



## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

**Joanna LaFleur:** Hello and welcome to Scripture Untangled, a podcast by the Canadian Bible Society. My name is Joanna LaFleur. I'm a friend of the Canadian Bible Society and I'm going to be your guide for today's episode.

Today, Katharine Hayhoe will be interviewed by veteran journalist Lorna Dueck. Dr. Katharine Hayhoe is a world-renowned climate scientist, communicator, and committed follower of Jesus. She is the chief scientist for the Nature Conservancy, a distinguished professor at Texas Tech University, and one of Time's 100 Most Influential People.

But what sets her apart even more is how she bridges the worlds of science and faith with clarity, compassion, and conviction. With over 125 peer-reviewed publications and contributions to major climate assessments, Katharine helps communities and leaders understand how climate change affects the most vulnerable among us. She has co-authored *A Climate for Change, Global Warming Facts for Faith-Based Decisions* with her husband, pastor and author Andrew Farley, and her best-selling book *Saving Us*, offers a hopeful path forward.

Name one of *Christianity Today's 50 Women to Watch*, Katharine believes that caring for God's creation is a matter of loving our neighbor, especially the poor and the marginalized. Whether she's speaking in churches or briefing policymakers, her message is rooted in both science evidence and a deep conviction that our faith calls us to act. Enjoy this conversation.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

**Lorna Dueck:** Well, if you want to discover the fascinating life of Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, that Google search will be well worth your time. We've just given you the top level of what she's all about.

But Katharine, welcome to Scripture Untangled.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Thank you so much for having me.

**Lorna Dueck:** Well, I had to laugh because as I was going through your biography, your hotlink to a Bible verse in the second line of who I am.

And that Bible verse is Hebrews 11, verse 1. Tell us about being a woman of faith in a profession of what is seen and measured.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Absolutely. So, to start back at the beginning, I grew up in a home where my dad was not only a teacher in our local church, but he was also a science teacher.

And so, I learned from a very early age that what is science other than trying to figure out what God was thinking when he created this incredible universe we live in in the first place? I mean, if we believe that God inspired the Bible and God created the universe, then how can what we learn through our faith and what we learn through science, studying the universe, how can they possibly be in conflict if they originate from the same person? And to me, Hebrews 11 really underscores this because it talks about what faith is. And it says faith is the evidence of what we do not see. And if I had been there 2000 years ago, I think I might have been tempted to jog the elbow of the author of Hebrews and say, hey, you forgot the second half of the verse.

What is science other than the evidence of what we do see? And so, for me, science and faith are really two sides of the same coin. They're both expressions of God that we can study and

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

learn more about his character and his love for us and even his incredible creativity, I think, from studying science and nature.

**Lorna Dueck:** Wow.

Tell us a little bit more about your childhood because, you know, we know that, you know, Time magazine names you top 100, Fortune says top 50 leaders in the world. You're a Canadian kid; you're a Canadian treasure. Tell us what your childhood was like.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Well, you know, growing up with a science teacher dad, and my mom was also a teacher, she was a history teacher. So, she tells us wonderful stories. I grew up with the idea that science was the coolest thing you could possibly study.

I mean, who does not want to understand why the sky is blue or why polar bears have black skin? So, to me, science was sort of this endless curiosity of looking at the natural world through a lens of, there was care and thought and attention put into making it the way it is. And if we don't understand why a certain insect matters or why something looks the way it does, that's because we haven't thought about it and studied it enough.

And my dad loves astronomy. And in fact, most of our family vacations as a child were planned around astronomical events, like comets and eclipses and things like that. And so, with the telescope, the more and more powerful telescopes we have, we can see things in the universe that no one other than God has ever laid eyes on before. And so, my dad often referred to the universe, galaxies and nebula and clusters and things like that as God's art gallery.

