

# Environmental Missions, Justice & the Climate Crisis

The Church has been slow, but not remiss, in responding to the climate crisis through its two traditional means of outreach: missions and social justice. Hear some practical opportunities to join in and learn how Christ-followers can better ally with other activist movements while offering our greatest gift in the face of climate change: radical hope.

Time : December 30, 4:45 pm

Room : ICC 138-139

Speakers



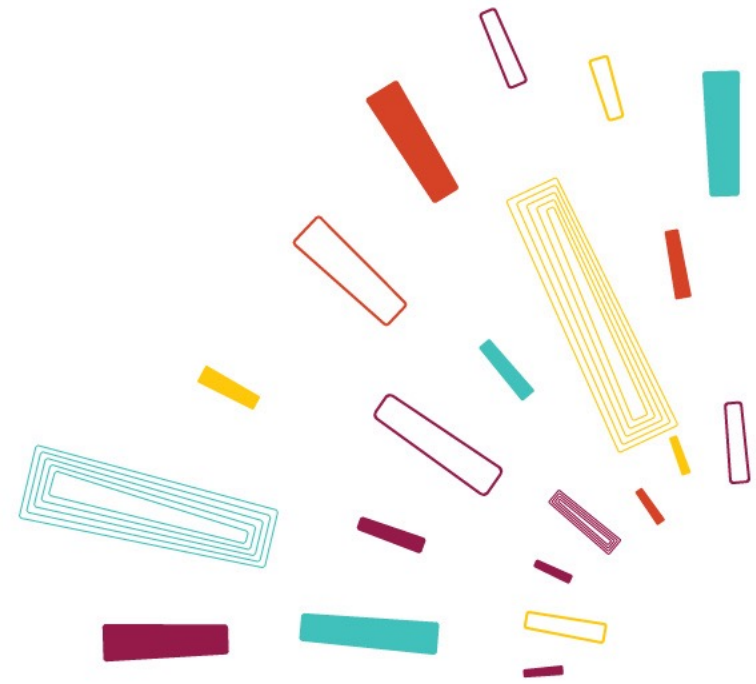
## Lowell Bliss

Lowell Bliss is the Director of the Eden Vigil Institute for Adaptive Leadership and the Environment, at William Carey International University. He is the co-director of the Christian Climate Observers Program, which brings emerging leaders to the UN COP climate summits. He helps run Climate Intercrossors, a global prayer network. A missionary for 14 years in India and Pakistan, Lowell is the author of two books on Environmental Missions. He and his wife moved to Ontario, Canada, in 2018, and he discovered this summer that he may like canoe camping as much as he likes backpacking.

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 WILLIAM CAREY INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

 Eden Vigil<sup>SM</sup>  
loving Christ and His created



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I Am Greta




Eden Vigil<sup>SM</sup>  
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Eden Vigil Institute @ WCIU (Exhibit #1511 by book store)  
(Arthur, online MA studies, chat with me)  
(Pop-up: Climate Loss & Damage at COP27 and You: tomorrow 12:45)



Christian Climate Observers Program: [www.copclimate.org](http://www.copclimate.org)  
(COP28 in Dubai, Dec 2023)



Climate Intercessors:  
[www.climateintercessors.org](http://www.climateintercessors.org)  
(monthly global prayer meetings)

“Processing the Difficult Emotions of  
Climate Change” webinar/retreat  
(Feb 4 and quarterly,  
[www.wciu.edu](http://www.wciu.edu))

