formula is water, clean, clear pure water.

An elementary consideration of God’s providence indicates two levels of action within this area of His plan and work. The first of these may be described as general and universal. The second is special and or specific.

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

And called the firmament Heaven.

And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:1-3; 7-10

With the beginning as described in the sacred Hebrew Scriptures, water was and continues to be a major component of earth's ecosphere. By means of water's presence in necessary combination with other essential components, life forms created by God (**Genesis 1:20-31**) have been enabled to survive and continue.

Genesis 5:1-2; Psalms 89:11-13; Isaiah 45:18; Amos 4:12; Mark 13:19; Colossians 1:15-17; Revelation 4:11; Revelation 14:7.

The truth of creation is a fundamental factor of the Christian faith. However, the apostle Peter, by the time that he wrote his second epistle, knew that the minds of his readers needed to be stirred up and put in remembrance of the creation and other things. Consequently, he wrote:

“This the second epistle, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure mind by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior: Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lust, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.” **2 Peter 3:1-8**

NATURAL WATER RESOURCES

Ancient records of all types from Bible lands indicate that water has been the top priority natural resource from the earliest days of use by human beings. Archaeology recorded history and oral tradition confirm this fact. Ruins of ancient structures discovered by archaeologist, such as artifacts indicating that water was used for irrigation in Babylon, collected in pails and conduits for water used in Jerusalem, cisterns for collections of dew and rain for various uses. Wells such as Abrahams well in Beersheba and Jacobs well at Sychar were center points of interest and activity.

The major natural surface resources were:

Rivers

Euphrates
Tigris
Nile
Jordan



Bodies of Water

Red Sea
Persian Gulf
Mediterranean Sea
Aegean Sea
Dead Sea
Sea of Galilee

The Jordan River located in Palestine is probably the most popular river of Bible lands. Head waters of the Jordan have their beginning in the snows on southern high slopes of Mt. Hermon. Melting snow waters are collected by the Dan, Hasbina, Baniar and other small rivulets and streams of sparkling water which pass through the wetlands marsh of what has been Lake Huleh. At this point the official Jordan River receives the run off and carries it to the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee is said to be approximately fifteen miles long and eight miles wide with a maximum depth of 750 feet. Water from the Sea of Galilee continues its flow down channel 200 miles to the Dead Sea. Straight line distance down the rift valley from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea is no more than 70 miles but the river water must travel 200 miles because of crooks and turns of the channel. The Dead Sea is 46 miles long and 10 miles wide with a maximum depth of 1300 feet and surface area of approximately 400 square miles or 256,000 acres.

The rainy season began with the early rains and concluded with the latter rains. In a good year the rain began to fall in October and continued until April. A short season of rain might have begun as late as November and continued until March. On rare occasions the rainy season might not have begun until January and then continued until April.



AVERAGE RAINFALL AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS

Mt. Carmel-Sea Coast- 26 inches
Jerusalem-22 inches
Hebron-19 inches
Gaza-16 inches
Jordan Valley-12 inches
Beth-Shean-5 inches
Dead Sea South-2 inches

Additional water resources for Palestine include wells such as Abraham’s well at Beersheba, the well at Bethlehem’s gate and Jacob’s well at Sychar-Shechem. Numerous fresh water springs provides water for local inhabitants. Among these are the Siloam Spring at Jerusalem, Ein-Gehadi on the midwest shore of the Dead Sea, and the spring at Nazareth.

GENERAL PROVIDENCES

Bible references identify an overall observation of God's connection with the planet Earth focuses first on ownership and accompanying responsibility. The Bible identifies the owner of earth and confirms His responsibility.

1. **Psalms 24: 1-2** – “The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. For he hath formed it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.”
2. **Psalms 104:1-35** - “He appointed the moon for seasons....”
3. **Psalms 135: 3-7** - “The Lord is good...great...whatsoever the Lord pleased that did He in heaven and in the Earth.”
4. **Job 5: 10**—“God gives rain on Earth...”
5. **Deuteronomy 11:11-17** – “...the land drinketh water from heaven...the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in the corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.”
6. **Isaiah 55:9-10** – “...Rain cometh down and the snow from heaven...seed to the sower and bread to the eater.”
7. **Matthew 5:45** – “...He maketh the sun to rise on the evil and the good and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust...”
8. **Acts 14:17** – “...He left not himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling all hearts with food and gladness.”
9. **Hebrews 6:7** – “The earth drinketh in the rain...and bringeth forth herbs.”