This incredible art that he created that we are just beginning to appreciate now. So that was my background in science. But when I was nine years old, our family moved down to Columbia in South America, where my parents were missionaries working with the local church and teaching in local schools.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And so in Columbia, not only was that a new environment to appreciate, but it was a new recognition for me as a child and then as a teen of how vulnerable people are to natural disasters, to droughts and famines and floods, how people are living today without enough food to eat or without clean water coming out of any tap or even without a safe place to live. And so, when I went back to Toronto to go to university, and when I was studying physics and astronomy at U of T, I needed a breadth requirement. And I looked around and there was this brand-new class on climate change over in the geography department.

And I thought, well, that looks interesting. Why not take it? I mean, I had learned about deforestation and air pollution and climate change and environmental issues in geography class, I remember in high school. And I thought, well, you know, those are important issues that David Suzuki cares about.

And David Suzuki is working on. And, you know, the rest of us can watch his documentaries and maybe contribute to the cause. But I didn't think it was something that we as Christians had to care about.

So, I took this class, and I was completely shocked to find out, first of all, that climate change was no longer a future issue. It was already affecting us today. And this was a while ago.

But what really changed the whole trajectory of my career was when I found out that climate change affects us all. It is already affecting the food we eat, the water we drink, the safety of our homes. It's taking these natural disasters like wildfire, flood, droughts, hurricanes and more, and it's making them bigger and stronger and more dangerous.

And although it affects us all, it doesn't affect us equally.

**Lorna Dueck:** It's a threat multiplier. You call it a threat multiplier to the most vulnerable.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Yeah exactly. And so, to me, not just as a scientist, but as a Christian, that really spoke to me very profoundly as something that is very much something that we as Christians can care about and should be doing something about. And so that was the point at which I decided to become a climate scientist.

**Lorna Dueck:** And your family journey then takes a big change. You go to the States for your next degree, and you meet and marry a pastor when you're in Illinois, right? In Chicago, you guys meet. I just think you need to tell us a little bit about Andrew, because here you are from a very Christian home.

You just assume everybody's on board with science. And you realize after you're married, this evangelical pastor you've married does not believe in climate science. Can you tell us how that dilemma unfolds for you?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Well, he wasn't a pastor at the time.

We were both graduate students at the University of Illinois, and we met in our local InterVarsity chapter. People who have been students are probably familiar with InterVarsity. It's a campus organization in Canada, the U.S., the U.K., and other places that brings together Christian students to talk about how our faith relates to what we're studying.

Because God has given us all different abilities and talents, you know, the metaphor of us all being part of a body. We all have something different to bring to the table. And I feel like InterVarsity and other campus groups often do a really great job of helping people make that connection between what they care about, what they're good at, what they're studying, and how God can use them.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

So that's where we met. And I had just assumed, you know, I became a climate scientist because I was a Christian, because climate change affects those who Jesus refers to as the least of them. I still think of climate action today as simply loving our global neighbor, which is what we are called to do.

So, I just took it for granted that if anyone who was a Christian thought about climate change, that they would think the same way I did. And this, again, was a very long time ago. When climate change was just starting to become what it is today, which is the most politically polarized issue in the U.S., and I'm very sorry to say that is leaked across the border to Canada as well.

Which is ridiculous because a thermometer doesn't give you a different answer depending on how you vote, right?

**Lorna Dueck:** Right. Okay. But how did you tackle this in your marriage? Because now you're married, and you have two different opinions.

How do you begin that conversation, that education?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** We were married by the time we realized that we were on different sides of the fence on this, so to speak. But I knew that he really took his faith seriously, obviously on his way to becoming a pastor. I knew that he was a really smart person.

I knew that he had values that I was completely aligned with. And so, I wanted to know why. So, we had a conversation that began not from a point of opposition or disrespect, but from a point of, oh, that's interesting.

You think this, I think this. Why? Like, let's talk about it. So, he would bring up his questions and I would go find answers to them.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And today, of course, we have resources already online. In fact, if anybody goes to my website, [katherinehayhoe.com](http://katherinehayhoe.com), the very first frequently asked question is, where do I find the resources to answer the questions I have?

