

Season of Creation 2025

Faith and Climate: A Conversation Guide

Talking about climate change as a Christian can feel daunting—but you are not alone. Many believers share a deep concern for God’s creation and for the people most affected by environmental harm—especially vulnerable communities already facing poverty, displacement, or injustice. Yet raising the topic of climate change with family, friends, or your church can feel risky. It might seem divisive or emotionally charged, and you may worry about being misunderstood or creating conflict.

But here’s the good news: starting conversations really matters. The [Climate Council](#) affirms, “*One of the most important things you can do for the climate is to talk to others about it,*” and research shows that you are one of the most trusted and influential voices in the lives of your loved ones. Your voice makes a difference.

Even more encouraging is the growing awareness within the Australian Church. According to the [2021 National Church Life Survey](#), nearly 9 in 10 church leaders (88%) and 8 in 10 churchgoers (77%) agree that Christians have a responsibility to be active on environmental issues. While poverty remains a top concern, support for environmental action is rising—concern for environmental issues grew from 11% in 2016 to 19% in 2021.

This guide is here to help you begin these essential conversations—with grace, humility, and hope. You don’t need to be a scientist or expert. What matters most is a heart for justice, a love for God’s creation, and the courage to speak up in faith.

1. Start with Shared Values

Instead of starting with facts and figures, begin by finding common ground. What do you both care about—faith, family, health, nature, justice? Connect climate action to biblical principles, highlight caring for the Earth as an act of stewardship.

Try beginning with: *“I care about creation and climate justice because I love what God made—and I want to protect it for future generations.”*

2. Listen & Ask Questions

Be curious, not combative - climate conversations are more effective when they are dialogues rather than debates. Ask open, grace-filled questions that invite reflection and reduce defensiveness.

Try asking:

- *“What does caring for God’s creation mean to you?”*
- *“How do you see God’s creation being impacted?”*
- *“Have you noticed changes in the weather or local environment?”*
- *“How do you think faith can shape our response to these challenges?”*

3. Share Hope & Action

The climate crisis can feel overwhelming—but our hope is in God, and small faithful steps make a difference. Share encouraging stories of churches adopting sustainable practices, Christians advocating for policy change, voting for climate-conscious leaders, supporting local conservation efforts or ways individuals can care for creation.

Encourage practical actions that align with their faith: *“What’s one small step we could take as a church or household to care for creation?”*

Our [Season of Creation Bible Study](#) is full of actions you can take to care for creation and advocate for climate justice.

4. Faith-based Climate Responses

Here are a few common myths about the Christian faith and climate—and how to gently respond:

“God is in control, so we don’t need to worry about the climate.”

Response: Yes, God is sovereign—but Scripture consistently calls us to faithful responsibility. From Genesis 2:15 (“to till and keep” the garden) to Jesus’ parables about stewardship (Luke 12:42–48), we are expected to care wisely for what God entrusts to us. God has given humanity great dignity and agency—calling us co-workers in God’s purposes (1 Corinthians 3:9) and stewards of creation. Trust in God doesn’t absolve us from action—it empowers it. As those made in God’s image, we are entrusted with the care of the Earth and of one another, and God works through our efforts to bring about justice, restoration, and peace.

“The Earth is temporary—we’re just passing through.”

Response: While we await the fullness of God’s kingdom, the Bible affirms the goodness and lasting value of creation. Romans 8 speaks of all creation groaning for renewal, and Colossians 1 declares that all things were made through and for Christ—and are being reconciled in him. The hope of resurrection is not escape from Earth, but restoration.

“Caring about climate change is a political agenda, not a spiritual one.”

Response: Creation care is not partisan—it’s a deeply biblical call. Scripture is filled with themes of justice, compassion, and God’s love for all creation. Ignoring environmental harm that affects the poor, future generations, and the web of life is a failure of Christian discipleship, not a neutral choice.

“Human dominion means we can use the Earth however we want.”

Response: In Genesis 1, “dominion” is often misunderstood as permission to dominate or exploit the Earth. But the biblical context shows it’s actually a call to responsible, loving stewardship—reflecting God’s own character of care, generosity, and justice (see Psalm 145:9; Psalm 24:1). True dominion mirrors the servant-hearted leadership of Jesus, who used his power not for control but for healing, restoration, and the good of others (Matthew 20:25–28). Far from justifying environmental harm or a licence to exploit, biblical dominion invites us to govern creation with humility, restraint, and reverence—recognising that it ultimately belongs to God, not us.

“Climate change is too big for us—only God can fix it.”

