

# STUDY GUIDE CARING FOR CHILDREN, CARING FOR CREATION

**Please use this study guide following the film to move the discussion forward. Depending on the size of the group, the questions below can either be discussed as one big group, or considered in smaller groups that come together at the end. Begin by reading the Discussion Leader section aloud. Follow the film with the questions and the conclusion. Feel free to adapt this guide for your own group.**

## Discussion Leader

*(Read aloud to group)*

There are over 82,000 synthetic chemicals registered for use in the United States. Many of these chemicals are used in everyday household items, emulsifiers, automotive products, agricultural processes, food processing, and other industries. Today, these chemicals contribute to an unprecedented incidence of illness. We can practice sacred living by limiting our consumption of these products. We can also encourage businesses to replace toxic chemicals with safer alternatives. These efforts will not only protect Creation but improve the health of all people, especially children, pregnant women, industrial workers, communities of color, and low-income communities. This is part of our call to be stewards of Creation and care for our neighbor.

## Questions

*Read these scripture passages below*

- ❑ What do each of them mean?
- ❑ What living examples of this scripture do you see in the movie?

**“So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”**  
*(Genesis 1:27)*

**“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the holy spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you were bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body”** *(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)*

- ❑ How do you think the environment is affecting our health and our children’s health?
- ❑ Did you gain any insights from the video?
- ❑ As people of faith, what do we bring to this public debate that is unique and compelling?
- ❑ What is the message that Christianity brings to bear on the issue of public health that makes it stand apart from other arguments?

## Discussion Leader Conclusion

*(Read aloud)*

Every day we make choices about our daily living—from which transportation we use or what household cleaning products we choose, to our selection of lawn care products. We tend to think of these as individual decisions concerning only us, but we are affecting all of Creation. What impact will our actions today have on those who come after us? How will they influence those around us? What bearing will they have on our own lives? Are they helping to purify the body and spirit of Creation? If we are able to discipline ourselves to regularly ask these questions and respond to them with the intention that comes from loving God first (Luke 10:27), then our work as stewards will ensure that all of Creation can experience the spirit of God flowing with each breath.

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