

## Stewardship of the Earth

### Information Note:

Stewardship is a concept which includes the care, nurture and preservation of the wonderful gift of God we know as Mother Earth. In each month's Calvary Connection, we will share some fascinating facts about one aspect of nature and will provide some suggestions for helpful choices you can make to do your part to be a "good steward". Let's take a look at tigers, which are an endangered species:

- every tiger has its own distinct pattern of stripes — they're as unique as our human fingerprints
- 97% of wild tigers have been lost in the past 100 years — there are as few as 3,890 tigers now in the wild
- tigers are actually excellent swimmers and often cool off in various bodies of water
- tigers need an abundance of prey — a single tiger can eat up to 88 pounds of meat at one time

To a tiger, the forest is life: it provides trees for shade, rivers for drinking water, and ideal hunting grounds. One of the best ways **you** can help protect forests so that tigers and other wildlife thrive is to buy products that have the **Forest Stewardship Council label**.

The FSC label means the product is from a responsibly managed forest, one where trees are harvested legally, highly hazardous pesticides are not used, and the rights of indigenous people are protected. You can find the label almost anywhere since every part of a tree is used to make products (rubber for shoes and bark for corks, for example). Your simple everyday decisions can make a major impact on saving forests — and tigers!

(Information courtesy of the World Wildlife Fund)

Ruth Robins—Lay Weeders

(Stewardship of the Earth articles or "notes" will appear in the Calvary Connection each month)

