

Stewardship of Creation: A Thirty Day Discipline

DAY 1

pesticide/ hormones/ gmo's etc – eat organic

Daily Scripture:

Then the Lord God formed the human from the soil of the ground and breathed breath into its nostrils the breath of life and the human became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east and there God put the human whom God had formed.

Genesis 2:7-8

Humanity is intimately related to the rest of creation. We, like other creatures, are formed from the earth.

From the ELCA social statement "Caring for Creation"

Fact:

"Where once the primary public-health concern surrounding pesticides was the possibility of acute poisoning and the long-term potential for cancer, today's risk managers recognize that pesticides can also affect the nervous, endocrine, immune and reproductive systems, and that they pose heightened threats to infants, young children, the unborn, and other subpopulations that are especially susceptible to toxic pollutants." And not just pesticides, hormones in our food and genetic engineering threaten more than just biodiversity. "Serious questions about the toxicity, allergenicity, cancer risks, and nutritional content of genetically engineered foods remain unanswered. Despite these risks, the USDA continues to approve these foods (such as milk containing a growth hormone called rBGH).

Commitment:

Immediate- Buy and eat organic foods, particularly fruits and vegetables. It tastes better, is great for your own body, and is good not only for the soil, but rural communities and for biodiversity. <http://www.ota.com/index.html>

Long term- Work to end pesticide use in your home, yard, neighborhood and congregation. Ask your local grocer to stock more organic products. Lobby for stricter standards on pesticide use, look on-line at the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides:

www.beyondpesticides.org

Daily Prayer:

Creator God, you made us out of the soil, help us to be advocates for our sibling the soil, that we honor and care for it and all that it yields. Amen.

<http://www.consumersunion.org/food/pest-fact.htm>

Cummins, Ronnie and Lilliston, Ben Genetically Engineered Food a self-defense guide for consumers (Marlowe and Company, New York 2000) 47.