



**WHY
ON EARTH
SHOULD WE
CARE?**

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Tawhiti Rahi Island (Poor Knights) ©Aaron Harmer



“Na, ka hanga houtia e ahau nga mea katoa.”

“Look, I am making everything new!”

Revelation 21:5

new creation nz

inspiring and equipping Christians for creation care



More plastic than fish by 2050

World Economic
Forum Report





Third of turtles found dead on New Zealand beaches had ingested plastic





Nearly Every Seabird on Earth Is Eating Plastic

Plastic trash is found in 90 percent of seabirds. The rate is growing steadily as global production of plastics increases.



Newshub.

3 August 2018

 **AUCKLAND**
15° 4°
MORE WEATHER ▶

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NZ oceans world's worst for birds eating plastic



SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Anthropogenic debris in seafood: Plastic debris and fibers from textiles in fish and bivalves sold for human consumption

Received: 01 April 2015

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Published: 24 September 2015

Chelsea M. Rochman¹, Akbar Tahir², Susan L. Williams³, Dolores V. Baxa¹, Rosalyn Lam¹,
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SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

The presence of microplastics in commercial salts from different countries

Received: 25 November 2016

Accepted: 09 March 2017

Ali Karami¹, Abolfazl Golieskardi¹, Cheng Keong Choo², Vincent Larat³, Tamara S. Galloway⁴ & Babak Salamatinia²









Sumatran orangutan
(*Pongo abelii*)



red-eyed tree frog
(*Agalychnis callidryas*)



resplendent quetzal
(*Pharomachrus mocinno*)



flame bowerbird
(*Sericulus ardens*)


lantern bug
(*Pyrops whiteheadi*)





ocelot

(Leopardus pardalis)

A close-up photograph of a greater bird-of-paradise perched on a thick, brown tree branch. The bird's wings are fully extended, showing a rich, iridescent brown color. Its head is turned to the right, revealing a bright yellow forehead, a vibrant green throat, and a black beak. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a tropical forest setting. In the top right corner, there is a black rectangular box containing white text.

greater bird-of-paradise
(*Paradisaea apoda*)

**We lose >80,000 acres of
tropical forest per day...**

... And significantly degrade another
80,000 acres on top of that.



**Palm oil is in 50%
of supermarket products**

consumer.org.nz





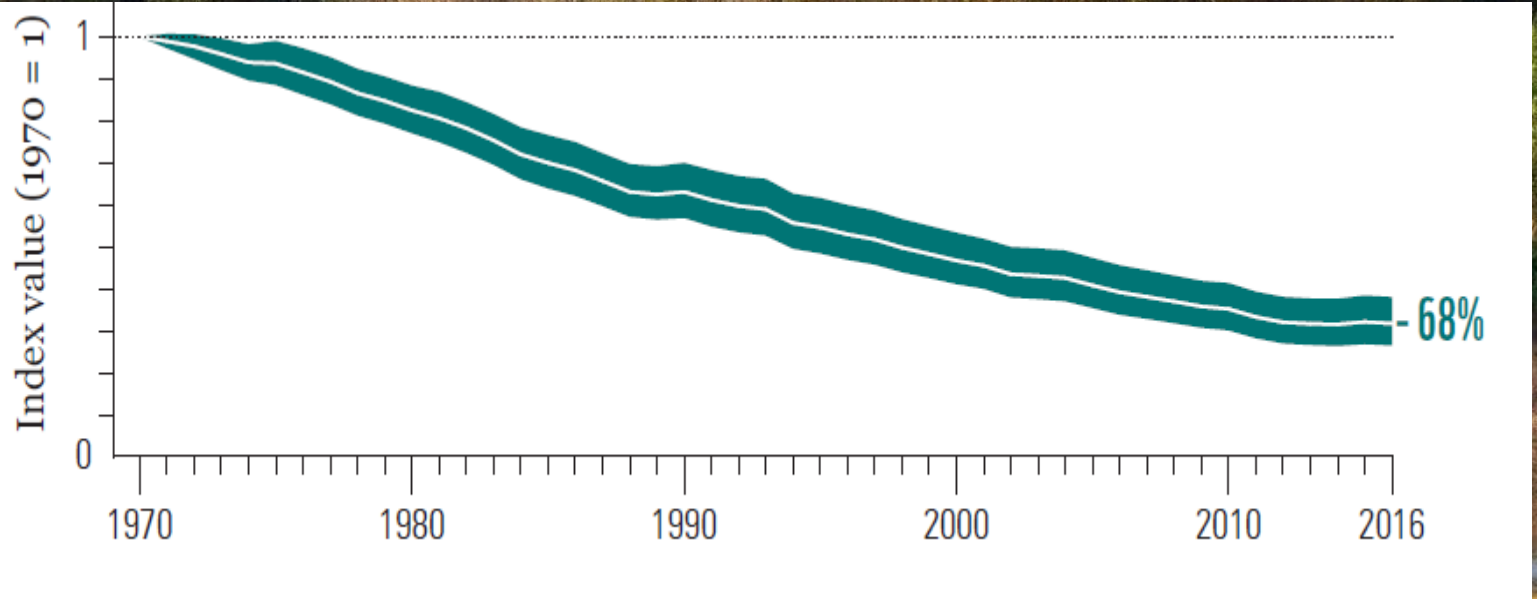
Deforestation for palm oil
Slavery, human rights abuses...





Deforestation for palm oil
Slavery, human rights abuses...





Overall, we have...
32% the numbers
of mammals, birds,
reptiles, amphibians
and fish there were
in **1970**



Biodiversity is declining at different rates in different places

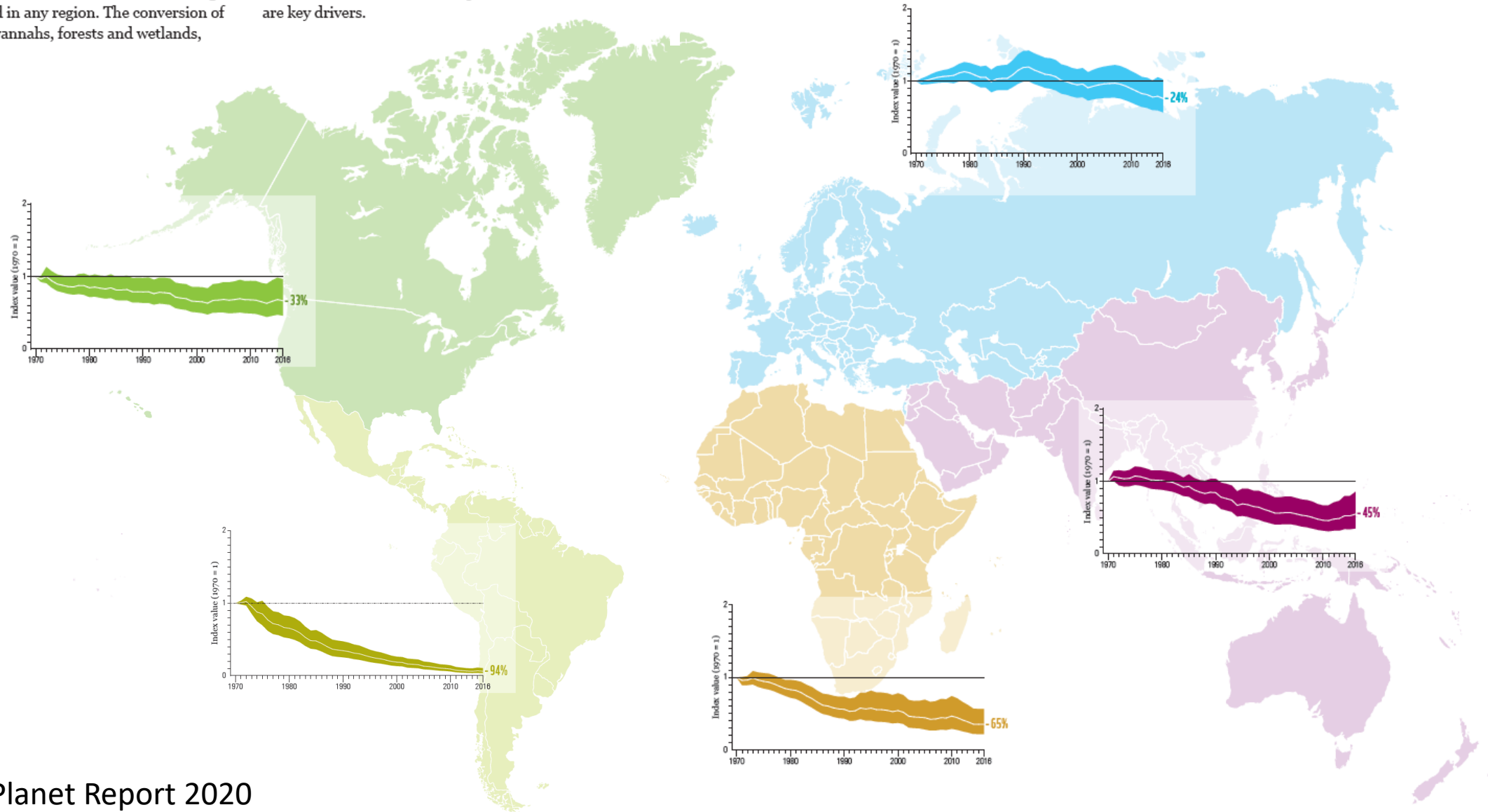
The global LPI does not give us the entire picture – there are differences in abundance trends between regions, with the largest declines in tropical areas.

