## tearfund

# Young Christians Urgently Want to Stand With the Church on Climate Change

# **91%** believe it is important to ACT NOW

94% of young Canadian Christians surveyed say that their faith taught them to care about injustice and the most vulnerable.

Jesus taught us to love those less fortunate, but many young Christians in our country believe that the church is ignoring this message by not taking meaningful climate action.

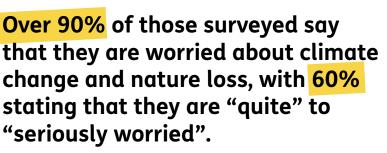
Young Christians today see a clear connection between the climate crisis and global injustice, with vulnerable people disproportionately affected by environmental changes.



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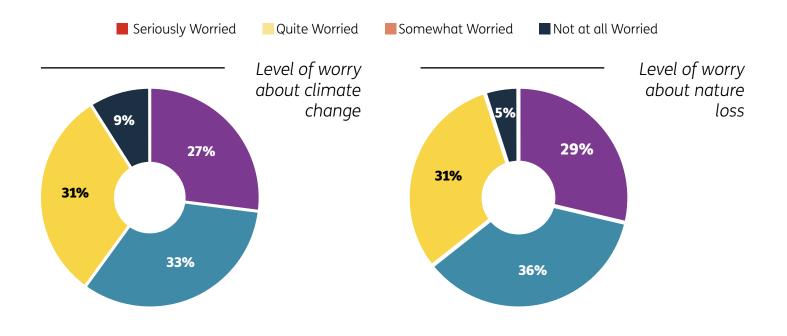
If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

1 Corinthians 12:2<mark>6</mark>



In addition to their concern for vulnerable populations, young Christians are also concerned about how their own futures will be affected.

> "It appears like the clock is ticking, and there may not be a future world for my children or my grandchildren."



Over 70% think climate change is a serious threat, and that humans are responsible, but only ¼ have found a way to take action.

#### 25%

I am convinced that climate change is a serious threat and I'm already taking action.

#### 47%

I think that climate change is a serioius threat and I think that humans are largely responsible for causing it.



**92%** of young Christians surveyed believe that caring for creation is an essential act of discipleship and the Church's mission.

In addition, <mark>88%</mark> said they believe creation care is an essential aspect of the Gospel message.

Caring for creation should be an essential aspect of discipleship for every Christ follower.

<sup>52%</sup> 40% 92% Agree

Caring for creation should be an essential aspect of the mission of the church.

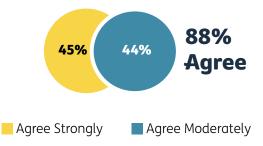
40%

52%

92%

Agree

The redemption of creation is an essential aspect of the Christian gospel message.



### Desired vs. current experiences in the Church

Currently Experienced Desired Experience

Collaborating with other organizations on activities or campaigns that engage climate and/or nature loss



Taking practical steps to help the church tangibly respond to climate change and/or nature loss



Providing information or training to help attendees adopt more ecologically friendly practices in daily life Young Canadian Christians are especially eager to connect their personal faith to creation care. They have a strong desire for the church to wield its influence and lead the way in engaging in climate action. By engaging with climate concerns, church leaders are cultivating new ways to share the Gospel.

74% 34%

## Tearfund Climate Change Survey, 2023 Survey Respondents

"As the body of Christ, part of showing and sharing the kindness and love of God towards the world would be to care for his creation in a very intentional way." "The original commission was to love creation and care for it, just as much as we should love each other. And it's not one above the other. It's just one calling from God."

"The original and most basic task of humans is to glorify God and creation care is a big part of that."

Less than 1 in 5 surveyed feel that the church is influential in how they respond to climate change and nature loss. That's why Tearfund Canada and A Rocha have partnered up to launch a nationwide campaign to encourage climate change and nature loss awareness within the church. We know this is a daunting issue, but together, we believe that the body of Christ can have an impact on this need and we are here to help! By working with Christian leaders, we're creating ways for Christians to take hands-on creation care actions while making a statement of faith.

## Take the pledge to join us on May 27th

We encourage you to join us as we come together all across Canada on May 27th for a day of creation care. Together we'll show our faith through our deeds by cleaning up our local communities and caring for the earth.

Visit **the URL** and sign up your church and its youth group or share it with your congregation for them to sign up as individuals and families.

Add your names to a collective of believers who want to care for creation and make an impact on nature loss, from a place of love for the earth, for others, and for Jesus.

Be a church that hosts a clean up crew, or join another church in your area. And be sure to opt-in for more informative updates and initiatives!



#### Who we surveyed. (Tearfund Canada & A Rocha Canada)

742 individuals from various Christian traditions in Canada. m=38%, F=60%. 26% were aged 18 to 24, and 74% aged 25 to 40. 65% attend church weekly with 78% attending at least once a month. 99% believe they have salvation through Christ, 98% consider the Bible to be the Word of God. 50% identify as evangelical.