**Lorna Dueck:** And you and Andrew end up writing a book about this. You write; I think it's called *Climate for Change*. It's not your latest book, but it is. It was right there in the early stages. You put it down on paper together.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** We did after we'd been talking for a year or two together about this. Because the reality is we've known since the 1850s that digging up and burning coal and gas and oil produces these heat trapping gases that are wrapping a blanket around the planet, causing it to warm. And so eventually we came to the point where he said, okay, so I understand, you know, if NASA who put a man on the moon says it's warming, then either NASA is completely deluded or involved in this global cover up or NASA has to be right.

And so that for him was a turning point. But we still even today talk about what solutions could look like because 99.9% of the objections that we hear are just based on people not wanting to fix it. They think that the cure is worse than the disease because they don't realize that climate change is already affecting everything from the cost of our insurance for our homes to the quality of the air we breathe to literally the cost of eggs at the store, not to mention coffee and chocolate.

**Lorna Dueck:** And it is top of mind. Some of our audience might be surprised that a Canadian 2023 survey found that 92% of Bible believing young adults feel creation care is an essential act of discipleship. How would you advise us to put creation care into our Sunday, our weekly church experiences?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** I love that statistic.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

It's the first time I've heard that. And that is so encouraging because if you just go to Genesis one, first book in the Bible, first chapter in the Bible, it says that God gave humans responsibility. The word that the Hebrew uses is *radâ* - responsibility over every living thing.

And that's the reason we were made in God's image. And what I would hasten to add is every living thing means our sisters and our brothers too. All too often, we think somehow that we aren't creation.

We are creation. That Genesis includes humans in the creation story. We are God's creation.

And not only that, but as believers today, God has even given us a new heart, and he's poured out his love into our heart to share with those around us. So, creation care is not about a choice between humans versus nature. It's about caring for all of God's creation, because to be blunt, nature doesn't need us.

We need nature. That's where the air we breathe comes from and the water we drink and the food we eat. It all comes from nature.

So, it isn't about caring about nature to the exclusion of people. It's about all of us created beings on this planet, God gave humans a special role, so important that it's in the first book of the Bible (Genesis), chapter one, to be responsible for this incredible creation that he made.

So, what does that look like? Like you said. So, at a church, obviously the first thing we need to do is just start talking about it. We can talk about it in our adult Bible study or adult Sunday school classes.

We could have a book club. We can talk about it in our sermons. At my aunt's church, they actually put my newsletter, *Talking Climate*, in the Sunday bulletin every week.



# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And then we can talk without using words. Like St. Francis said, or he's supposed to have said, "preach the gospel at all times and if necessary, use words." We can show through our actions what sustainable actions look like in terms of what we eat, where we get our energy, how we travel, and what organizations we support that are working on the front lines of climate resilience with some of the poorest people in the world.

**Lorna Dueck:** And in fact, that was what motivated that study between *Tear Fund* and *A Rocha*, Canada. And it's a shocking study, really, that shows this is front of mind for Canadian young people, young Christians. However, let's take a jump now to what we can all do.

You have been tapped, Katharine, in most unusual ways to lead, including you work with the U.S. Government. You've served as the lead author for the U.S. National Climate Assessments, and now your website tells us you are lead author on the fifth government assessment on climate. There's a new administration with President Trump's team in Washington.

What are your thoughts about how the next four years will manage climate care?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Well, like I alluded to earlier, unfortunately, climate change has now become the most politicized issue in the U.S. The number one predictor of whether people agree with basic scientific facts, like climate is changing, humans are responsible, the impacts are serious. It's not how educated people are. It's not how smart they are. It's not how much science they know. It is simply where they fall on the political spectrum. That's it.

And unfortunately, a hurricane does not knock on the door of your house and say, excuse me, who did you vote for in the last election before it rips the roof off your house? And a wildfire doesn't ask if you're, you know, in the states people register as a voter, right? It doesn't ask if you're a registered Republican or Democrat voter before it burns down your neighborhood. So,

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

climate change affects us all. But unfortunately, in the U.S., there's an administration who is attempting to bury their head in the sand like the mythical ostrich.