The 94% decline in the LPI for the tropical subregions of the Americas is the most striking result observed in any region. The conversion of grasslands, savannahs, forests and wetlands,

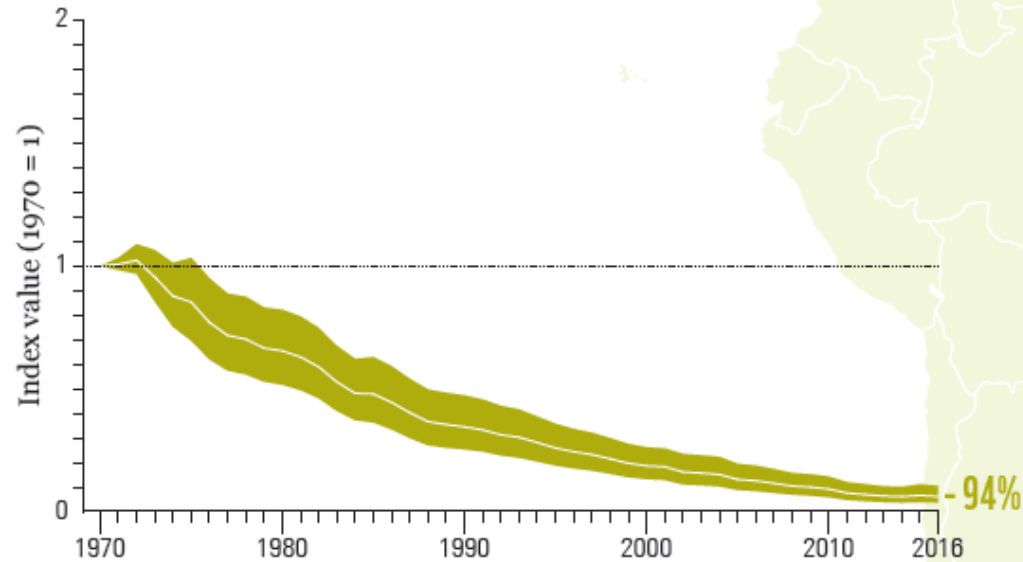
the overexploitation of species, climate change, and the introduction of alien species are key drivers.

Figure 2: The Living Planet Index for each IPBES region

The white line shows the index values and the shaded areas represent the statistical certainty surrounding the trend (95%). All indices are weighted by species richness, giving species-rich taxonomic groups in terrestrial and freshwater systems more weight than groups with fewer species. Regions map: IPBES (2015)². LPI data WWF/ZSL (2020)¹.



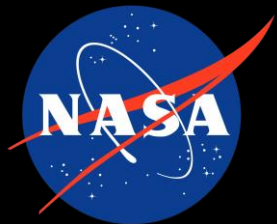
...Tropical subregions of the Americas



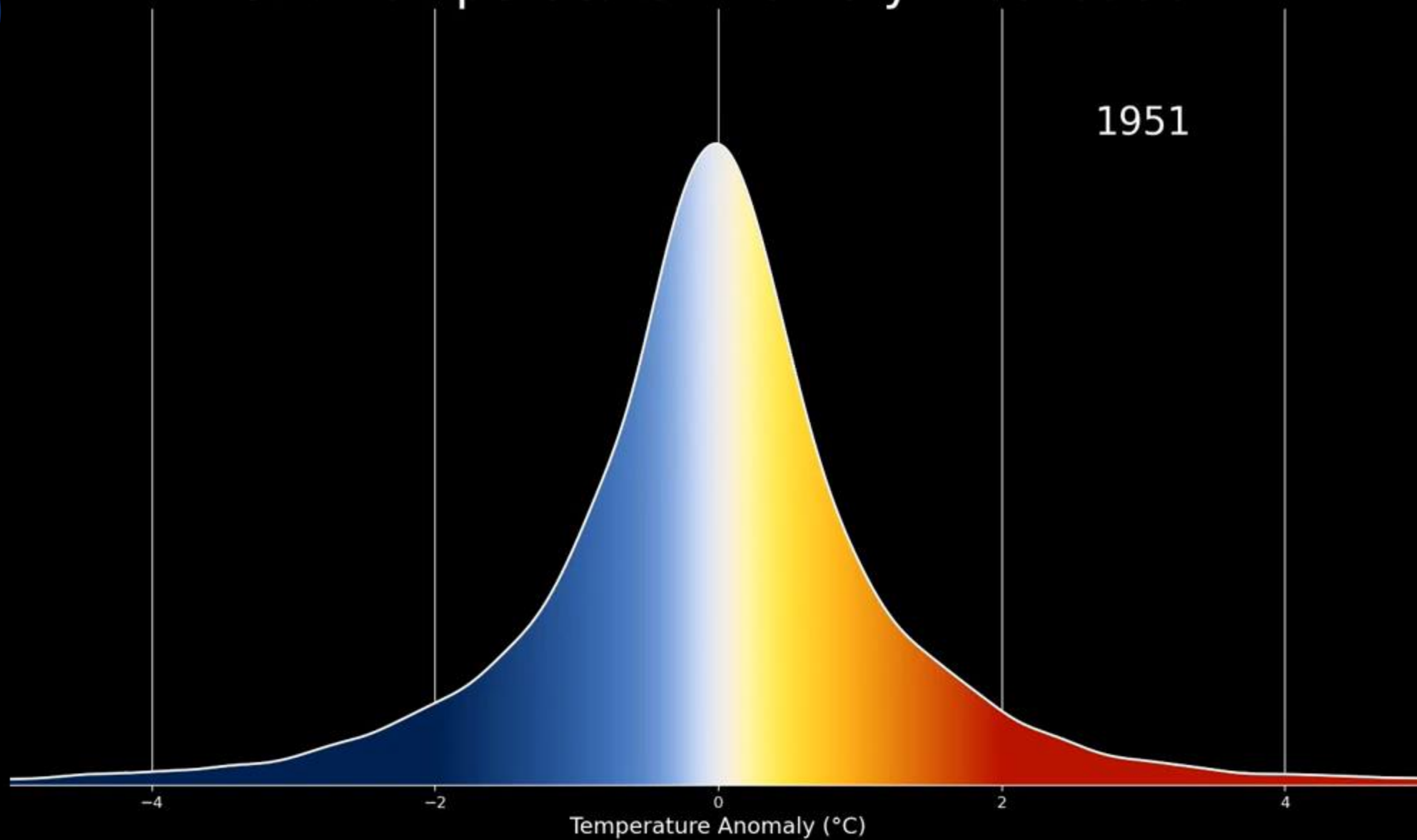
6% the number in 1970

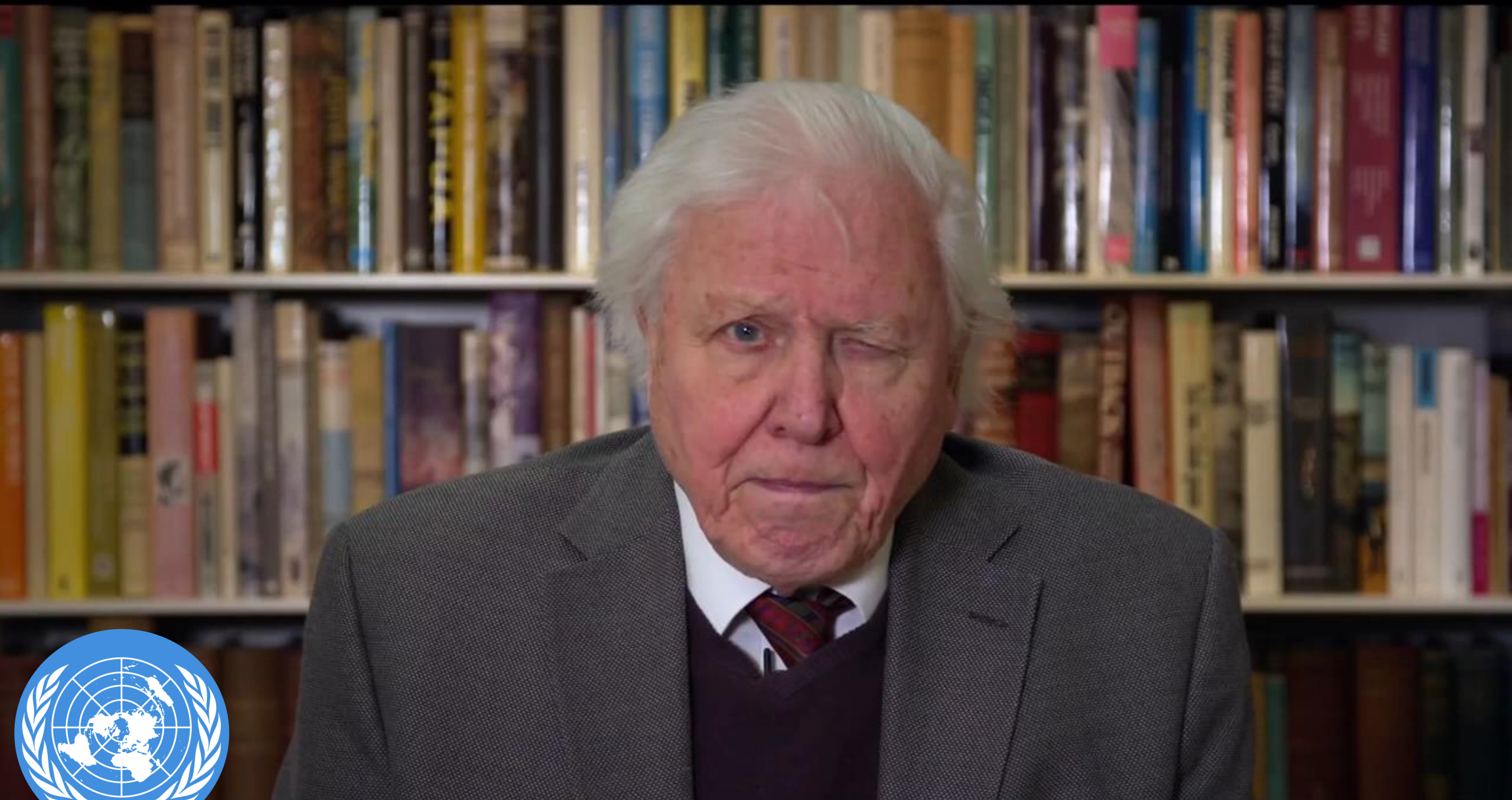


“The conversion of grasslands, savannahs, forests and wetlands, the overexploitation of species, climate change, and the introduction of alien species are key drivers.”



