

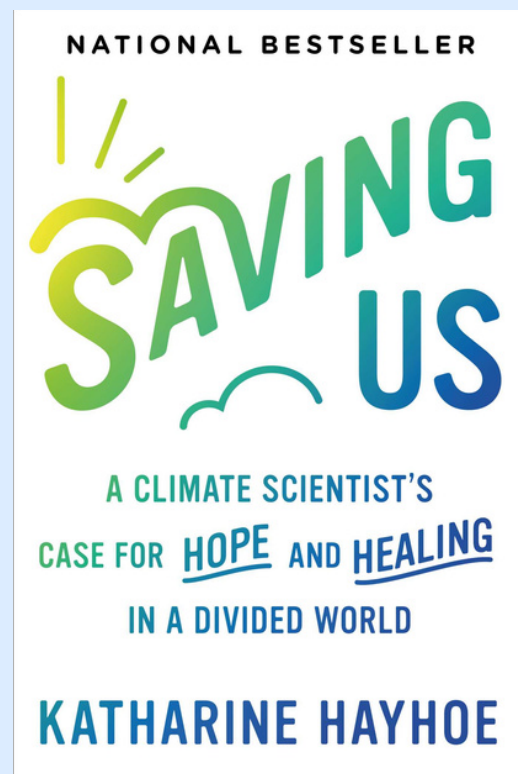


BETH BOND MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB

**EEN** EVANGELICAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

READING & REFLECTION

# DISCUSSION GUIDE



# WEEK 1

---

READ: SECTION 1 | CHAPTERS 1-3

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 15:1-19

---

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. In the chapter “Democrats and Dismissives,” Katharine introduces the idea of Global Warming’s Six Americas: Alarmed, Concerned, Cautious, Disengaged, Doubtful, and Dismissive. **Where would you say you fall on this continuum? Where would you guess most of the people in your church congregation or community fall?**
2. Katharine suggests that to break the “climate cycle” we have to: 1) start with something we have in common; 2) connect why climate change matters personally; and 3) describe what people can and are doing to fix it. **How would you walk through these steps while at coffee or lunch with a “doubtful” or “disengaged” friend?**
3. In the chapter “Who I Am,” Katharine notes that who you are is far more compelling than reeling off distant facts. **What are a few ways you can connect “who you are” with “why you care” in the community around you?**
4. “The biblical mandate for stewardship and care for creation, the connection between climate change and poverty, and the Bible verses that directed my concern,” are given as reasons to why Katharine cares about creation in the chapter “Who You Are.” **Do you agree or disagree that there is a biblical mandate to care for creation? Where in scripture do you find support for your position?**

## NOTES

[illegible]

# WEEK 2

READ: SECTION 2 | CHAPTERS 4-7

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 14:5-14

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. In “The Facts Are The Facts,” Katharine introduces “zombie arguments.” She notes that these scientific-sounding objections are what we most often hear when people want to argue about climate change. **What are a few common “zombie arguments” you have heard in your community or may have held yourself?**
2. In “The Problem With Facts,” Katharine points out that if rejecting climate change is part of what someone believes makes them a “good person,” they subsequently hear contradictory arguments as, “you’re a bad person.” **Why is it important that people in our community do not hear us saying “you’re a bad person” when it comes to climate change?**
3. “The Fear Factor” includes the important point that if we don’t connect fears about climate change to people’s everyday lived experiences *and* provide viable options for dealing with the threat, people will likely disengage. **How have you moved in your own life from climate change fear to climate change action?**
4. Fear, guilt, and shame are all mentioned in “The Guilt Complex” as possible negative emotion levers used to try and motivate individuals. **How is this similar to, or different from, how some Christian faith traditions have tried to win converts and maintain order? Is using negative emotional levers in accordance with “being known by our love” or having a “living hope” through the resurrection of Jesus?**

## NOTES

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper or a document template. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

# WEEK 3

READ: SECTION 3 | CHAPTERS 8-11

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:8; ACTS 9:32-43

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. Psychological distance is introduced in the chapter “A Faraway Threat” as the idea that the further away something is from us, the more abstract and unimportant we will consider it to be. **How does Katharine suggest we shorten that distance for the climate crisis? What are some ways you have recently shortened that distance for yourself or others?**
2. Katharine declares in “Here And Now” that “climate change is supersizing many of our weather events, making them stronger, longer, and more damaging.” **What are some of the most memorable weather stories from your community? Did your community’s response to climate change alter after that event?**
3. In “No Time To Waste,” Katharine quotes John Holdren as saying, “we can reduce the heat-trapping gas emissions that are causing climate to change; we can build resilience and prepare to adapt to the changes that we can’t avoid; or we can suffer.” **Discuss a few ways your community can reduce and adapt or will likely suffer if the climate crisis continues.**
4. Katharine cuts to the bottom line in “The Sickness And The Cure” to say, “climate change is not only a science issue. It is not ‘just’ an environmental issue. It is a health issue, a food issue, a water issue, and an economic issue. It’s an issue of hunger, of poverty, and of justice. It’s a human issue.” **Which of these issues speaks the most to the values in your local context or in your congregation? How can you start talking about creation care through the lens of that issue?**

## NOTES

[illegible]

# WEEK 4

---

READ: SECTION 4 | CHAPTERS 12-17

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 6:19-24

---

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. Katharine introduces the idea of solution aversion in the chapter “Why We Fear Solutions” to explain people that don’t have a problem with the climate science but have concerns about climate solutions. **Who does Katharine suggest has manufactured some of this aversion to solutions? Why have they done so, and how can we use collective action to respond?**
2. The tragedy of the commons and need for collective action is explored in “Carbon and the Common Good.” **What qualities and traits of the Church allow it to uniquely face the challenge of working together collectively across communities and nations?**
3. In “Everyone Needs Energy,” Katharine argues that while electricity is a moral necessity, fossil fuels are not. **What is the key distinction between the moral need for energy and the desire to burn fossil fuels? What opportunities does this difference open for advocacy and solutions?**
4. In “Time To Speed Up,” Katharine argues that it’s not a matter of *whether*, it is a matter of *when*. **Why does Katharine say now is the time to move on? What are some of the costs of climate impacts that stand out to you?**

## NOTES

[illegible]

# WEEK 5

---

READ: SECTION 5 | CHAPTERS 18-22

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 28:18-20; JOSHUA 1:5-9

---

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. As you complete *Saving Us* and reflect on what you've read throughout the book, what stands out to you? What new concepts do you think you will apply to your own life moving forward?
2. What surprised you most while reading the book? Why?
3. What questions do you still have? What would you ask the author if you had the chance?

## NOTES

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 28 horizontal blue lines spaced evenly across the page, typical of standard notebook paper. The lines are thin and light blue, set against a plain white background. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

**For questions regarding the use of this discussion guide, contact the Evangelical Environmental Network at [support@creationcare.org](mailto:support@creationcare.org)**