But you can say, I don't believe in gravity. Anybody can say that. If you step off the cliff, you're still going down.

And so thankfully, I'm very grateful that many people recognize that a better future depends on climate action and clean energy. So, if you look at all the cities and all the states and all the companies and all the tribal nations and universities and churches in the U.S. who are still on board with climate action, they make up over two thirds of the U.S. economy. And they are still committed to climate action.

And they're committed to showing that it's not just action for climate or for nature at people's expense. It's action for a better future for all of us together. Climate change, I think of it as the hurdle or the barrier that stands between us and a better future, where we address issues like poverty and hunger and disease that we as Christians have always had a heart for.

There's no way to fix those if we leave climate action off the table today. And *Tear Fund* and *A Rocha* and *World Vision*, and *Compassion International* and many other great organizations like that, they understand. And by supporting their work and by educating ourselves on what they do, we can start to understand how that today is part of loving our global neighbor.

**Lorna Dueck:** Well, Katharine, it really is quite a juxtaposition because we have the poorest nations which don't have the media profile. And then we have, I think of some of your work where you've done, I don't know what the technical correct word is, where you've scaled and projected for cities, large cities, states. Tell us about that, where you can say to Chicago, you can say to Houston, this is what the temperature is going to look like next year for you.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

Here's what your rainfall will likely be. Tell us what kind of things you've discovered in that kind of scaling.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** So often when people talk about climate change, they talk about global issues like global temperature changes of one or one and a half or two degrees, or they talk about ice sheets or ocean circulation or polar bears.

But what happens to us, what matters to us is what happens where we live. So, what's happening in Vancouver or Calgary or Toronto or Halifax? What's happening to my home insurance or the risks of heat waves in the summer, or how is flood risk changing, or how are hurricanes getting stronger or sea levels rising or wildfires are getting bigger? So, a lot of the work I do is I work with cities and provinces and states and organizations at a much smaller, more granular level where people live to say, you know, you had a really bad heat wave a couple of years ago. Like back in 2021, there was a terrible heat wave out West with terrible wildfires in 2021.

And then in 2023, we had the worst wildfire season on record. So, I look at those types of events and I say, if we don't change our ways, sort of like an Old Testament prophet, if we don't change our ways, here's how frequent years like that are going to be in 10 or 20 years. Heat waves like that, wildfires like that, hurricanes like that, here's how frequent they're going to be.

If we do change our ways, we're still going to see a little bit of change due to all of the impact, you know, all of the heat trapping gases we've already produced up till today, but this is the difference. And this is how we can prepare and make sure that we're safe and ready and resilient to those changes in the future. Because a lot of those decisions are made at the local level, they're not made at the global level.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And a lot of them aren't even made at the national level. They're made by cities, by organizations, even by organizations as small as a church, a school, a college, a university, a neighborhood. We all need to be prepared for these changes.

And so that's what I do professionally as a scientist, is I look at the granular level to say what's happening in our area, how's that affecting us, and what can we do about it? Because that's the whole point of getting information, right? And there's a verse I often think of in relation to that, and that's where Paul is writing to Timothy, and he says, *"God has not given us a spirit of fear..."* So, it's not about scaring the pants off people, because that often just paralyzes us. If we're afraid and we don't know what to do, as humans, we're paralyzed.

And Paul knew that. He goes on, he says, *"God has not given us a spirit of fear, he's given us a spirit of power,..."* which means we're able to act, not be paralyzed, of love, considering others, not just ourselves, and a sound mind, which I love, because we can make good decisions with a sound mind. And God has given us that sound mind.

And part of that sound mind is to help to understand the science of what we're doing, and how we can make changes today to lead to a better future tomorrow.

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# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

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**Lorna Dueck:** You just displayed also your leadership. You are named in all these leadership accolades. And you use your leadership to just continue to say, come to this table, come to these ideas.