Land Temperature Anomaly Distribution





Sir David Attenborough on Climate and Security - Security Council Open VTC

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Madagascar on the brink of climate change-induced famine

By Andrew Harding
Africa correspondent, BBC News

© 25 August



Climate change



WFP/TSIORY ANDRIANTSOARANA

At least half a million children under the age of five are in danger of being acutely malnourished, the UN says



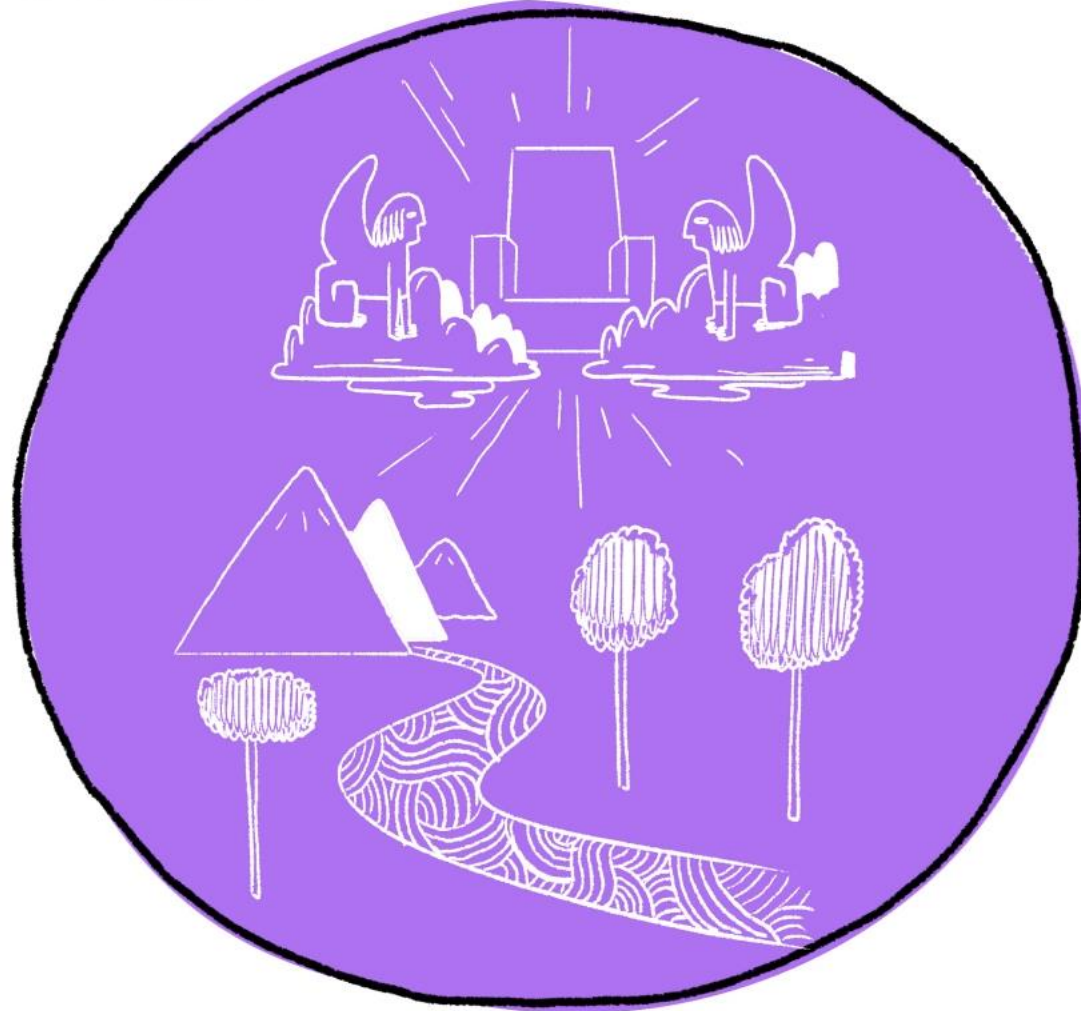
WFP/TSIORY ANDRIANTSOARANA

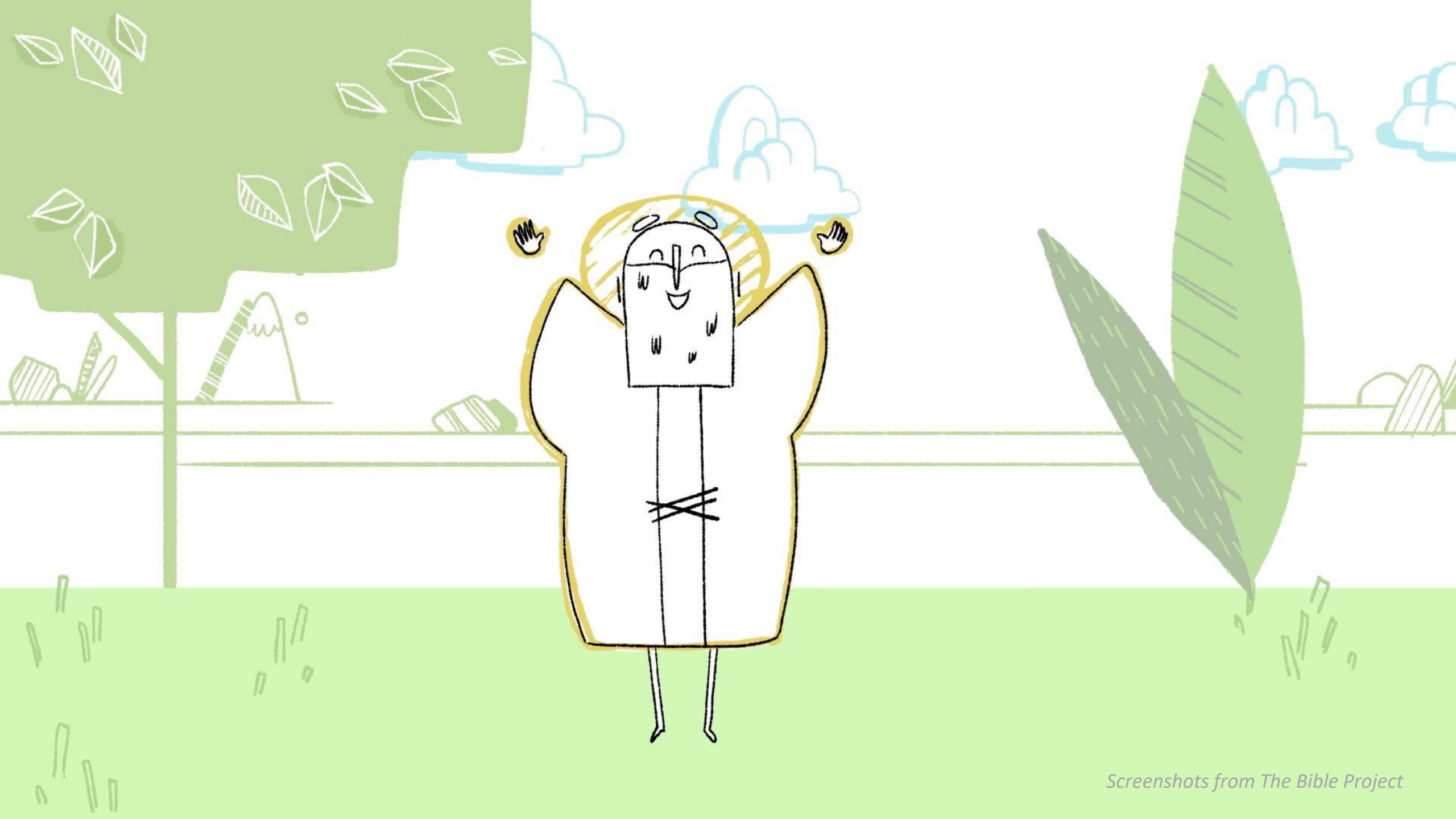
Crops have failed and now people are relying on insects and cactus leaves for food



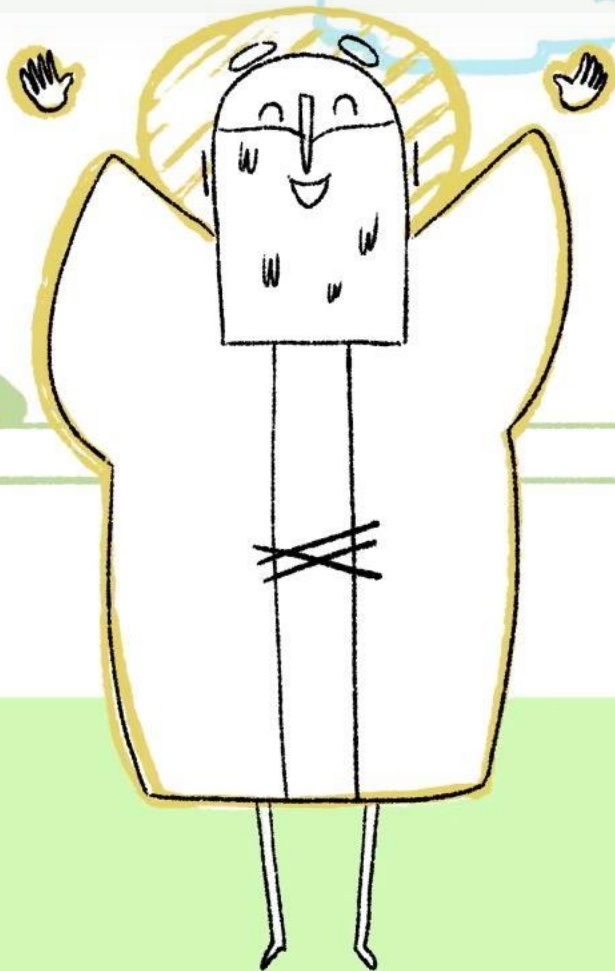
Why is **creation care**
an essential part of
the church's mission?

GARDEN *of* EDEN





God calls it good





It reflects God

For since the creation of the world
God's invisible qualities –
his eternal power and divine nature
– have been clearly seen, **being
understood from what has been
made**, so that people are without
excuse.

