



Environmental Responsibility

Video Notes

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out the most to you in this video?

2. Most Christians don't think about their faith and how it relates to the environment. Before we get into that, what are some specific examples of practices that your company or others are doing to better the environment?

3. In the Bible, stewardship is emphasized as a responsibility given to humans over God's creation. In Genesis 2:15 God instructs Adam to "tend and keep" the Garden of Eden. This implies a responsibility to care for and protect the Earth's resources. In Psalms 19:1 and 104:24-30 the emphasis is on how creation itself reflects God's glory and wisdom, which can be seen as a call to appreciate and care for the natural world. As Christian business leaders and owners, do you make business decisions regarding environmental responsibility something you consider? If so, what and why and if not, why?

4. One could make the argument that avoiding waste is another way to be environmentally responsible. In the story of the feeding of 5,000 in Matthew 14:13-21, Jesus instructs his disciples to gather up the leftovers, emphasizing this value. What does avoiding waste have to do with being environmentally responsible? What ways do you see waste in the marketplace today individually or corporately? How does this speak to the character and integrity of a Christian business leader and the responsibilities they have to God and others?

5. Companies are subject to various laws and regulations aimed at promoting environmental responsibility, yet often, our individual commitment to the environment takes a back seat. Consider, for instance, how we handle items like paint cans, batteries, and lightbulbs. Paul Dial underscores the significance of being aware of and compliant with these laws, particularly for Christian business leaders. As Romans 13:1-2 emphasizes, *"Obey the government, for God is the one who has put it there. There is no government anywhere that God has not placed in power. So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God, and punishment will follow."* With this in mind, how do you view your personal and corporate responsibility toward environmental stewardship in light of both legal obligations and your faith?

Application

Making environmental changes within a business can be expensive and sometimes overwhelming. If we believe that God has the money and the resources and we agree that we are called to be stewards of what God owns, then perhaps, we need to make some changes to be the best stewards we can be. What are some of those changes that you will consider this month?

Going Deeper

This section is an extension of the above material and is designed for a deeper study/devotion on your own. Read the scripture below and take time to journal and put this content into practice to help shape your culture at work.

1. The Bible teaches about caring for the poor and vulnerable. How do you believe your business can address environmental issues in a way that benefits marginalized communities and aligns with Christian values?

2. Jesus encouraged a lifestyle of simplicity and warned against the pursuit of material wealth. How do you balance the profit-driven nature of business with the biblical call to simplicity and contentment, particularly in relation to environmental resource consumption?

3. Proverbs 27:23-24 states, *"Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds, for riches do not last forever."* How do you apply this wisdom to ensure the long-term sustainability and responsible management of your business's environmental resources?
