

Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Sprouts Lesson

Protecting the Future of Faith®

3rd – 4th Grades

Stewards of God's Creation: Helping Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, The Green Patriarch Spread the Word

Objectives

By the end of this session students will be able to:

- Define *steward* in terms of Christian care of God's Creation
- Understand how HAH encourages us to live in harmony with creation.
- Articulate why Ecumenical Bartholomew is called "The Green Patriarch"
- Identify ways to help Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew spread the word to care for God's creation at home, church and on earth.

Resources

- ☐ Access to a laptop and to WIFI for video viewing
- ☐ [Be the Bee #108 Why Christians Care for the Environment](#)
- ☐ Photographs of HAH interacting with God's creation
- ☐ Project Ideas:

Download instructions for:

[Write a Poem: We Care for God's Creation](#)

[Make a Cross from Recycled Material](#)

Word Wall

God's creation	Responsibility
Steward	The Green Patriarch

Pacing Guide for Class

2–5 Minutes

Students arrive to class

Group prayer

Reintroduce students to our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (show photos)

Review Word Wall Definitions

10–15 Minutes

Watch the 9.22-minute video

[Be the Bee #108 Why Christians Care for the Environment](#)

After viewing:

- Ask students to “turn and talk” to their neighbor:
 - ☐ Explain why we are ‘stewards’ of God’s Creation
 - ☐ Explain why HAH is called “The Green Patriarch”?
- Reiterate: It’s our responsibility to be ‘stewards’ care for nature/God’s creation
 - ☐ Take action
 - Doing something to care for God’s creation
 - ☐ Understand the impact of our choices
 - Not showing care is sinful and doesn’t show love for God’s creation
 - Caring for God’s creation is showing love for God.

15 Minutes

Complete Class Project:

- Select one of the project ideas listed below:
 - ☐ Poem
 - ☐ Cross-making from recycled items
 - ☐ Idea Dump: Greening Your Parish: Being Stewards of God’s Creation

8–10 Minutes

Students share or class reviews their completed project.

Take pictures to share with local parish and the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew through uploading to www.archons.org

2 Minutes

Exit Ticket:

Share 2 ways you will be a steward of God’s Creation and help Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew spread the word to your family and friends.

Teacher Resources

Provision materials to ensure you have all you need ahead of class.

Word Wall Defined

God’s Creation <i>Everything on Earth was created by God.</i>	Responsibility <i>Taking action and understanding the impact of our choices.</i>	Steward <i>A caretaker or care giver. As Christians we are charged with caring for God’s Creation.</i>	The Green Patriarch <i>Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew loves God’s creation and wants us to help him care for the earth.</i>
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3 Project Ideas

1. Write a poem as a class or each individual student that highlights how we can help Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew be good stewards of God's Creation.
 - Download and print instructions for your class:
 - ☐ [Write a Poem: We Care for God's Creation](#)
 - ☐ Upload poems to www.archons.org
2. Use recycled materials to make crosses:
 - Download and print instructions for your class:
 - ☐ [Make a Cross from Recycled Material](#)
 - Take pictures of the crosses, share with your parish family/church website and upload to www.archons.org
3. Make a list of ways your church can be 'Stewards of God's Creation':
 - Download and print page for your class:
 - ☐ [Brainstorm/Idea Dump Sheet](#)
 - Brainstorm ways that your church can become 'green'!
 - ☐ 'Brain Dump' Ideas could include:
 - Coffee hour waste
 - Office/Sunday school paper waste
 - Recycling bins
 - Share the list with your priest and parish council. Consider adding to church website and/or weekly bulletin.

Video Link for this lesson

[Be the Bee #108 Why Christians Care for the Environment](#)

Video Links for Further Knowledge Building

[The Green Patriarch: Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew](#)

[The Gospel Project: The Creation](#)

<https://www.goarch.org/society/greening-the-parish>

- "Greening the Parish" provides resource material for fulfilling our vocation as stewards of creation and working towards greening our parishes.

[Praxis: Green Christianity Fall 2009](#)

Icons & Photographs



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OF THE
Ecumenical
Patriarchate®
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God Cares for Creation

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Draw a line to match each creation with one way that God cares for it.

1

People



Food, clothing, homes

2

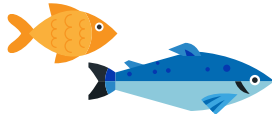
Birds



Has its own special animals with fins

3

Fish



Water to swim in and a way to breathe under water

4

Dogs



Can bloom and be colors of the rainbow

5

Flowers



Space to fly

6

Sky



Has its own special animals with wings

7

Oceans



People to take care of them

What is one way that God cares for you?