Let's let them work. So, tell us about your leadership gifting. Was it natural for you? Did you develop it? Tell me about your leadership styles.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** That was not what I set out to do or be. I set out to study an issue and to try to contribute information that would help us make good decisions that would keep people safe, that would prevent people from being at risk, from losing their homes, from becoming ill or not having enough food or clean water or even dying from these risks. But as I did so, I started to learn that we just aren't having conversations about this.

And if we don't talk about something as humans, why would we care? And if we don't care, why would we ever do anything about it? So, I started to realize that we have to have these conversations like you, and I are having about why it matters, not about the polar bears, not about the ice sheets, but about why it matters to me and what we can do about it. And so, in having these conversations and starting to encourage other people to have these conversations, that's where I think that concept of leadership came to the fore because I was trying to actually catalyze change.

**Lorna Dueck:** And you also took that change into your mothering, into you're one of the co-founders of Moms with Science.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

Is that what it's called? Moms with Science, right?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** *Science Moms*.

**Lorna Dueck:** *Science Moms*, sorry. You've got this great podcast up on YouTube there, a great teaching time.

So, what tips have you learned in your leadership about juggling the home front and this demanding, educating career of leadership that you have in science?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Well, *Science Moms* is a group of scientists who are mothers. And the reason we got together is because social science research showed that the number one reason why people around the world care about climate change is not economics or jobs or polar bears. It's love, especially love for the next generation.

**Lorna Dueck:** Wow.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Isn't that powerful?

**Lorna Dueck:** That's hopeful.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Yes. And that's what sort of runs through all of my own perspective too, because as I said earlier, the Bible says very clearly that God has taken out our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh. He's poured out his love in our hearts so that we are able to love others as Christ loved us first.

And that is intimately tied to my advocacy for and my leadership for climate action, because it is a way of showing love for people. You know, when someone's hungry, you don't give them a stone. When people are suffering as the impacts of climate change, whether in our own cities here in Canada or on the other side of the world, you know, in our own cities during a heat

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

wave, it can be six or seven degrees Celsius hotter in a lower income neighborhood with less tree cover than in a wealthier neighborhood with more trees.

And then on the other side of the world, you might be a small shareholder farmer who has lost their crops. They have no way to feed their family. They have an unthinkable choice of selling a daughter as young as 10 or 12 into marriage so that the rest of the family can survive or the whole family going hungry.

So, what is climate action other than loving others? And so, for me as a mother, that's really a big impetus for one of the reasons I care in addition to being a Christian and a scientist and a Canadian and someone who grew up as a missionary kid. I also care because I'm a mother. And so, my son has traveled with me.

He's seen firsthand how people are being affected around the world. And what I love is he wants to be an astronomer, which is originally what I wanted to be. He is already an astrophotographer.

He takes pictures of God's art gallery. And I want him, and I want all of our children to be able to realize the potential God has given them to study, whatever desire God has put on their heart. Because climate change again is this barrier we have to overcome.

And it is up to our generation to make the changes needed to overcome that barrier. So, all of our children can continue to live in a world that is safer than the one we have today.

**Lorna Dueck:** My goodness, we often like to learn at Scripture Untangled how somebody is able to craft their life to include Bible reading time, to include their personal discovery of Scripture.

What is that journey like for you?

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** I grew up very much in sort of the culture where you're supposed to have like an early morning time that you set aside to read the Bible.

**Lorna Dueck:** You were Plymouth Brethren, right?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** I was, yes. But that's not unique to Plymouth Brethren.

I think most people have had that experience. And one of the biggest things I've learned is, again, if we truly believe that we have this relationship where God loves us, and he's written us these love letters, and that's what the Bible is, then isn't it something that we have the desire to learn from? And it's not something you have to, you know, drag yourself to in the morning and, oh no, here's my 10 minutes of quiet time. You know, it might not be a quiet time.

It might be a loud time. It might be a short time. It might be a long time.

