If you buy your own groceries, try getting most of them from local sources like the Fulton Street Farmer's Market

If you live off-campus, turn your heat down one degree for the rest of winter

If you are traveling for spring or summer break, offset your travel at climatestewards.org/offset Observe Meatless Mondays (and maybe even Meatless Tuesdays, Wednesday, etc. when you're ready)

Share these commitments with other people and help them understand why it matters for you, as a follow of Jesus, to take these steps.

Dig Deeper

There are many books and resources available to help you get a better picture of the God's love for creation, our responsibility toward creation, and the role of creation in God's larger story of salvation. Here are a couple of the better ones. Consider reading one of these:

For the Beauty of the Earth by Steven Bouma-Prediger *A Climate for Change* by Katharine Hayhoe and Andrew Farley *Caring for Creation* by Mitch Hescox and Paul Douglas

Dive In

Ready to go even deeper? Personal lifestyle changes are important, but societal and institutional change will only come about through just and effective public policy. If you're ready to go deeper in your response to God's call to love God and your neighbor by caring for creation, then make advocacy for public policy a regular practice in your life. It's easier than you might think. Those of us who are citizens our countries can advocate for the care of God's creation.

For those of us who are US citizens, here's everything you need to know about making a phone call to your members of Congress:

- 1. Dial (202) 224-3121 and follow the prompts to be connected to your Representative and both of your Senators
- 2. When the receptionist in their offices answers, simply tell him/her that you have a message for the Representative/Senator.
- 3. Share why you, as a Christian and a constituent, care about creation care and climate change. Here is a sample script you can use for calling your Representative. Feel free to use it verbatim or to personalize it.

Sample script

__(city)__. As a Christian, I believe that some of our greatest responsibilities are to love God and to love our neighbors. Acting to address climate change and to care for creation is a chance to do both better. I urge the Representative to do everything s/he can to address the challenges posed by climate change. In meeting

Prayer

Creator God, you made the world with love and joy. You reveled in the goodness of the creation before we humans were ever even on the scene. And then you invited us, your image bearers, to serve and protect the creation as you yourself do.

We confess that we so often fall short of this calling. We so often choose expedience, convenience, comfort, and accumulation over service, reciprocity, and right relationship when it comes to your good creation.

Copyright (c) Calvin College 2018