

# Small Group Notes

Sermon: 16 January 2022

# HEAD ON

## CLIMATE CHANGE

# OVERVIEW

Climate change is arguably the biggest topical issue our world faces today. It sounds an alarm on the damaging effects that human production, industrialisation and consumption patterns have on natural systems and cycles which ironically sustains all life forms!

The earth is our home, but not ours to use and abuse as we wish (cf: Gen 2:15) and the Bible gives clear reasons why Christians should embrace a "calling to creation care". A call to responsible stewardship of nature and all the resources God has blessed us with, as an act of worship!

# REFLECTION

Our response to the call to creation care can be five-fold.

1. **Repentance:** Choosing to turn from wasteful patterns of production & consumption that characterizes modern society.
2. **Humility:** Learning to live within limits; A recognition that we don't own the earth and a commitment to serve God through its care.
3. **Setting an example:** Living out creation care as a Christian value
4. **Speaking up:** On behalf of the poor and

marginalized; and worst affected

5. **Prayer:** For those affected, for Christians and local churches, governments and all leaders etc ( climate news = Prayer topics!)

*Adapted from: H. Marlow (2008) 'The Earth is the Lord's', Grove: Cambridge*

## QUESTIONS

1. Read John 1:3; Col 1:16-17; and Gen 2:15; What do these passages say about God's relationship with His creation, and what does that teach us?
2. Drawing on the Reflection points 2 to 4 above, build a discussion within the group and share experiences and ideas of what it means for you to be humble, set an example and speak up in responding to the call to creation care.

## FURTHER RESOURCES

### **Further online resources/ info:**

1. ["Hope for Planet"](#) ( A short video series and resource packs on creation care)
2. ["Christianity and Climate Change"](#) (A nine-part short film series)
3. ["Frontlines of Climate Change"](#) (5 short films of first-hand experience of climate

change from around the world)

4. ["Creative ideas to enjoy nature in 2022"](#)  
(lots of practical info and environmentally friendly activities to try alone, or with others).

**Christian organisations working on environmental sustainability and climate change issues. A few examples to explore:**

- [Rocha UK](#)
- [Tearfund UK](#)
- [Operation Noah](#)
- [John Ray Initiative](#)
- [Climate Stewards](#) (part of A Rocha international but with emphasis on projects in the global south)