



## **DAY 4: Creation Has Been Hurt!**

When God made creation, it was healthy, with enough for everyone, but creation has been hurt and not shared fairly because some people have made bad choices. The problems are not just with nature, but also people. When people are poor or hurting, that means we need to fix things! We can heal creation and let it rest, and make sure we are sharing with everyone. Pope Francis says we can make a difference one person at a time! We all need to try to be like St. Francis of Assisi who was a great creation care saint!

### **What Does the Bible Call Us to Do?**

Today, read about the Sabbath. What does Sabbath mean, it means a day of rest; you may remember this from yesterday, and from *The Creation Story* on day one. God created everything in six days and on the seventh day, He rested. God wants people to rest too, we can't work all the time. A Sabbath is not always just one day of rest. God said there should also be a Sabbath year every seven years, and He didn't stop there! Every seventh Sabbath year, or every 49/50 years, there is a SUPER Sabbath called a Jubilee! God gives people special rules to follow during these years.

Read Exodus ch. 20:8-11 and Leviticus ch. 25 to see what the Lord said about Sabbath and Jubilee. What kinds of things happen in a jubilee year?

### **Creation Care "R"**

Today there are two Creation Care "R"s that go together. They are REST and RESTORE! When we rest, it gives creation and other workers a break. What about restoring? God created a wonderful earth, but people have made bad choices. We can't just make better choices in the future to restore the earth, we have to fix the old mistakes and make things better. God knows we make mistakes, so He gave us Sabbath and Jubilee to help.

### **HOME CHALLENGE: Find Ways to REUSE!**

Your challenge for today is to identify some things in your household that are used just once before they are thrown away or recycled, and to come up with a plan to switch to something you can use over and over instead. Brainstorm with your whole family! Here are some ideas to get you started: instead of disposable napkins, use cloth, or instead of paper towel, use rags. Try using a reusable water bottle instead of a disposable one. What else can you think of?