But I love reading the Bible, especially in different versions. So, every time you look at it through a different lens, with a different translation, obviously often you see something that you didn't see before. And so, for me, it's not so much a certain time of day, but it's more like, what does God have to share with me today, or maybe tomorrow or next week? And just thinking through the attitudes and the perspectives and most of all the love that comes through every bit of the Bible, the love that God has for me, the love that God has for the church, the love God has for all of us humans, and all of nature that he created here on this planet.

How can I better share that love? And I think I can share it better by understanding the love God has for me. So, it's not like I'm sort of trying to dredge up my own love to share, but the more deeply I understand God's love, I think the easier it is for us to share with those around us. And so, for me, that's really what spending time in God's Word is about.



# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

**Lorna Dueck:** You have just an uncommon deep love for the whole global condition, right? This is not just your backyard. You've seen so much, I think that missionary seed perhaps of your life in Columbia as a child, it's just multiplied that people should not have to be trapped in suffering if someone has the ability to love them through a solution.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Exactly.

What we have in common as humans, and I've had the opportunity, and I'm sure you have, and many others have to meet people from around the world. I mean, Toronto is the most multinational city in the world. So, you don't even have to go to different countries.

You just have to meet your neighbors and realize that what we have in common as humans is so much more than what divides us. We feel the same things. We react to things the same way.

We have the same love for each other and for our children. And we want the same things in terms of, you know, a safe place to live, enough food to put on the table to feed our family, the ability to make a difference in the world. And so, so often we tend to focus on the small things that divide us.

I mean, I grew up in a denomination that literally split one time over whether we're saved by all the blood in Jesus's body, or only the blood that came out his side when the soldier pierced it. Whether our cups of joy in heaven are all full, or whether people have all the same size cup with different amounts of joy in them. And so, you know, we have split over the most ridiculous things, which lead us to often marginalize other people and sort of draw a fence around ourselves.

Like we're the ones with the special insight, and we're the only ones we care about. But that's not what Jesus did. Jesus really showed that love.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And I think he gave us the ability to too.

**Lorna Dueck:** And you do model that because you're constantly challenging and educating how to have conversations. And we started this with, this is such a polarizing issue, what you have been called to, climate care, climate science.

How do we have discussions when we feel we're walking into; this is not going to be easy about climate care?

**Katharine Hayhoe:** So, the most important thing I think in these conversations, and I have a whole TED Talk about it if anybody's interested, is not to start with what we disagree on, but to start with what we agree on. And if we don't know what we agree on, then we need to get to know the other person or the other people better. But as Christians, there's so much that we agree on.

And so, I remember the very first time I was asked to give a chapel talk at a Christian college in the US, a Baptist college. And I had been learning about how we have to, you know, start with what we have in common. So, I decided I was just going to begin the first five or 10 minutes of my chapel talk with just a statement of what we believe.

We believe that God created the universe. We believe that his Son came and died for the forgiveness of sins. We believe that God gave us responsibility over everything on this earth.

We believe that we are called to love others as we've been loved by God. And I just began with everything I believe, and I knew that everybody in that room believed too. And then I showed how what I believed and what they believed, what we both believed, how that informed my perspective on climate change and climate action.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And I had the opportunity to do that in more detail just this past September. I was asked to speak at the *Fourth Lausanne Congress*, which is a global gathering of evangelical leaders, including Canadians and every other country around the world. It's only happened four times since John Stott and Billy Graham kicked it off in 1950.

And there were 5,000 leaders attending in person and another 5,000 online at regional sites. And it gave me another opportunity 15 years later to really draw the parallels between, or not parallels, but to connect the dots between what we all agree on as evangelical Christians, there's so much that we do agree on, and then how that directly informs our perspective about this world that we live in. And again, our sisters and our brothers often who are bearing the brunt of the impacts of issues of pollution and climate change that they did not cause, yet they are the ones who are most impacted.

And that isn't fair.