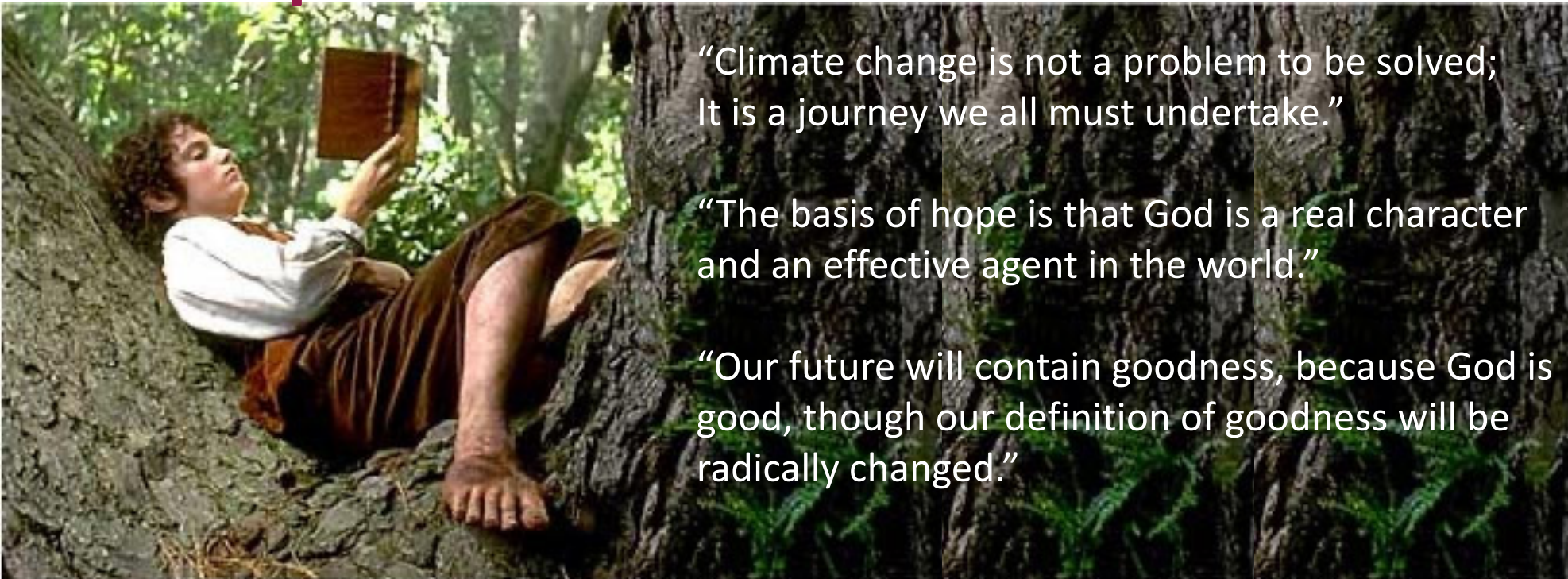


opportunities





# hope



“Climate change is not a problem to be solved;  
It is a journey we all must undertake.”

