

# What next?

## Suggestions for moving forward

### Background and Further Reading

These studies are no more than an introduction to creation care and do not deal with many topics of intense debate – such as farming methods (organic, factory), treatment of animals (not forgetting the over-exploitation of fisheries), deforestation (which often produces instability and landslides), extinctions, technologies, (nuclear power, genetical manipulation), water availability, pollution, climate change. They are intended to provide a basis for better understanding of these practical issues.

### Introductory

**Jones, J.** (2003). *Jesus and the Earth*. SPCK

**Prance, G.T.** (1996). *The Earth Under Threat*. Wild Goose Publications

**Tillett, S.** (ed.) (2005). *Caring for Creation*. Bible Reading Fellowship

In 2005, the Church of England produced a major report for the General Synod, *Sharing God's Planet*

### More advanced studies

**Berry, R.J.** (ed.) (2000). *The Care of Creation*. Inter-Varsity Press

**Berry, R.J.** (ed.) (2007). *When Enough Is Enough*. Apollos

**Gnanakan, K.** (1999). *God's World*. SPCK

### Environmental Theology

**Berry, R.J.** (2003). *God's Book of Works*. T&T Clark

**Brown, W.P.** (1999). *The Ethos of the Cosmos*. Eerdmans

**Northcott, M.S.** (1996). *The Environment and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge University Press

### Useful Links and Contacts

There are a number of national Christian environmental organisations which can help and support individuals or congregations.

**A Rocha UK** is a Christian conservation organisation. It produces valuable material each year for worship on Environment Sunday, the first Sunday in June. 13 Avenue Road, Southall, Middlesex UB1 3BI ([www.arochoa.org.uk](http://www.arochoa.org.uk))

**Christian Ecology Link** is a campaigning group to encourage Christians to integrate their faith with awareness of environmental impacts; it produces a regular magazine, *Green Christian*. 3 Bond Street, Lancaster LA1 3ER ([www.christian-ecology.org.uk](http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk))

**Eco-Congregation** provides environmental resources to individual churches within the context of the Christian faith. It is based within A Rocha in Southall. ([www.ecocongregation.org](http://www.ecocongregation.org))

**John Ray Initiative** brings together scientific and Christian understandings of the environment. Room QW 212, Francis Close Hall, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham GL50 4AZ ([www.jri.org.uk](http://www.jri.org.uk))

**Operation Noah** is a project of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and Christian Ecology Link to campaign for climate justice ([www.christian-ecology.org.uk/noah](http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk/noah))

The Christian development agencies all deal with environmental issues, and produce helpful material:

**Christian Aid**, 35 Lower Marsh, London SW1 7RL ([www.christian-aid.org.uk](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk))

**CAFOD**, Romero Close, London SW9 9TY ([www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk))

**Tearfund**, 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE ([www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org))

### Other Organisations

**Carbon Trust**, 3 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2AZ ([www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk))

**Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs**, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR ([www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk))

**Ecological footprint**, c/o Worldwide Fund for Nature, Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XR ([www.wwf.org.uk](http://www.wwf.org.uk))

**Eco-Schools**, ENCAMS, Elizabeth House, The Pier, Wigan WN3 4EX ([www.eco-schools.org.uk](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk))

**Energy Saving Trust**, 21 Dartmouth Street, London SW1H 9BP ([www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk))

**Good Energy**, Monkton Hill, Chippenham SN15 1EE ([www.good-energy.co.uk](http://www.good-energy.co.uk))

**Stop Climate Chaos**, 2 Chapel Place, London EC2A 3DQ ([www.icount.org.uk](http://www.icount.org.uk))

# And then ...

## Ecological Footprints

An eco-footprint is a measure of your environmental impact. It measures the amount of the earth's resources needed to support the way you live - including the area of land to produce what you eat, the area taken to dispose of your rubbish, the number of trees to absorb the carbon dioxide emissions from your car or the plane you took for your holiday. The average UK footprint is 5.3 hectares per person (about six football pitches). If everyone lived like that, we would need three Earths.

To reduce your footprint:

- ◆ Buy local food; this reduces food miles
- ◆ Fly less; by 2030 air travel is predicted to make up one third of the UK's total greenhouse gas emissions
- ◆ Recycle more and reduce the amount you consume; buy fresh food, not prepacked
- ◆ Use your car less
- ◆ Make your home more energy efficient (Get a home energy check)
- ◆ Replace your electric light bulbs with energy-saving ones
- ◆ Don't leave electric equipment on standby

## A Final Thought

Psalm 19 describes God as the author of two Books: a Book of Words (the Bible) and a Book of Works (Creation). They are written in very different languages but He is the author of both. Four centuries ago Francis Bacon wrote: 'Let no one think or maintain that they can search too far or be too well studied in the Book of God's Words or in the Book of God's Works, but let all endeavour an endless proficiency in both'. Let us make that our own aim.