Romans 1:20

It belongs to God

The earth is **the LORD's**, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it

Psalm 24:1

For every animal of the forest is mine,
and the cattle on a thousand hills.
I know every bird in the mountains,
and the insects in the fields are mine.
...**the world is mine, and all that is in it.**

Psalm 50:10-12

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things** have been created through him and **for him.**

Colossians 1:16



It's our job

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may **rule over** the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and **subdue** it. **Rule over** the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Genesis 1

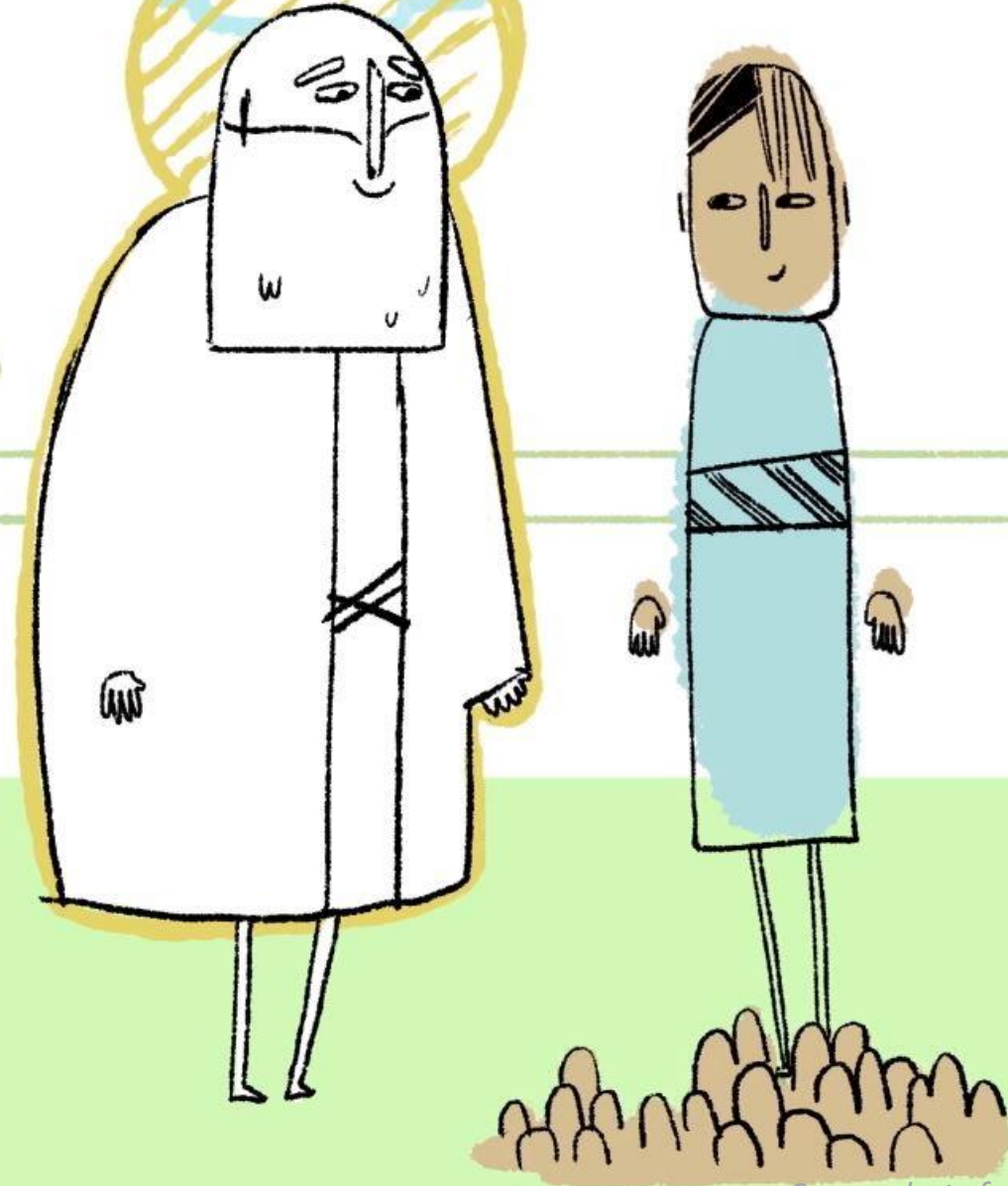


⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.

...

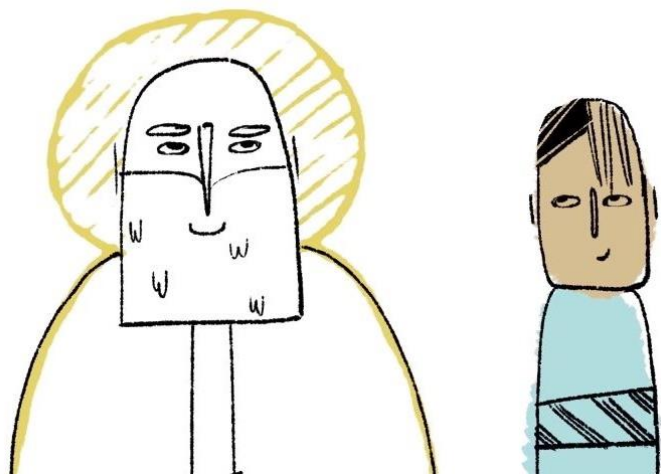
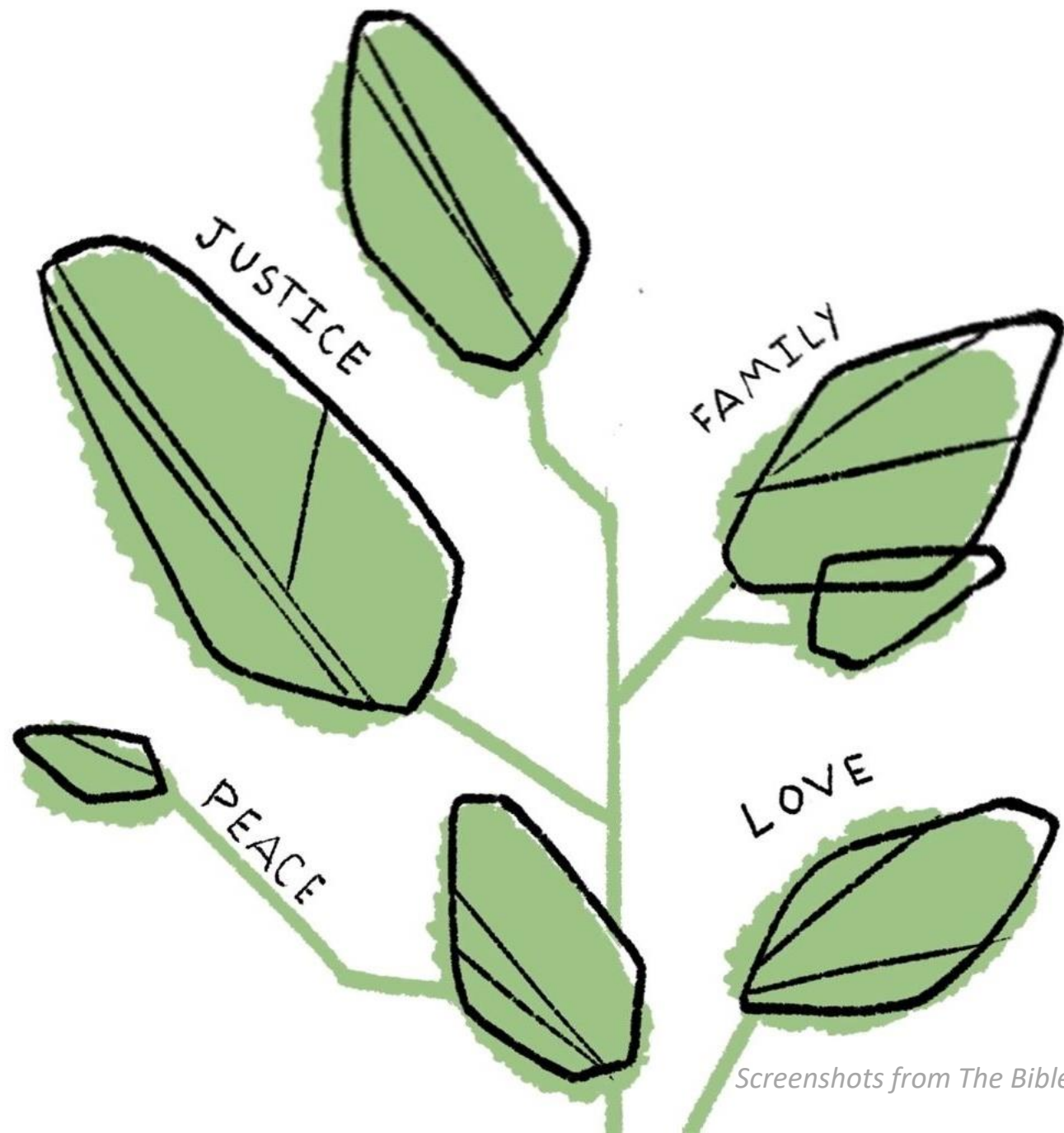
¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden **to work it and take care of it.**