These scriptures and a host of others bearing similar contents confirm the fact that God is owner, providential manager and general provider for the earth and its inhabitants.

SPECIAL PROVIDENCE

Numerous special providential, non miraculous but major events that share an important association with a water source have been recorded in Biblical history. Several of these events are considered in this topical study guide.

The ultimate, keystone demonstration of God's special providence and its consequent blessing is exhibited in the event which involved Abraham, his son Isaac the sacrifice and God's promise. The phrase “God will provide” is verse 8, is the specific acknowledgement, recognition and declaration of God's providential power. Note within the promise the word “seashore” which implies “water”. (Genesis 22:1-19)

EVENTS OF SPECIAL PROVIDENCE OLD TESTAMENT

1. **Genesis 21:15-21** - Ishmael, as a lad was saved from death by a drink of water from the well near Beersheba (probably Abraham's well.) Ishmael became progenitor of the most populous nationality of people in today's world.
2. **Genesis 24:15** – Isaac's wife, Rebecca, was contacted at a water well in Mesopotamia.
3. **Exodus 2:3-6** – Pharaoh' daughter discovered the infant Moses floating in the Nile river in a small ark made of papyrus reeds. Verse 3

4. **Exodus 2:16-22** - Moses met his wife Zipporah at a well in Midian.
5. **Joshua 11:1-12** - Joshua defeated a coalition of twelve kings and their armies at the Waters of Merom.
6. **Judges 7:4-7** - Three hundred men were selected at the Well of Harod to fight the Midianite army.
7. **I Samuel 23:29; 24:1** – David found a hiding place at the Spring of Engedi when Saul sought to kill him.
8. **I Kings 1:32-37**– Solomon was anointed King at Gihon Spring.
9. **II Kings 20:20; II Chronicles 32:30** – Hezekiah cut a water tunnel into the city.

SYMBOLIC

Occasionally in the Biblical text words and symbolic phrase pertaining to water were used with inference to both spiritual and are moral subjects. The significant value and vital presence of water in Bible lands were of such major importance that only turn of this type could accurately convey the description and meaning of conditions referred to by the authors of this sacred text. These instance are worthy of thoughtful study and appreciation for the illuminated truth conceived therein. Several passages of this type convey in a certain manner the actual reality of special blessing while others are especially informative of less desirable conditions. A few instances of this symbolic use in the Old Testament are:

SYMBOLIC USE OF WATER OLD TESTAMENT

1. **Psalms 1:1** - “Man whose delight is in the law of the Lord...is like unto a tree planted by the river of water...”
2. **Psalms 42:6-8** –“...at the sound of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows have gone over me...”
3. **Proverbs 5:15-18** – “Drink water out of thine own cistern ...and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.”
4. **Joshua 7:5** - “...the hearts of God’s people melted and became water.”
5. **Isaiah 1:28** - “Destruction of sinners,... shall be as a garden that hath no water”
6. **Isaiah 8:5-7** - “Those who refuse the waters of Shiloah the Lord bringeth upon them the waters of the river...the king of Assyria...”
7. **Isaiah 12:3** – “...draw water out of the wells of salvation...”
8. **Jeremiah 2:13** – “They have forsaken me the fountain of living water and hawed them out...broken cisterns that can hold no water.”



SYMBOLIC USE OF WATER NEW TESTAMENT

1. **Matthew 7:24-27** - Parable of two builders – rain descended and the floods came
2. **Matthew 3:13-17** - River Jordan – Baptism of Jesus
3. **John 3:5** - “...born of water and of the Spirit.”
4. **John 7:37-38** - “...thirst...drink...flow rivers of living water.”
5. **Acts 8:36-39** - Ethiopian and Philip, "Here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"
6. **Romans 6:3-6** - Baptism symbolic of death, burial and resurrection.
7. **I Peter 3:19-2** - “...Eight souls saved by water.”
8. **Revelations 7:17** “...living fountain of water...wipe away all tears...”