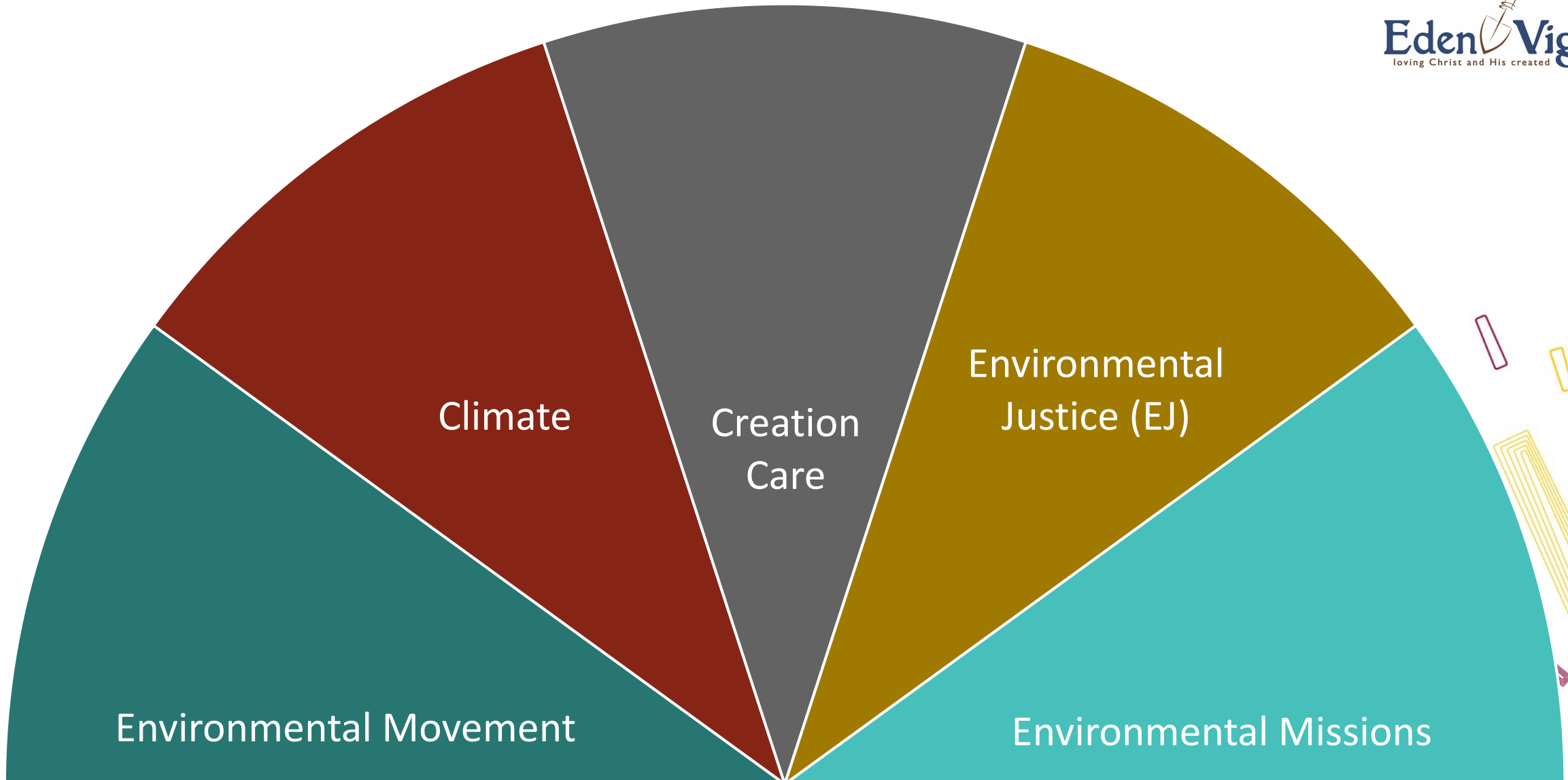
“The basis of hope is that God is a real character  
and an effective agent in the world.”

“Our future will contain goodness, because God is  
good, though our definition of goodness will be  
radically changed.”





# The Five Movements





# The Five Movements



Environmental Movement



Climate



Creation Care



Environmental Justice (EJ)