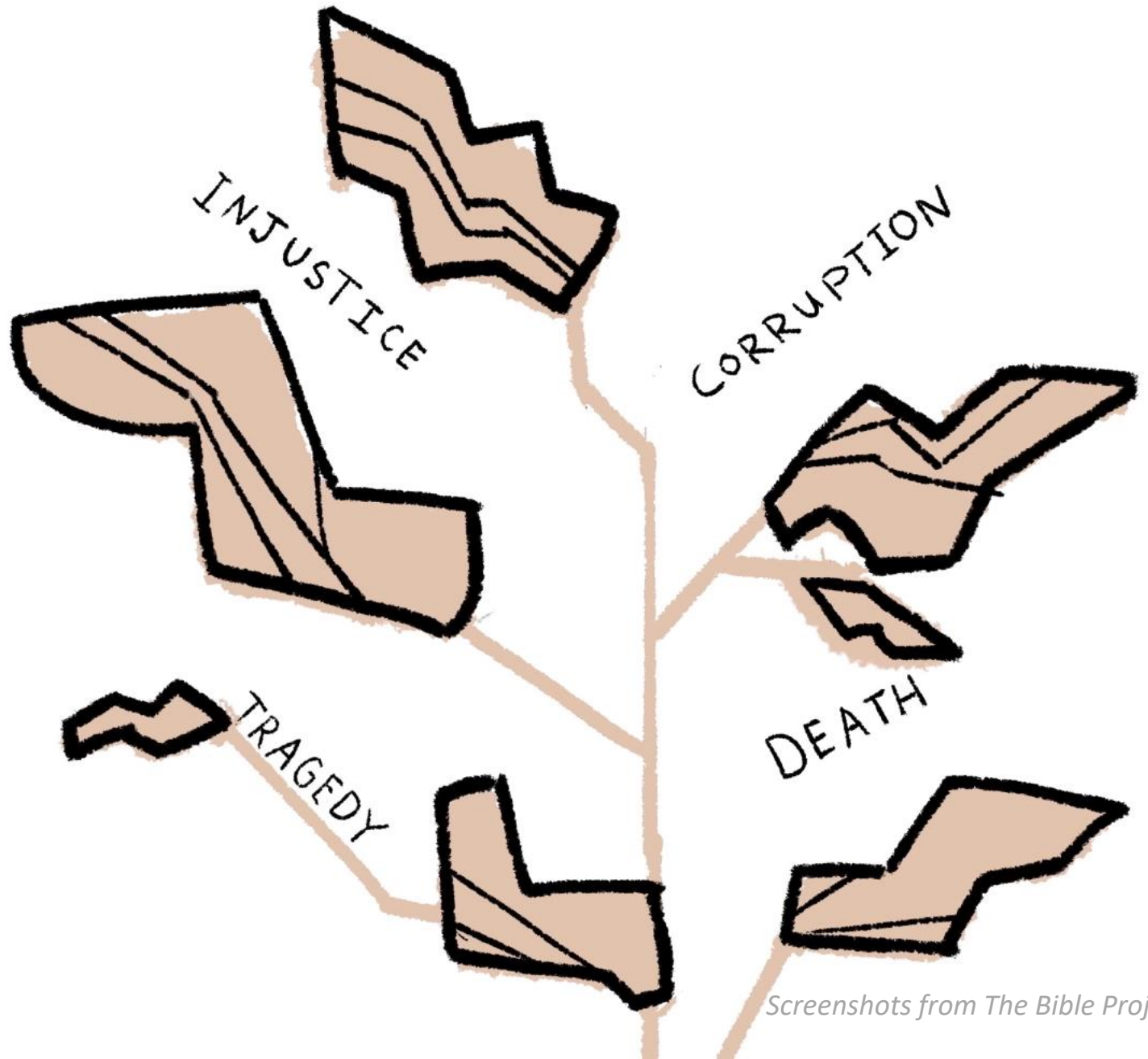
Genesis 2



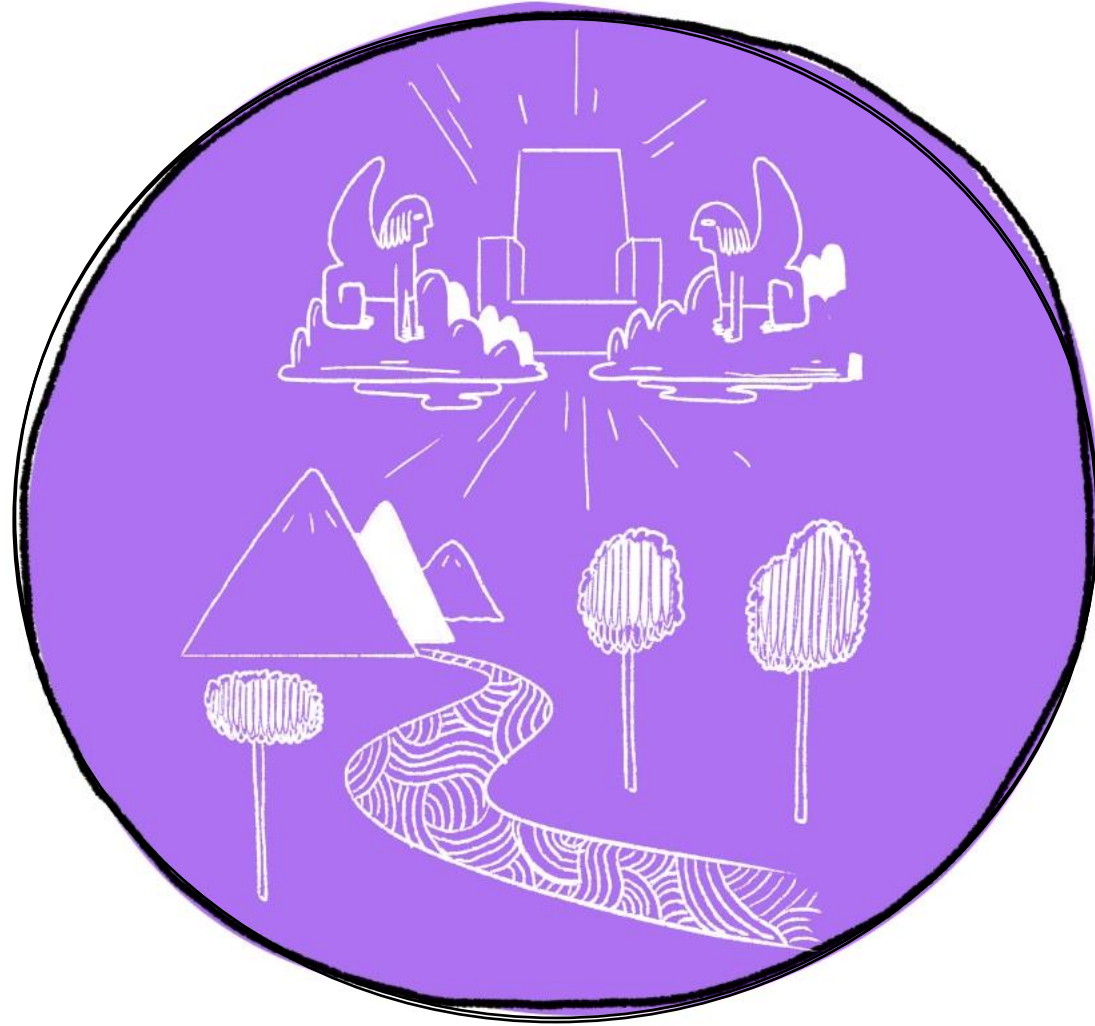


GOAL



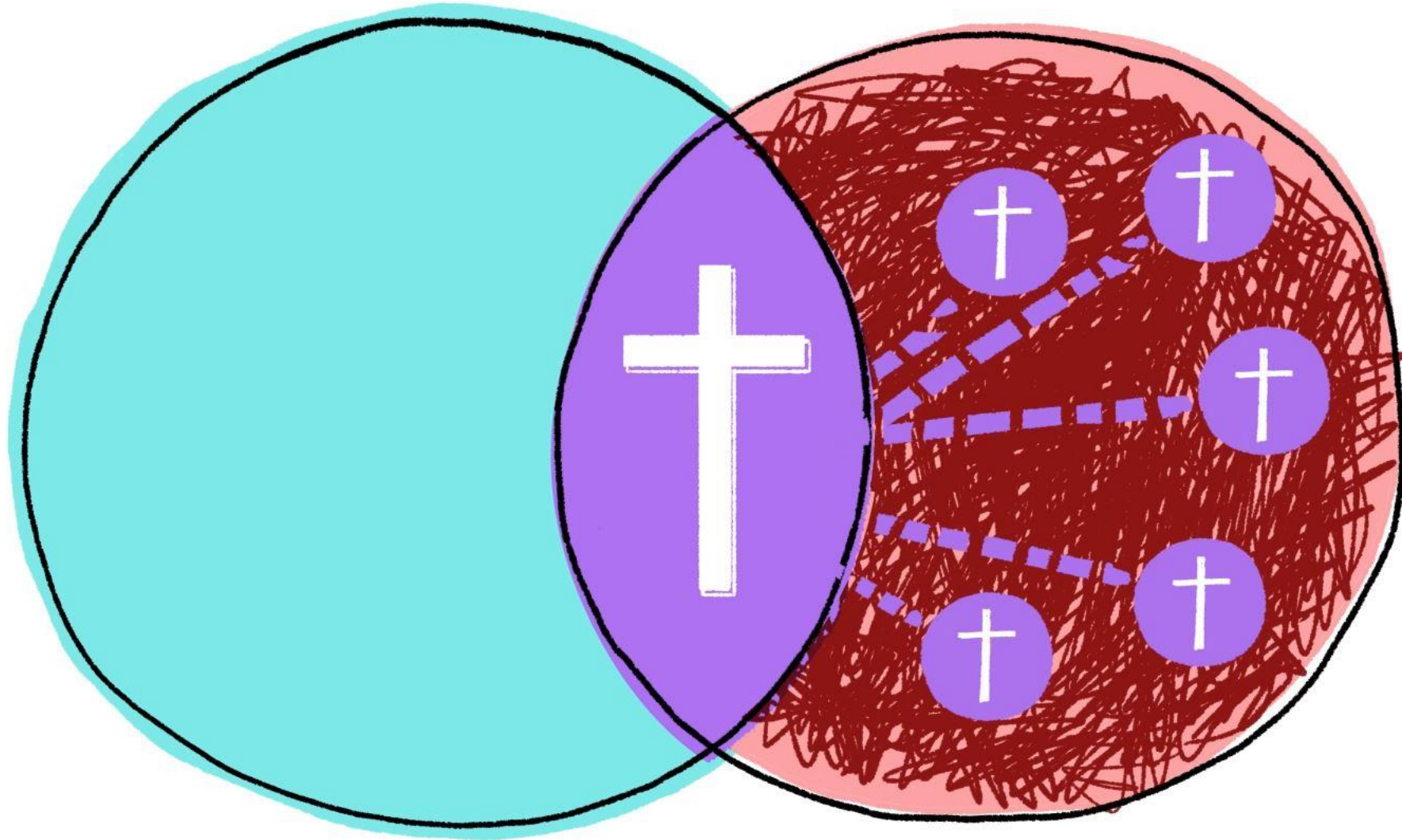


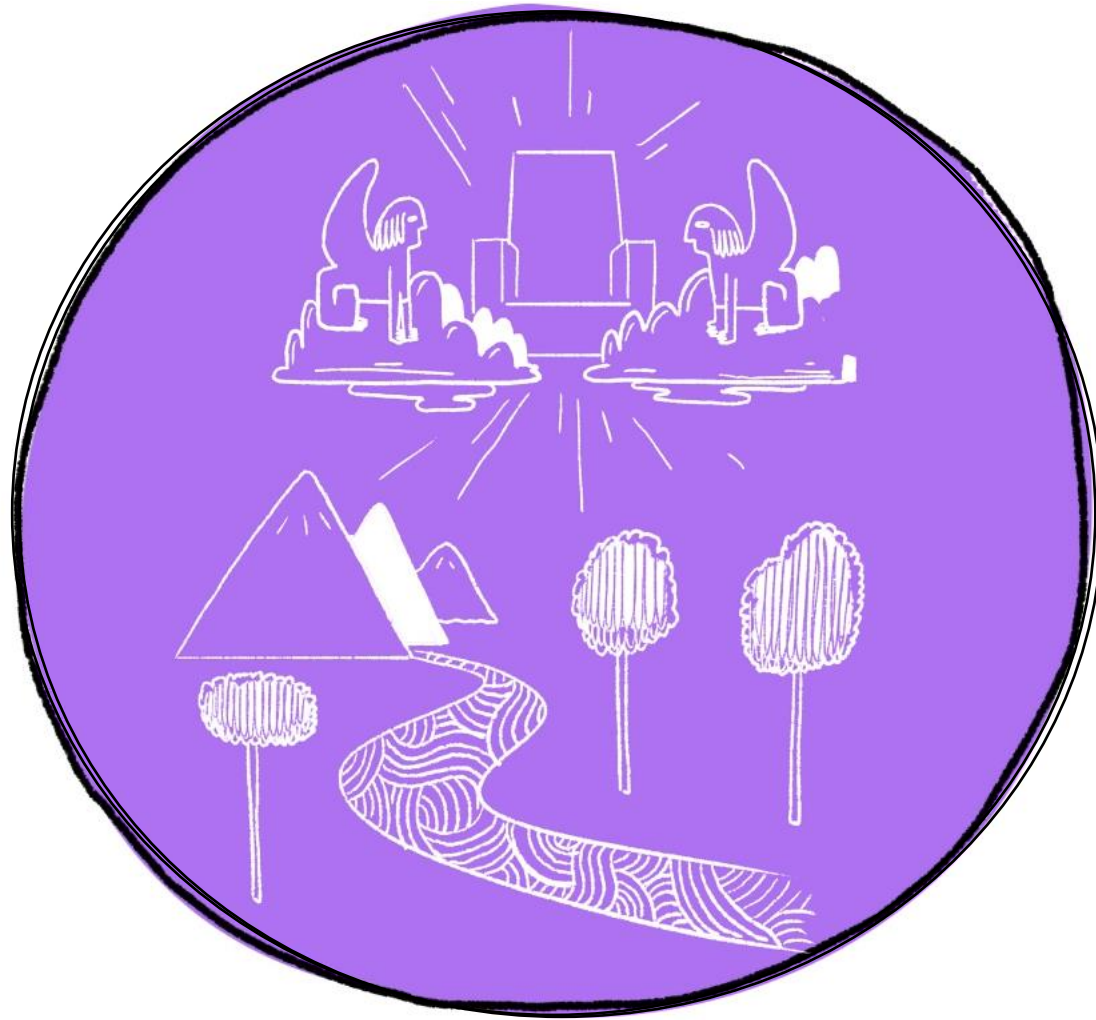
Genesis 3









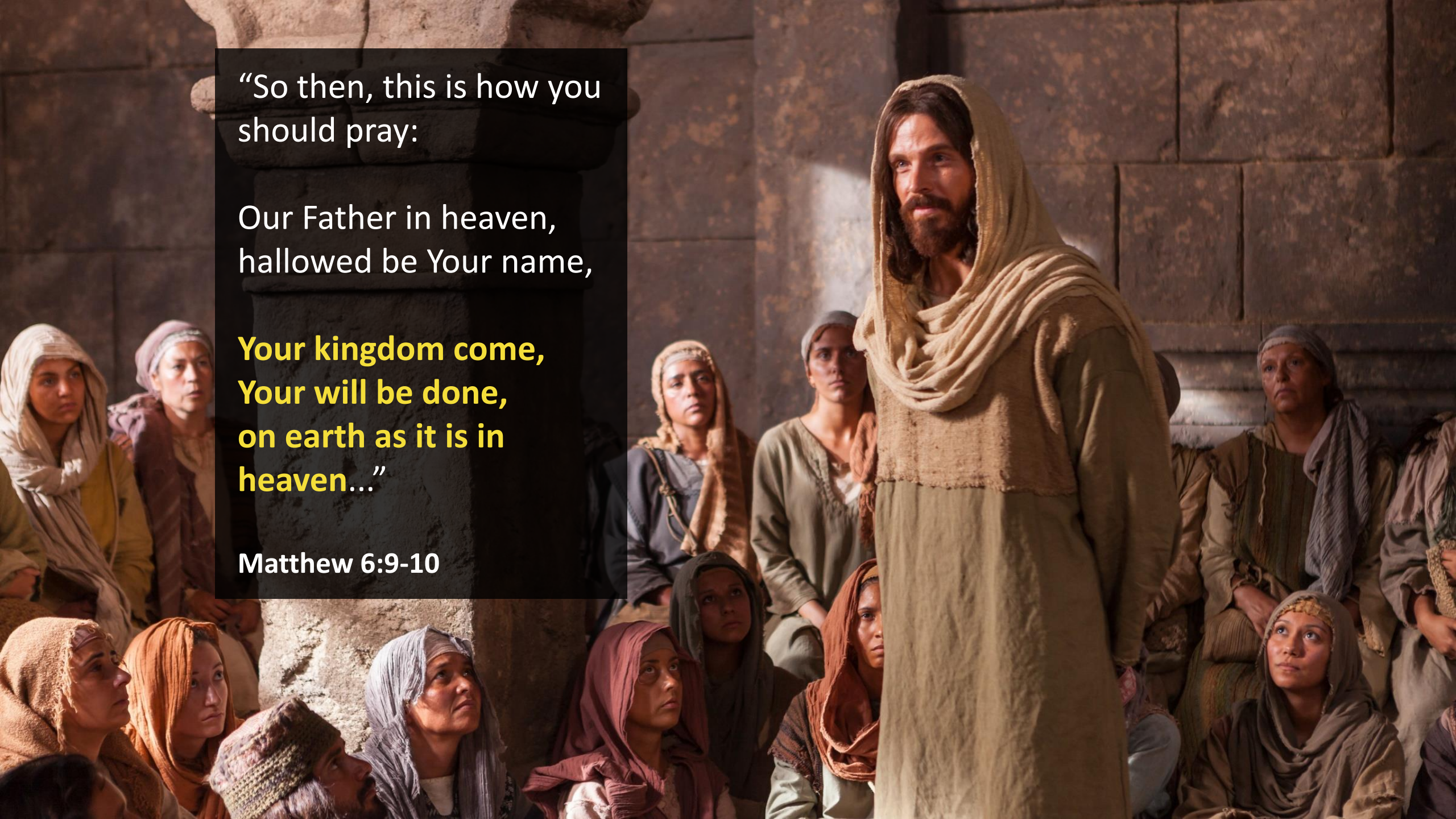


“So then, this is how you should pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,

**Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in
heaven...”**

Matthew 6:9-10



**“Consider how the
lilies of the field
grow: They do not
labour or spin.
Yet I tell you that
not even Solomon in
all his glory was
adorned like one of
these.”**

Matthew 6:29



“Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; **yet God feeds them.**”

Luke 12:24

thick-billed raven
(*Corvus crassirostris*)



house sparrow

(Passer domesticus)



