**Creation Care Seminar Outline**

The aim of this seminar is to:

* Raise the profile among ourselves, as Evangelicals, of environmental issues and humanity’s response to them as mandated by God: especially given the high priority many nations are giving to these matters in all facets of life, work, education, government and impacts on whole societies.
* Question the priority we give to these matters and how that is reflected in our training and discipleship work.
* Consider how to integrate environmental issue into our training.
* Learn from those most affected by negative environmental impacts and those already integrating these things into training.

**1. What is “Creation Care”?**

Understanding nature and what is for, along with humanity’s place in creation (a biological species yet more than merely a species)

**2. Why should we bother?**

* The God Factor – it is God’s world not ours
* The Illness Reality – it is chronically in trouble with crisis impending
* The Mission Mandate – humanity commissioned by God to take responsibility
* The Love Command – does “neighbours” only mean humans?
* The Flesh Dimension – implications from the incarnation
* The Creational Completion – what was created good is seed for the new creation
* Treasuring the dying – why Armageddon is no biblical reason not to care

How do we enable students/trainees to have an understanding of the seriousness of the situation, and move them and the people they lead into action to meet deal with it?

**3. Where should it fit in our training?**

* Environment care as a mark of mission
* Identifying and teaching appropriate values
* Accessing and communicating key knowledge
* Understanding creation care as ministry

**4. Key constituents in effective training modules on Creation Care from an Evangelical perspective**

Lessons from recent surveys and consultation on environmental issues and creation care in evangelical colleges.

**A Starting point Bibliography**

* John Weaver and Margot R. Hodson eds., *The Place of Environmental Theology. A guide for seminaries, colleges and universities.* (Oxford: Whitley Trust and Prague: IBTS 2007)
* Timothy Howles, John Reader and Martin J. Hodson, ‘‘Creating an Ecological Citizenship’: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives on the Role of Contemporary Environmental Education.’ *The Heythrop Journal* **59** (6) (2018), 997-1008.
* Carl Folke et al. ‘Our future in the Anthropocene biosphere.’ *Ambio* 50 (2021), 834-869. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-021-01544-8
* Five Marks of Missions <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/mission/marks-of-mission.aspx>

**Mark Davies mdavies@glo-europe.org**