

## Module 3: Scriptural Foundations - Law and Creation - Ecology and Faith

### Work With It *Ecology and Faith*

*The creation accounts are not only important for setting the groundwork for our understanding of God, humanity, and the God-human relationship, but they also contribute to our understanding that we are called to “rule” over creation.*

*In an era of ever expanding environmental consciousness, what does ruling entail?*

*Are we called to use the earth primarily for our own needs or are we called to remain sensitive to the economy of the earth as it relates to all elements of creation, not just humans?*

### **RESPONSE**

Present day there is increased attention directed toward environmental issues. Unfortunately the driving factor which garners media coverage stems from strife, normally, economic, then political, then environmental. We live in a western world under the market of capitalism and daily practices of commodification and consumption, where increasing population and decreasing resources are placing increased costs to sustain these practices. Brown (2008) states that the Catechism of the Catholic Church directs us on the use of the earth's resources as "...it is limited by concern for the quality of life of /his/her neighbour, including generations to come; it requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation". Our Faith calls us to be a good citizens and stewards of the environment. Living in a time of expanding environmental consciousness as Catholics we are called to "rule", exercise control, to influence, and to make decisions which demonstrate responsible citizenship and caring for things living and non-living. We are called to make choices about our own lifestyle and be aware of the impact our actions have on the world around us.

### References

Brown, J. (2008). Why Catholics care for creation. Catholic Update. Retrieved from <http://web.archive.org/web/20140327053318/http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/CU/ac1008.asp>. 16 February 2016.