The ultimate New Testament example of symbolism with regard to moral and spiritual cleanliness is the illustration given by Peter in II Peter 2:22, “But it has happened unto them according to the true Proverb (Proverb 26:11) the dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.” The sight of the sow, as described by Peter, is very disappointing and disgusting. Actions of the sow indicate her preference between being clean or unclean. Her actions prove that she loves the filth of the mud, muck and mire. With the option of being clean or unclean, she delightfully wallows in the mire. A more impressive description cannot be made of one who has been washed clean of sinful living in the blood of Christ and later return to the hopeless indulgence of a sinful life style. This symbolic description makes a permanent impression on the mind and heart of the reader of the Sacred Text.

A more encouraging and inspiring sight cannot be seen than that symbolically described in Psalms 1. “The man whose delight is in the law of the Lord...is like unto a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

A thoughtful reading of the Biblical text enables one to appreciate the special significance of the symbolic use and reference to water. This method used by writers of the Sacred Text enhances, to a great degree, the message contained therein.

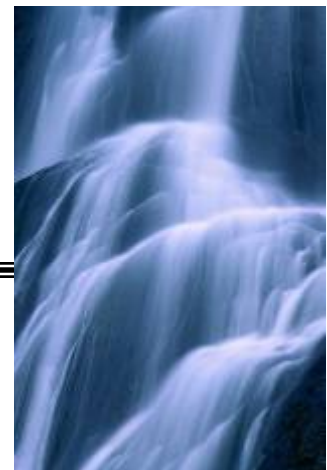
Conclusion

It is the intention of this brief topical study guide of Sacred Scripture to emphasize the indispensable importance of water in the purpose plan and work of God. An attempt to accomplish the intent of this brief study has been made by referring to a few of the numerous Biblical circumstances and events in which water was an important factor. In addition to the basic purpose of this study guide there is also the intent to impress on the hearts and minds of those whom God has given responsibility to conserve and maintain Earth's water resource in the highest quality condition possible.

By so doing will continue to be an adequate supply of clean pure water necessary to meet the needs of all beneficial life forms. While attempting to maintain necessary supplies of healthful water, special efforts must be made to eliminate the presence of impure, dirty filthy stagnant water. This unhealthy water is not only unsightly and undesirable but it also emits a noxious odor and harbors unhealthy disease organism that are detrimental to the well being of beneficial life forms.

The Bible begins with references to literal water in the account of creation by saying, "The Spirit moved upon the face of the water," **Gen. 1:2**. And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the water from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so," **Gen. 1:6-7**. Several millennia after the creation account the Bible with its continuous stream of innumerable references to water and events involved with water in various forms concludes with references to symbolic water by saying, "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely," **Rev. 21:6**. "He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and the lamb," **Rev. 22:1**. "The Spirit and the bride say Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely," **Rev. 22:17**

Developed by MC Sparks Commissioner,
DeSoto County SWCD, Hernando, MS



I started out thinking of America as highways and state lines. As I got to know it better, I began to think of it as rivers. Most of what I love about the country is a gift of the rivers. . . . America is a great story, and there is a river on every page of it.

*Charles Kuralt
On the Road With Charles Kuralt*

Music Selections

Prepared by Mary Jane Spickler— Washington County SCD –MD

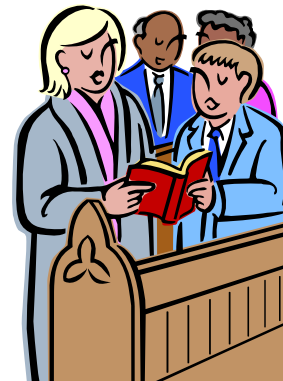
Old Testament

- Genesis 1:1-10 “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
 “God, Whose Almighty Word”
- Genesis 6:5-8:22 “Thy Holy Wings”
- Exodus 13:7-14:31 “When Israel Was In Egypt”
- Joshua 3:14-17 “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”
- Psalms 42: 6-8 “As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams”
- Psalms 104:1-35 “For the Beauty of the Earth”
 “All Creatures of Our God and King”
- Isaiah 55:9-10 “Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”