**“Are not two
sparrows sold for
a penny?
Yet not one of them
will fall to the
ground outside your
Father's care.”**

Matthew 10:29



common potoo

(Nyctibius griseus)

For God so loved
the world
that he gave his one
and only Son, that
whoever believes in
him shall not perish
but have eternal life.

John 3:16



For God so loved
the *kosmos*
that he gave his one
and only Son, that
whoever believes in
him shall not perish
but have eternal life.

John 3:16

earth,
world system,
universe



For God was pleased to have all
his fullness dwell in him, and
through him

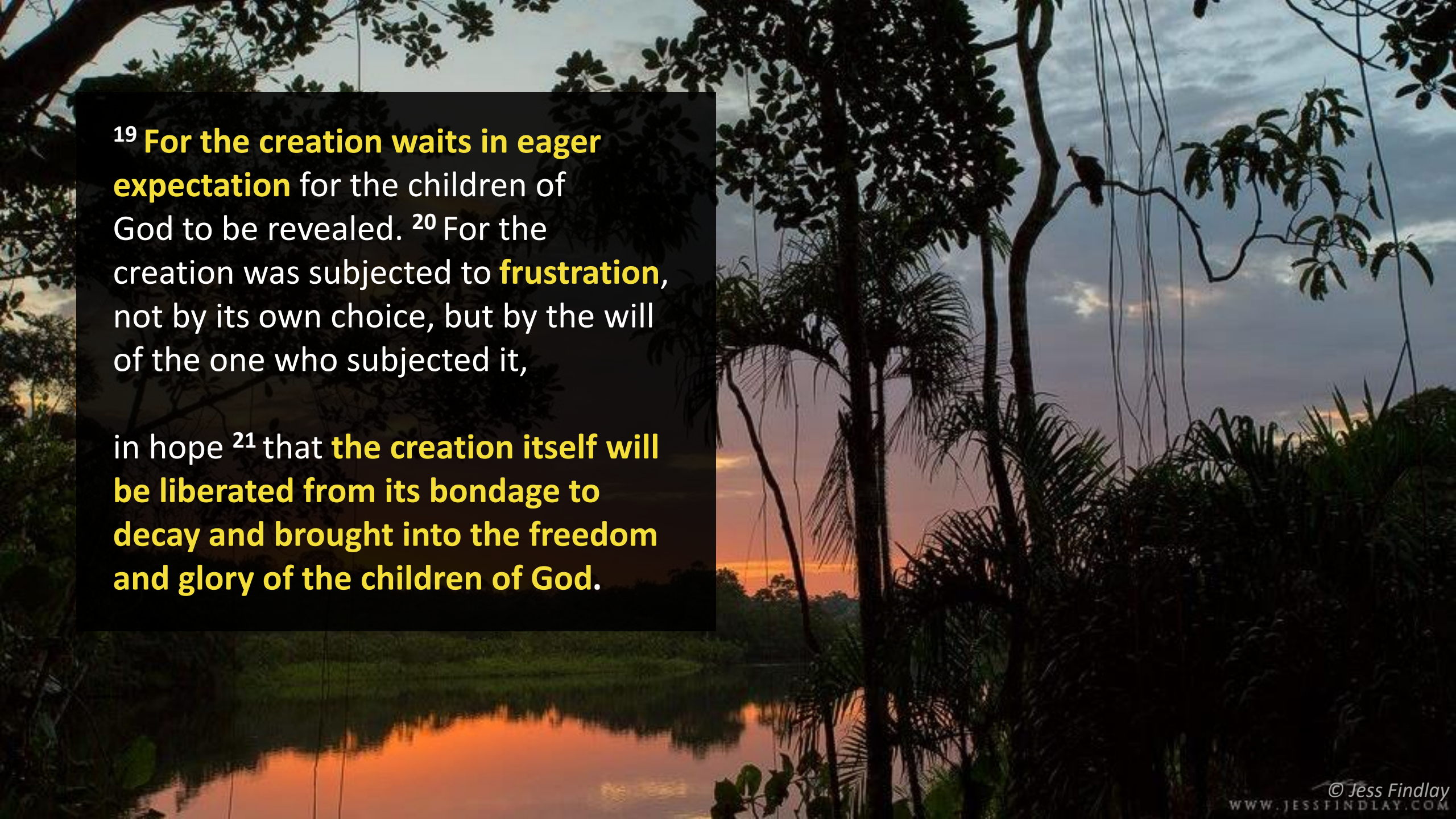
**to reconcile to himself
all things, whether things on
earth or things in heaven,**

by making peace through his
blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:15-20







