Parable Pictures

The following is a series of pictures from *One Thousand Gospel Images* by Jean-François Kieffer* that children can use in several ways to create their own Stewardship parables. Before using them, remind the children that parables are both good stories and stories with a teaching purpose. Therefore, their parables should help others understand God's principles of Stewardship - His gifts, our responses and His grace that includes us all in large efforts and in small ones. The words below the pictures are simply a starting point for discussion and story building. They are suggestions only. Always encourage children to tell you what they see in the picture and build on their understanding. Some pictures are more symbolic or metaphorical, others will relate more to the children's everyday life. Some are more suited for older or younger children. There are more pictures here than you will need, so select those that should appeal most to your students.

When engaging in storytelling with children, ask, who, what, when, where, and what does this have to do with stewardship. Look for both thematic ideas and details. Use contrast; good and bad stewardship examples. If the child gravitates to the stewardship principle behind a picture - expressing gratitude for family, for example – ask who is in the picture, their names, what they are doing, etc. If the child talks about people and their actions help him/her to draw out the response of gratitude and service to God that shows s/he understands the stewardship principle involved.

**Option 1: Print the Pictures**

- With very young children:
  - Colour the pictures and talk about what the children see in them, and how it relates to stewardship. You can use some of the words at the bottom of the page to give the children hints if they need them.
  - With very young children you may want to give a short explanation of the ideas they convey; eg. bread can be made by others for us from God's gift of grain.

- With Elementary Children:
  - Pictures can be coloured.
  - Allow the children to select from the list of words at the bottom of each page, then explain or tell a story about how/why this picture illustrates that stewardship idea.

- With Older Children and Teens:
  - Ask the children to work in teams of two or three and prepare a short skit that exemplifies the stewardship principle they see most clearly illustrated in the picture. The principle need not be found in the list of words below the picture. This skits should illustrate how this principle relates to the overall idea of stewardship as a response to God's grace.

**Option 2: Show the Pictures**

Show the pictures on a computer or screen and use them as the basis of a discussion or story creation setting.

Stewardship of…

God's Will, Peace, Life, Respect for Others
Stewardship of...

Relationships, Family Life, Beauty, Knowledge
Stewardship of…

Tradition, God's Love, Time, Individual Differences
Stewardship of...
Stewardship of... Effort, Those In Need, Community
Stewardship of...

Food, Others’ Efforts, Heath, Resources, Family Time, Meal Time
Stewardship of...

Health, Our Bodies, Skills and Knowledge, Each Other
Stewardship of...

Work, Time, Responsibility, Creation
Stewardship of...

God's Gifts, Community, Food, Health
Stewardship of...
Stewardship of...

God's Gifts, Food, Community Life, Work
Stewardship of...

God's Gifts, My Property, Work, Community Needs
Stewardship of...

Our Homes, Hospitality, Community, Our Gifts, Shelter
Stewardship of...

Time, Worship, God's Word, Faith
Stewardship of…

Friends, Strength, Each Other
Stewardship of...

Energy, Emotions, Strength, Faith
Stewardship of...

Community, Effort, Talents, God's Word
Stewardship of...

Service, Respect for Others, Sacrificial Giving
Stewardship of…
Stewardship of...

Nature, Work, Emotions, Ideas
Stewardship of…

Community, Gifts, Creation, Each Other