Response: The scale of the crisis is daunting, but Scripture and history show that God consistently works through people who are willing to act with faith and courage. From Moses confronting Pharaoh, to Esther risking her life to protect her people, to the prophets speaking truth to power—the biblical story is full of examples where ordinary people played extraordinary roles in God’s purposes. And throughout history, followers of Jesus have led movements for justice and transformation: Christians helped drive the abolition of slavery, led the U.S. civil rights movement, called for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander justice, campaigned for child labour laws, and advocated for peace and human rights. God does not ask us to solve everything on our own, but to take faithful steps. As Micah 6:8 reminds us: “What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.” Our call is to be part of God’s healing work in the world—trusting that when we act in love, even small steps can become part of something much bigger.

5. Further Resources

- [Common Grace: Climate justice policy asks](#) for meetings with politicians.
- [Climate Anxiety: Resources](#) to help process grief and emotions related to climate change.
- [Climate Council: Guides for effective climate communication](#), including [*Five Tips for Having a Chat About the ‘C’ Word (Climate)*].
- [Tearfund: In-depth research report](#) on climate, young Christians, and the Australian Church.
- [NCLS Research: Data on Australian churchgoers’ views on the environment.](#)

10 Common Climate Myths (and How to Respond with Faith and Facts)

Many people in your community—or even yourself—have questions, doubts, or concerns about climate action. This guide addresses ten of the most common myths that hold people back, offering clear facts to inform your understanding and spark meaningful conversations. It also offers a brief faith perspective to help shape a thoughtful Christian response—grounded in love, truth, and a call to care for God’s creation and our neighbours.

A Faithful Response to Climate Myths

As Christians, our response to climate change is rooted in love—for God, our neighbours, and all creation. Scripture calls us to steward the earth wisely (Genesis 2:15), seek truth (Proverbs 18:15), and act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). Faced with the scale and urgency of the climate crisis, we’re moved not by fear, but by compassion and a sense of responsibility—especially toward those most vulnerable.

Faith doesn’t call us to wait for perfect solutions, but to take small, faithful steps that reflect God’s justice and renewal (Romans 8:18–25; James 2:17). Whether through advocacy, sustainable choices, or conversations, our actions help restore God’s world. Even when the task feels overwhelming, we remember that God often works through what is small and humble—like a mustard seed that grows into something greater (Matthew 17:20). Climate action is a form of discipleship, rooted in hope and grounded in the belief that creation is good, people matter, and change is possible.

Myth 1: “The climate has always changed—it’s natural.”

Fact: While Earth’s climate has changed in the past, the current warming is not natural. It is happening much faster than previous changes and directly correlates with the rise in human-made greenhouse gas emissions since the Industrial Revolution.

Myth 2: “Carbon dioxide is harmless—it’s natural and plants need it.”

Fact: CO₂ is natural, but too much of it traps heat in the atmosphere, leading to dangerous warming that disrupts ecosystems and harms life. Just like too much water can drown a plant, too much CO₂ is harmful, even if it's something life depends on in smaller amounts.

Myth 3: “Scientists don’t agree on climate change.”

Fact: Over 97% of climate scientists and 99.9% of peer-reviewed studies agree that climate change is real and caused by human activity. This is one of the strongest scientific consensuses in history.

Myth 4: “It’s cold today, so global warming must be fake.”

Fact: Weather and climate are different. Climate is long-term trends; weather is short-term conditions. A cold day doesn’t disprove global warming—on the contrary, climate change can disrupt weather patterns and lead to more extreme events of all kinds.

Myth 5: “Climate change won’t affect me personally.”

Fact: Climate change is already affecting people everywhere—through extreme weather, food insecurity, rising insurance costs, physical and mental health impacts, and more. No one is immune, though the most vulnerable suffer first and most.

Myth 6: “Technology or adaptation will solve it later.”

Fact: Adaptation and technology are part of the solution, but they’re not magic fixes. The longer we delay reducing emissions, the harder and more expensive it will be to adapt—and some changes will be irreversible. Already species are going extinct, ecosystems are being disrupted, and whole towns are becoming unliveable.

Myth 7: “Renewable energy is unreliable and can’t power the world.”

Fact: Renewables like wind and solar are already providing reliable, large-scale power across the globe. Battery storage and smart grid technology continue to improve, making a clean energy future not just possible, but increasingly affordable.

Myth 8: “It’s too late to do anything.”

Fact: While it's true that the impacts of climate change are already with us, and some losses will be irreversible - it's not too late to act. In fact, determined and urgent action is crucial. Every fraction of a degree of warming we prevent matters. Acting now can still avoid the worst impacts and create a healthier, fairer, more sustainable world.

Myth 9: “Climate action will ruin the economy.”

Fact: Inaction costs far more—through disasters, lost productivity, and health crises. Investing in climate solutions can boost jobs, innovation, public health, and resilience, while transitioning away from polluting industries.

Myth 10: “Individual actions don’t make a difference.”

Fact: While system-level change is crucial, individual and community actions (conversations, votes, habits) matter too. They influence culture, create demand for better policies, and can spark collective momentum for change. Small, faithful actions add up to big shifts.