**Lorna Dueck:** Katharine, you have many practical things that you're doing. I don't even know if you eat meat anymore.

I know you've written about changing that diet. Let's give us a few things we can all do. We can all do right now for our climate.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** I would say that that is probably the most common question I get these days, Lorna, is what can I do? Because people say, well, I've already recycled. I've already changed my light bulbs. You know, maybe I got a plug-in car or maybe I got solar panels, and I tried a few plant-based recipes, but what more can I do? So as a scientist, I crunched the numbers and I realized that if everybody who wanted to make changes in their personal life today and who had the resources to make those changes, because often they take more time or they require more information or sometimes they're even more expensive, if everybody made those changes, that wouldn't even fix 20% of the problem.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

And so, I was like, oh, so what are we supposed to do? Because I've changed my light bulbs and I got a plug-in car, and we got solar panels. If that isn't enough, what is? So, I went to the social science, and I went to history, and I realized the world has changed before at the scale we need. And when it changed, so for example, the abolition of slavery, it didn't, slavery was not abolished because abolitionists boycotted sugar and cotton.

But they did boycott them because they wanted to live consistent with their values and those products came typically from slave labor. And it wasn't because the King of England, who was in charge of Canada at that time, it wasn't because the King of England woke up one day and said, oh, we need to end slavery. And, you know, a woman didn't get the vote because a president or a prime minister said, oh, one day maybe women should get the vote.

No, and apartheid didn't end in South Africa because the government of South Africa just sort of woke up one day and said, oh, it's Friday, maybe we should end apartheid. I realized that throughout history, individuals in many cases motivated by their faith have been the catalyst for massive societal change. And many of those individuals made changes in their personal life that were consistent with their values.

But the biggest thing they did had nothing to do with how they ate or traveled or lived or where they got their energy or recycled. It had everything to do with how they use their voice. So that's why I'm convinced the most important thing we can do exactly is to have that conversation.

Because we're not, across Canada and the US, we are not having a conversation about why it matters and what we can do. And then join a group or create your own group, your own green team or creation care team at your church. And then look at where you keep your money, because that contributes.

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

Use your voice, not just voting, but with all of our elected officials at the city level, at the township level, at the provincial level, as well as the federal level. And then make personal changes but then make them contagious by talking about them. Bill McKibben is a fellow believer, and he says something really interesting.

He says the most important thing an individual can do is not be such an individual. In other words, by working together, which is the image of the church again, we're not called to be a finger doing our own thing over here. We're called to be part of this body working together.

And with climate action, by working together, beginning with using our voice, that is how we can make the biggest difference. So, if you go to my Instagram account or my threads account, I have that list I just went through pinned to the top. And I have a newsletter called *Talking Climate* that every single week shares good news, not so good news, and something you can do to make a difference.

And the whole point of the newsletter is every week you have three things to talk about.

**Lorna Dueck:** Wow. Okay.

You have just given Scripture Untangled a beautiful challenge for our audience to get talking about climate care. And we will put that link to your newsletter. I know when I was researching you, I discovered it and thought, oh, this is signed up.

Great. Easy. Yeah, get talking.

You have talked so well to us today, Katharine, about this wonderful platform that you have developed with the Lord's strength. And it's just beautiful to learn. And all the best as you navigate now with the new challenges as you do that national climate assessment for the U.S.,

# Scripture Untangled

## Season 10: Episode 1 | Katharine Hayhoe | Should Christians Care About Climate Change?

assessment number five, I mean, between your teaching, between your state leaderships, and, you know, taking the temperature of our globe for world leaders.

God bless you in the important work you're called to.

**Katharine Hayhoe:** Thank you, Lorna. Thank you so much for having me.

And thank you so much for hosting this important discussion, because I truly believe that if we take the Bible seriously, that we would be at the front lines advocating for and calling for climate action on behalf of the least of these, again, because of the love that we have that Christ has poured out in our hearts for all of the people around us and for the amazing creation that he created on this planet and gave to us to care for.