Environmental Missions

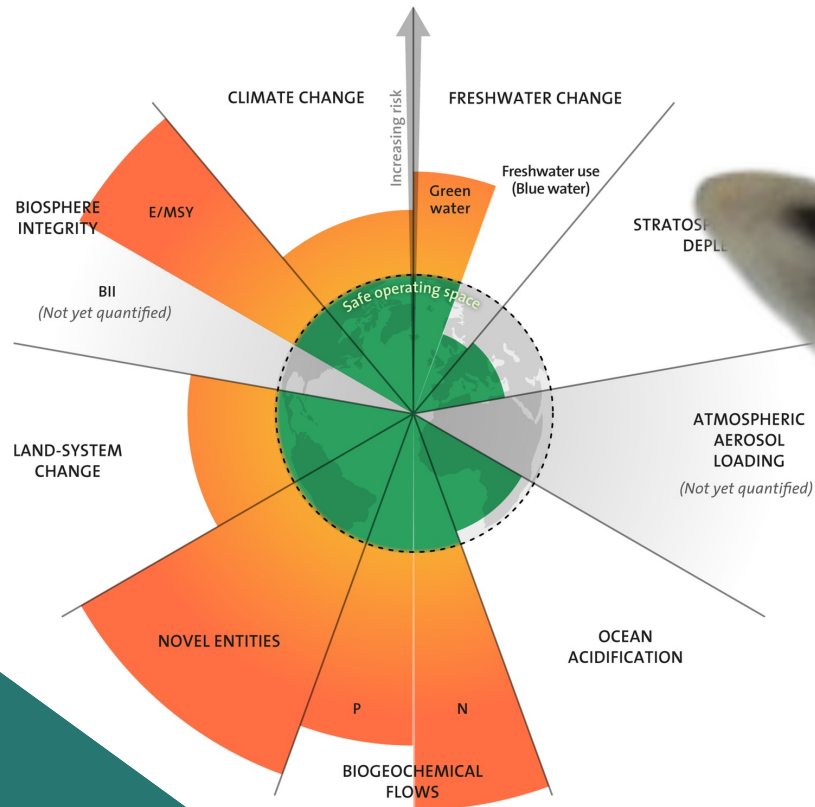




1. What is the focus of your movement's efforts?
2. What is your movement's unique gift to the flourishing of the biosphere and God's creatures?
3. What are your movement's blind spots?