¹⁹ **For the creation waits in eager expectation** for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to **frustration**, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it,

in hope ²¹ that **the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.**

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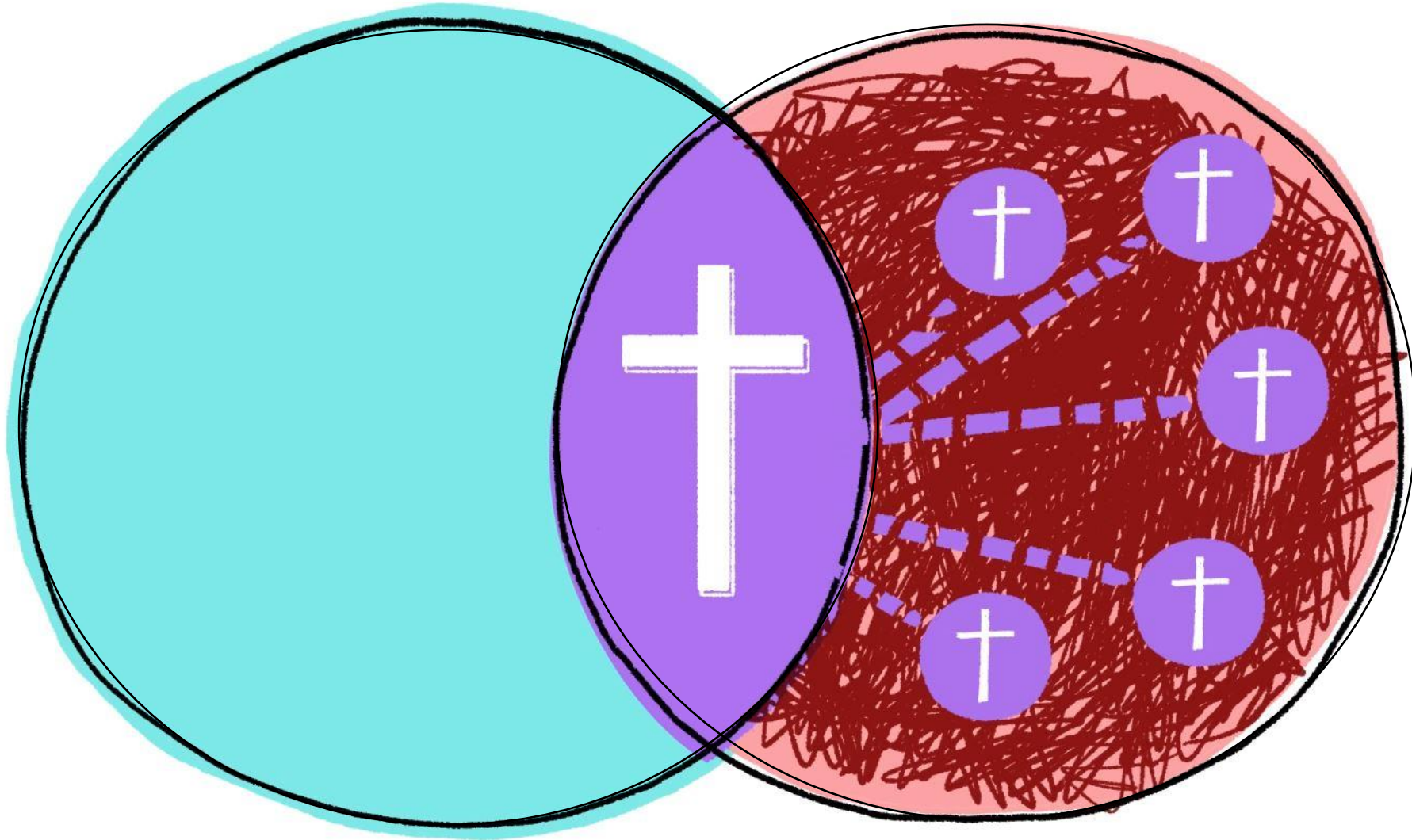
²² We know that **the whole creation** has been **groaning as in the pains of childbirth** right up to the present time.

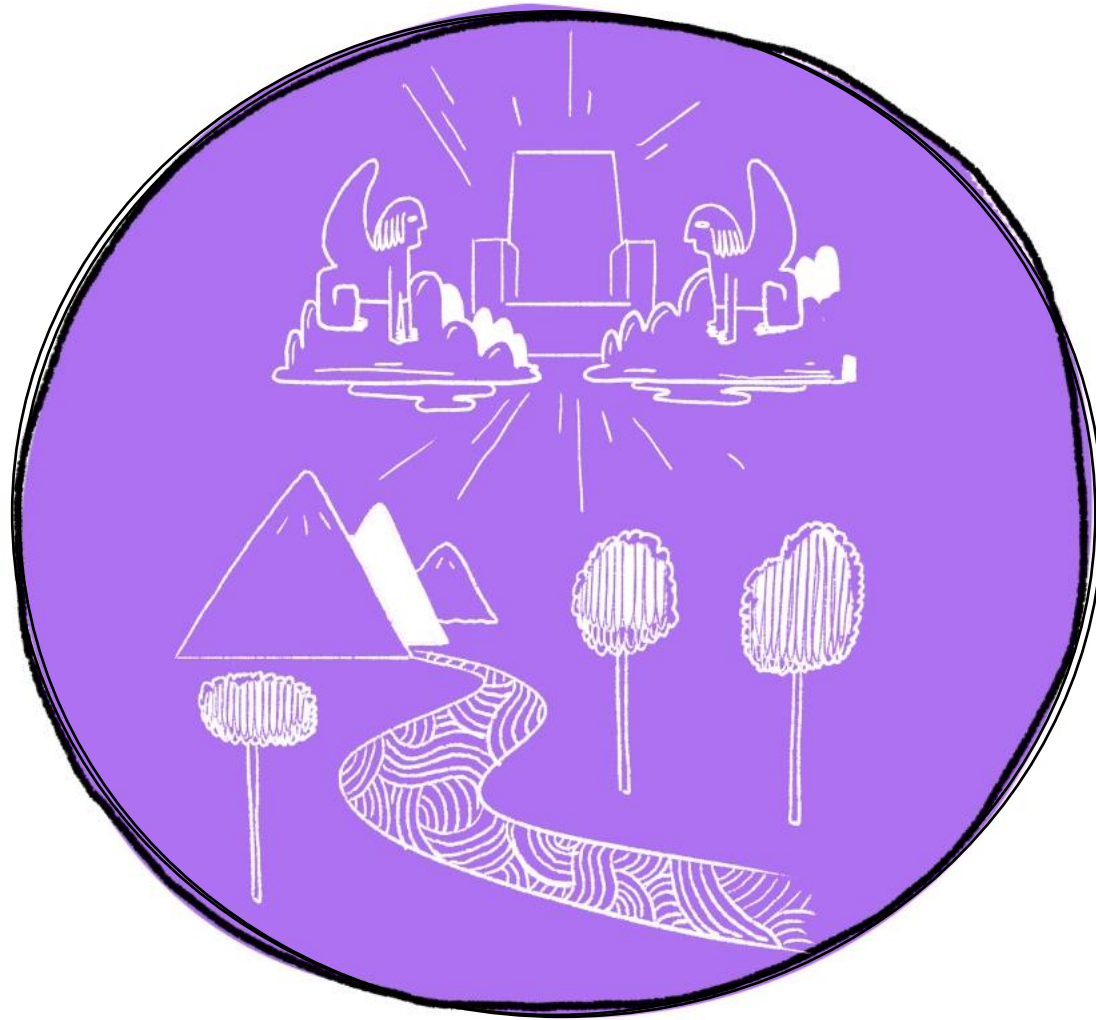
²³ Not only so, but **we ourselves**, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, **groan** inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, **the redemption of our bodies.**

²⁴ For in this hope we were saved.

