

# We Respect the Gifts of the Earth

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 18*.

❖ God wants us to take care of the gifts of the earth and share them with others. If we use these gifts properly, the earth will be a pleasant place to live.

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❖ By not sharing even the smallest portion of what he owned with Lazarus, the rich man in Jesus' parable did not show gratitude for his gifts. The rich man went to a place of suffering when he died, while Lazarus went to a place of happiness for all eternity.

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❖ Operation Rice Bowl is a program that gives families the opportunity to pray together and to collect money to help others live better lives.

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❖ The earth and everything on it belong to God. He has given the earth to his creatures to use in order to live and grow.

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❖ We show that we are all brothers and sisters in God's family when we share with those in need.

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❖ Saint Paul gave us a message to help us share God's gifts with others. He said God is pleased when we share happily with others.

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❖ Many people in the world have not heard the Good News. They need someone to teach them. Sharing the Gospel is another way to share God's gifts.

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❖ Every person can make an impact on others' lives if he or she shares. Michael Munds made a difference when he was only five years old.

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❖ We use the gifts of the earth in the right way by sharing them, not wasting them, and taking care of them.

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