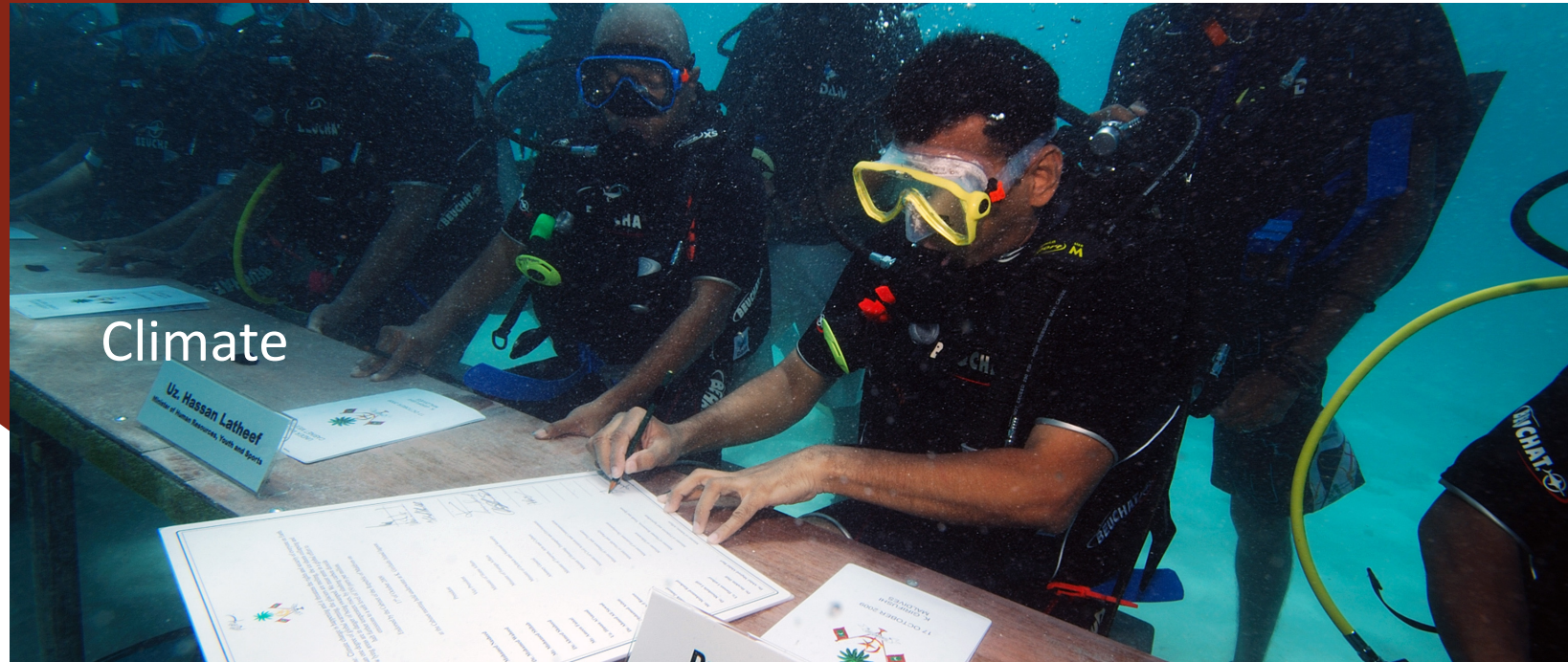


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Environmental Movement

# The Five Movements

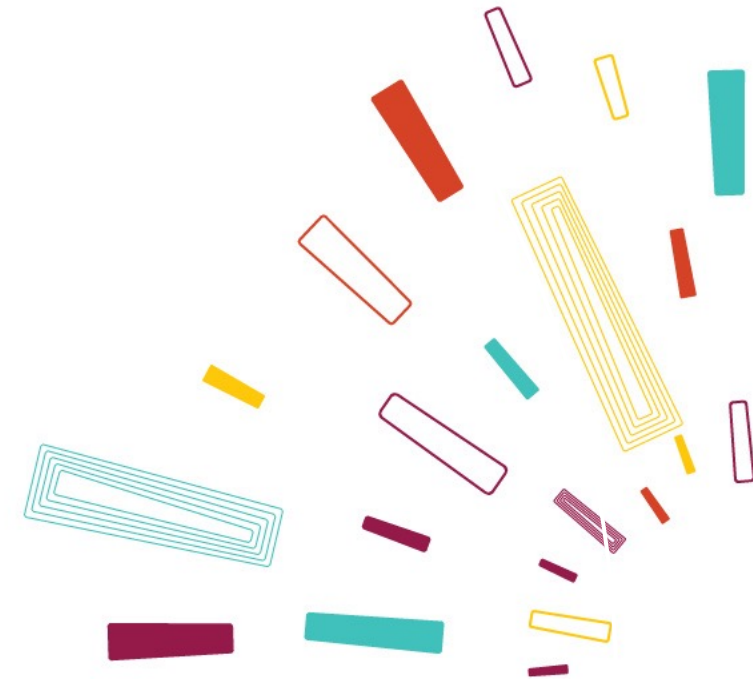




# The Five Movements



Creation  
Care







Environmental  
Justice (EJ)