Romans 8:19-24







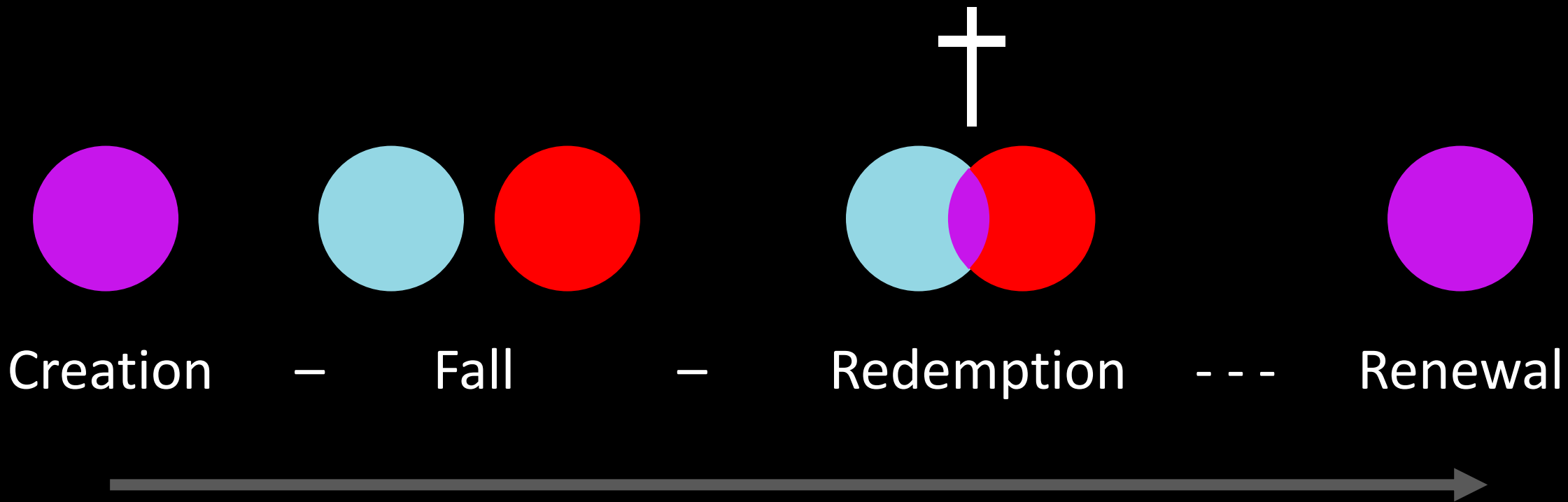
THE NEW HEAVEN & EARTH

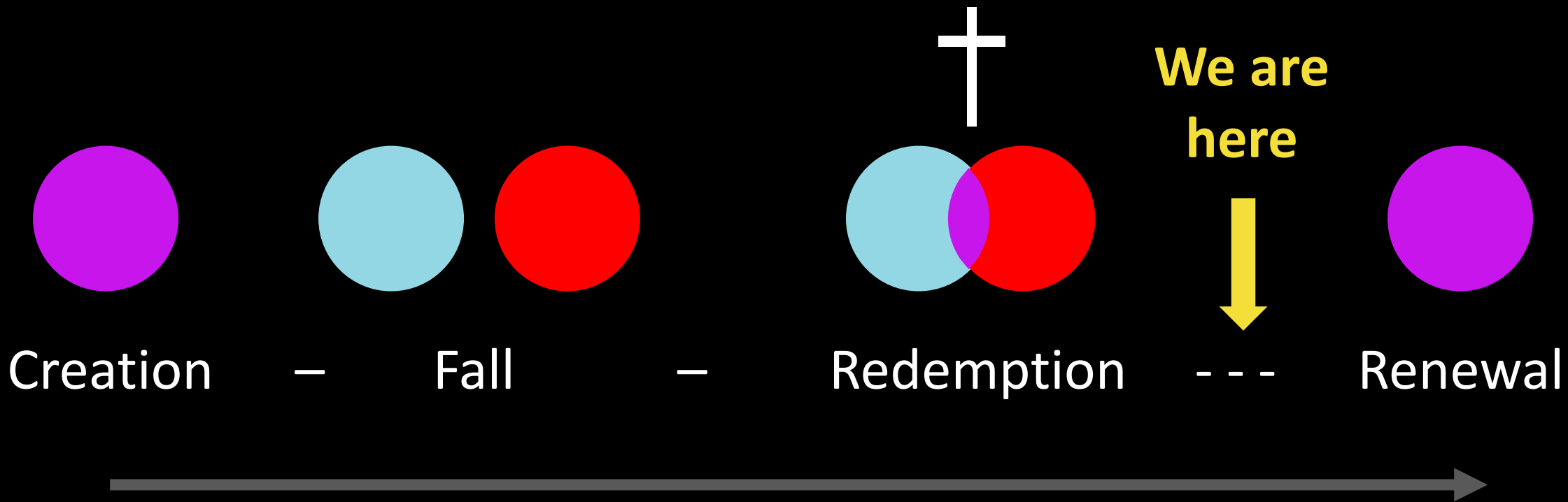



Screenshots from The Bible Project

Revelation 21









“The earth is created, sustained and redeemed by Christ. **We cannot claim to love God while abusing what belongs to Christ** by right of creation, redemption, and inheritance ...

Such love for God’s creation demands that we **repent of our part in the destruction**, waste and pollution of the earth’s resources and our collusion in the **toxic idolatry of consumerism**.

Instead, we commit ourselves to urgent and prophetic **environmental responsibility**.”

Cape Town Commitment
(Third Lausanne Congress, 2010)

A lush green forest with a waterfall in the background. The scene is filled with dense, vibrant green foliage. In the foreground, there are large, broad leaves of tropical plants. In the mid-ground, a waterfall cascades down a rocky ledge. In the background, a large, forested hillside rises, with a taller waterfall visible on its right side. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

So what should we do?

CITY SIDE Baptist

Tree planting, Oakley Creek, Auckland

*We could come back in five years
and say, "I planted that tree" ...*



Joel working hard on the mulching team



Wendy John, Kaitiaki of Te Auaunga



Maeve happy to be planting close to home



All hands to the task - Dieneke with seedlings



Lily showing how it's done



Saul & Joel



Elijah digs for a seedling



Estelle ties tags to mark the new planting

Our Climate Mission

anglican+
movement
DIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

[Make a submission now](#)

Petitions work!

Impressive volume of
Zero carbon submissions
from Wellington Anglicans
influence legislation



Mission for Submissions: October-November 2021

2021 is a momentous year for climate change policy in New Zealand. Our government is about to set the targets by which we hope to reduce our carbon



Community Gardens









papanui
baptist church

BIKETOBER

'Biketober' – biking to church (and elsewhere)





Bike to save CO₂ (and money)

**Your car emits
~2.3 kg of CO₂
per litre of petrol!**



ODO 1008.2 km

Eat less meat: UN climate-change report calls for change to human diet

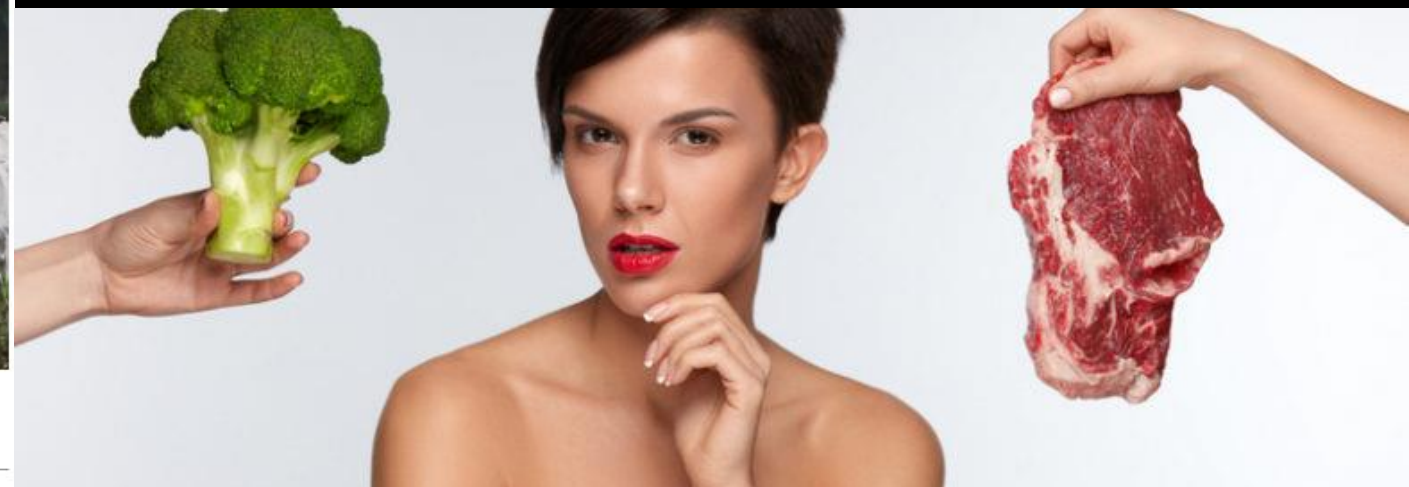
The report on global land use and agriculture comes amid accelerating deforestation in the Amazon.



Cattle farming, shown here in northern Brazil, is emission-intensive and often accompanies large-scale deforestation. Credit: Yasuyoshi Chiba/AFP/Getty

Eating less meat ‘single biggest way’ to reduce environmental impact

Poore, J., and T. Nemecek (2018). ‘Reducing Food’s Environmental Impacts through Producers and Consumers’. *Science* 360, 6392: 987–92.





Minimise Waste





Network with others on the journey

Edit

Group by New Creation New Zealand

Christian Environmentalists NZ

Private group · 243 members



Joined

+ Invite

About

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ECO CHURCH NZ

AN A ROCHA AOTEAROA NZ PROJECT

Churches across Aotearoa New Zealand actively caring for God's earth as an integral part of their mission.



Sustainable Buildings, Energy

Greening your church building project

"How can church building projects be more sustainable and low carbon?" was the question participants explored together in the recent A Rocha Eco Church Kōrero on 24 March 2022. Participants from around the motu who are interested or involved in church building projects met together online to discuss experiences and options. The two key presenters were Caitlyn Lee, an architectural graduate



Community Gardens, Food, Compost, Green Spaces, Cycling

All Saints, all in!

Late in 2020 All Saints Anglican Church in Ponsonby formed an eco-committee and went through the Eco Church self-assessment worksheet to ascertain areas to begin working on. A number of areas were identified through the worksheet, with the establishment of a community garden being determined as the most important. We liked the idea of a community garden because the church had available land. It is a very visible project and one of our church members has the expertise to make it happen.



Sustainable Buildings, Transport, Waste, Advocacy, Small Group Resources

Forming, Norming, Performing: Tawa Anglican's first year as an Eco Church



A lush green forest with a waterfall in the background. The scene is vibrant and serene, with dense foliage and a misty atmosphere. The waterfall is on the right side, cascading down a rocky ledge. The foreground is filled with various green plants and ferns.

Pray!

God is our Hope and our Strength!

A lush green forest with a waterfall in the background. The scene is vibrant and serene, with dense foliage and a clear sky. The waterfall is on the right side, cascading down a rocky ledge. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Pray!

God is our Hope and our Strength!