

Group Work – The Ancient World

Each person in the group takes one of the tasks below and records the findings from their research. Then, as a group, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Video or Reading	Main points of video or reading	How is philanthropy demonstrated?
Prehistoric Philanthropy video		
Beginning of Civilization video		
Mesopotamian Civilization video		
Egyptian Civilization video		
Hebrew Civilization video		
Greek Civilization video		
Roman Civilization video		

Reflection Questions to discuss:

1. What evidence is there in these ancient cultures that philanthropy (giving time, talent, and treasure for the common good) promoted the survival of the community?
2. What philanthropic behaviors do we see today that have their roots in these early experiences?
3. Do you think we are born with the innate desire to help one another or is it learned through our religious or cultural experiences? Support your answer.
4. What events and conditions in a society bring out philanthropic traditions of giving, sharing, and collaborating to benefit the civil society?

