



- June 28, 2020 -



Welcome back to church!. This month we have been exploring and learning about how to be World's Caretakers. We invite you to begin your worship by joining the praise section of our English Worship @english.mykec.ca/

2 Message Improduction

This is our last lesson on World's Caretakers. Up to this point, we have not been paying a lot of attention with the way we have treated the world. However, it is time to change; not just the way we do things but also the way we think. Is recycling an answer to end the environmental crisis? What if I tell you that recycling is not the ultimate answer to resolve our environmental crisis? What else do we need to change, in order for us to be good stewards and responsible World's Caretakers?



3 Should we trash recycling?

Here are some important points presented in the video:

- Not all items in the recycling bins are being recycled
- 2. Over 90% of plastics do not get recycled
- 3. Recycling is only delaying the inevitable, creating more waste
- 4. Recycling is the western world's feel good solution for an unmanageable waste problem
- 5. Recycling reduces incentives for research, innovation and investment in new technologies
- 6. Recycling justifies overproduction and overconsumption, for example: clothing
- 7. 2 to 3 times more materials were used in the presence of recycling bins

The speaker concludes with this quote: "The responsibility of waste needs to shift from a consumer to a producer mindset." If we continue with a

consumer mindset, we will continue to create, produce and consume more products and eventually more waste in the landfill.

In the western world we don't want to limit our consumption. However, we can no longer live as consumers without rethinking the amount of waste we produce every day. The speaker in the video challenges us to rethink and do the following:

- Design our waste, for example: use biodegradable product
- 2. Change our view on consumption, for example: no single-use plastic
- 3. Learn and spread the word, for example: share what you have learned to friends

The answer to the question "Should we still recycle?" is yes. In the short term, we should all recycle, but keep in mind that recycling is not the ultimate solution for our environmental crisis.



4 Scripture reading

Read Genesis 2:1-15 After creating the first man Adam, the Bible says, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and **keep** it" (Genesis 2:15).

The Hebrew word for "work" also means to cultivate. The other Hebrew word in this verse is "keep" which means more than just keep it neat and tidy. This Hebrew word means to **preserve**. So Genesis 2:15 would better be understood as: "The Lord God took Adam and put him in the garden of Eden to cultivate and to preserve it."

God did not tell Adam to exploit the world or treat it carelessly, but to **use it wisely and to protect it**. God did not tell Adam to be a consumer. God appointed Adam to be a good steward of God's creation. Therefore, we now share the same responsibility and shall seek to protect and care for everything God has entrusted us.



5 actions you can take To help the environment

- Cut five minutes off your shower to save water. According to a study done by <u>Harvard</u>, the average shower uses 2.5 gallons per minute. You will save 12.5 gallons of water if you shorten by just 5 minutes. Or, turn the water off while you lather up and brush your teeth and only turn it on to rinse.
- 2. Eat the leftovers. By eating leftovers, you are not only saving money but also preventing energy waste from food production and reducing landfill.
- 3. Turn off the lights when they are not in use.
- 4. Buy only what you need. Think carefully before you buy. Take at least a week before buying to make sure they are wise purchases.

We thank God for His beautiful creation and we ask that He will empower us to be good stewards of His creation. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Pastor Ava ava@koinoniachurch.ca or Pastor Canaan canaan@koinoniachurch.ca.