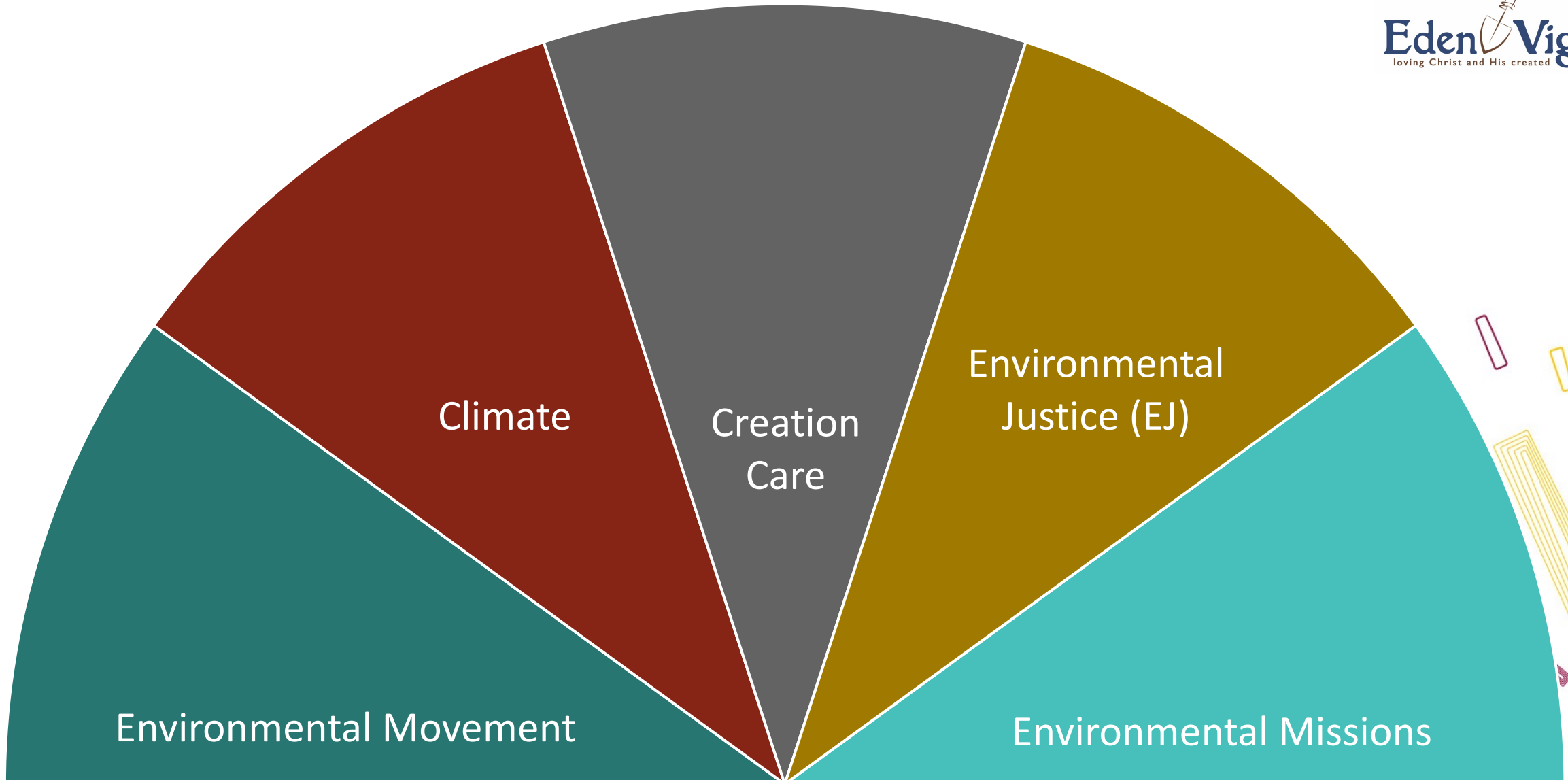


*“Environmental missionaries are sent cross-culturally to labor with Christ—the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of all creation—in caring for the environment and making disciples of all nations.”*



Environmental Missions

# The Five Movements







“Young People's Voices on Climate Anxiety, Government Betrayal and Moral Injury: A Global Phenomenon”

*The Lancet* (Marks and Hickman, 2021)

“Findings: Respondents were worried about climate change (59% **very or extremely worried**, 84% at least moderately worried). Over 50% felt **sad, anxious, angry, powerless, helpless, and guilty**. Over 45% said their feelings about climate change negatively affected their daily life and functioning, and many reported a high number of **negative thoughts** about climate change. Respondents rated the governmental response to climate change negatively and reported greater **feelings of betrayal** than of reassurance. Correlations indicated that climate anxiety and distress were significantly related to perceived inadequate government response and associated feelings of betrayal.”

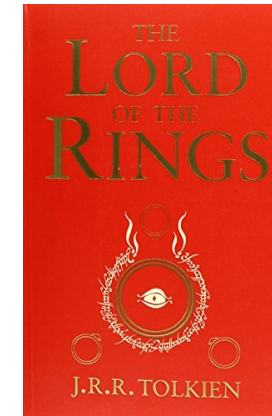
hope



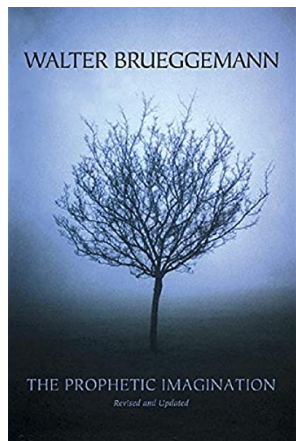
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“The basis of hope is that God is a real character  
and an effective agent in the world.”

—Walter Brueggemann

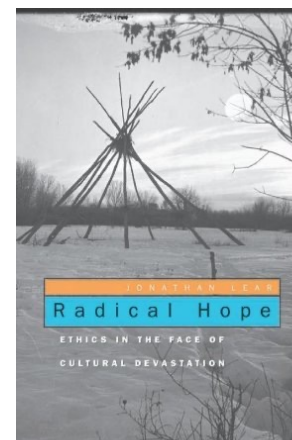


*The Lord of the Rings,*  
Tolkein



*The Prophetic Imagination,*  
Brueggemann



“Our future will contain goodness, because God is  
good, though our definition of goodness will be  
radically changed.”




*Radical Hope,*  
Jonathan Lear,  
Chief Plenty Coups (Crow)









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Opportunities

