

EENEVANGELICAL COWBOY & PREACHER DISCUSSION GUIDE

Scripture states that God made humankind in his image in order to take care of all His Creation (Genesis 1:26). As Christians looking to practice creation care, it's important that our work be rooted in scripture and that our efforts stem from a firm foundation and strong conviction in our faith, especially as we seek God's guidance in how to address great humanitarian challenges like climate change and the degradation of our environment. EEN's hope is that Cowboy & Preacher, along with this group discussion guide, will help you grow closer to God, our Creator, by reflecting on what it means to take faithful action as stewards of His creation.

WATCH THE FILM

Password: cowboypreacher

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does creation tell us about the Creator? How does this help us better know God?

2. Why do you think Christians have not been more passionate about taking care of the environment?

3. As Christians, we are given the task to love: to love God, and to love our neighbor (Mark 12:30-31). How do our individual actions affect the environment? And other human life?

4. In 2 Kings 20:19, Hezekiah wonders if there will ever be "peace and security" in his lifetime. As witnesses of devastating impacts of climate change, we may sometimes wonder the same. Fortunately, we can trust in God's greater plan for humanity, while always remembering that God gave us free will. How much control do we have about what happens in the future?

5. Read Matthew 25:34-45. When it comes to environmental degradation, it is our most vulnerable communities-the "least" of Christ's brothers and sisters-that suffer first and worst. What does it mean to be a true disciple of Jesus? How can creation care be a form of discipleship? Of worship?



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6. In what ways has God revealed Himself to you through His creation? How does creation line up with or contradict your understanding of God?

7. God's creation could be one of the most powerful methods of evangelism we have. As we study and experience creation we can use the visible to lead others to the invisible. What are some practical ways that God's creation and creation care can help us share God's love and the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

8. Read Romans 8:18-22. Does this passage change or impact your idea of the Kingdom of God? If so, how?

9. How does time (our understanding of the past; our personal history; our plans for the future generations) influence our spiritual lives?

10. In Matthew 6:10, Jesus is telling us that we should be asking for the earth to be a reflection of heaven. God wants us to participate in living out His plan for all of creation. While we are on earth God calls us to be good stewards of it. What are your hopes for the future of all of God's creation?

ACTION STEPS:

1. <u>Sign up</u> to be an EEN Creation Care Champion.



2. Visit our <u>Take Action</u> page for opportunities to make your voice heard on local and national environmental policies.

- 3. <u>Sign up</u> to receive EEN's Faith & Agriculture Newsletter, Regenerate.
- 4. Visit our <u>Events</u> page to learn about and register for our upcoming creation care events.
- 5. Support EEN's Creation Care efforts by <u>donating</u> to our ministry.



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