New Testament

- Matthew 3:13-17 “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”
 “When Jesus Came to Jordan”
 “Spirit of God, Descent upon My Heart”
- Matthew 7:24-27 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”
- Matthew 8:23-27 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”
 “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”
- Matthew 13:1-35 “Open Now the Gates of Beauty”
- Matthew 14:22-23 “Precious Lord, Take My hand”
 “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”
- Matthew 13:1-35 “Open Now the Gates of Beauty”
- Mark 4:35-41 “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”
- Mark 5:11-16 “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”
- Luke 7:36-50 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
- John 2:1-11 “All Praise to You, O Lord”
- John 3:5 “Baptized in Water”
- John 4:6-15 “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say...” (verse 2)
- John 7:37-38 “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say...” (verse 2)
 “Shall We Gather at the River”
- John 9:1-11 “Be Thou My Vision”
- Acts 8:26-39 “On Our Way Rejoicing”
- Acts 27:13-44 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”
- Romans 6:3-6 “Baptized in Water”
 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”
- I Peter 3:19-21 “Thy Holy Wings”
- II Peter 3:1-8 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”
- Revelation 7:17 “Shall We Gather at the River”
- Revelation 21:6 “Come Thor Fount of Every Blessing”
- Revelation 22:1 “Shall We Gather at the River”
- Revelation 22:17 “Just As I Am, Without One Plea”



Bible School, Sunday School and Education & Outreach



Water is Life is a great theme for your bible school, summer programs or within your youth Sunday school activities.

NACD has student booklets to assist students in grade K-5, as well as educational placemats to use in your local church or community. You can find education activities and reading book ideas by visiting <http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship/> to learn more about our stewardship program ordering education materials and downloading our educators guide.

Additional activities available at www.nacdnet.org/stewardship

Community Outreach



Contact your local conservation district and volunteer your time, talent and leadership. To find your local district visit: <http://www.nacdnet.org/about/districts/directory/index.phtml>

A wide variety of volunteer opportunities are available. Everyone must be a part of water stewardship so we will gain a better understand the importance of water quality and water quantity. Every citizens wants clean water for our future generations. There are private organizations and public sector agencies working to protect these resources, the broad spectrum of water resource protection is an issue of concern to every individual.

Opportunities include: water quality monitoring, tree plantings, stream clean-up, field trip volunteers, outdoor projects, special talents, from carpentry to graphic design, school programs, field days, fund raising events and more. Other opportunities are to volunteer as an associate supervisor/commissioner or run for a conservation district board member position. Volunteer today and take conservation into your hands.

There are a wide variety of missionary projects available. Check in your local community and within your state on possibilities.

One example of outreach for clean water:

New Life International, Inc. is a Christian outreach organization dedicated to humanitarian and developmental activities. One of the largest outreach programs of New Life International is to providing safe water to the world.

Outreach Example Contact Info

New Life International
6764 S. Bloomington Trail
Underwood, IN 47177
<http://www.waterfortheworld.com/>
(812) 752-7474
info@waterfortheworld.com

If you have other programs you would like to share, please send information to: stewardship@nacdn.net and we will compile information to share with others and make it available online at: <http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship/>

ABOUT NACD

NACD's mission is to serve conservation districts by providing national leadership and a unified voice for natural resource conservation.

The association was founded on the philosophy that conservation decisions should be made at the local level with technical and funding assistance from federal, state and local governments and the private sector. As the national voice for all conservation districts, NACD supports voluntary, incentive-driven natural resource conservation programs that benefit all citizens.

NACD maintains relationships with organizations and government agencies; publishes information about districts; works with leaders in agriculture, conservation, environment, education, industry and other fields; and provides services to its districts. NACD is primarily financed through voluntary contributions of its member districts and state associations.

The association's philosophy is that conservation decisions should be made by local people with technical and funding assistance from federal, state and local governments and the private sector. The association's programs and activities aim to advance the resource conservation cause of local districts and the millions of cooperating landowners and land managers they serve.



WATER IS LIFE CHURCH LEADERS GUIDE

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)

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F: (202) 547-6450

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