



OMI

**Creation Care
as an Integral Part
of Mission**

ECHO Asia Conference
2 October 2013

The Big Picture





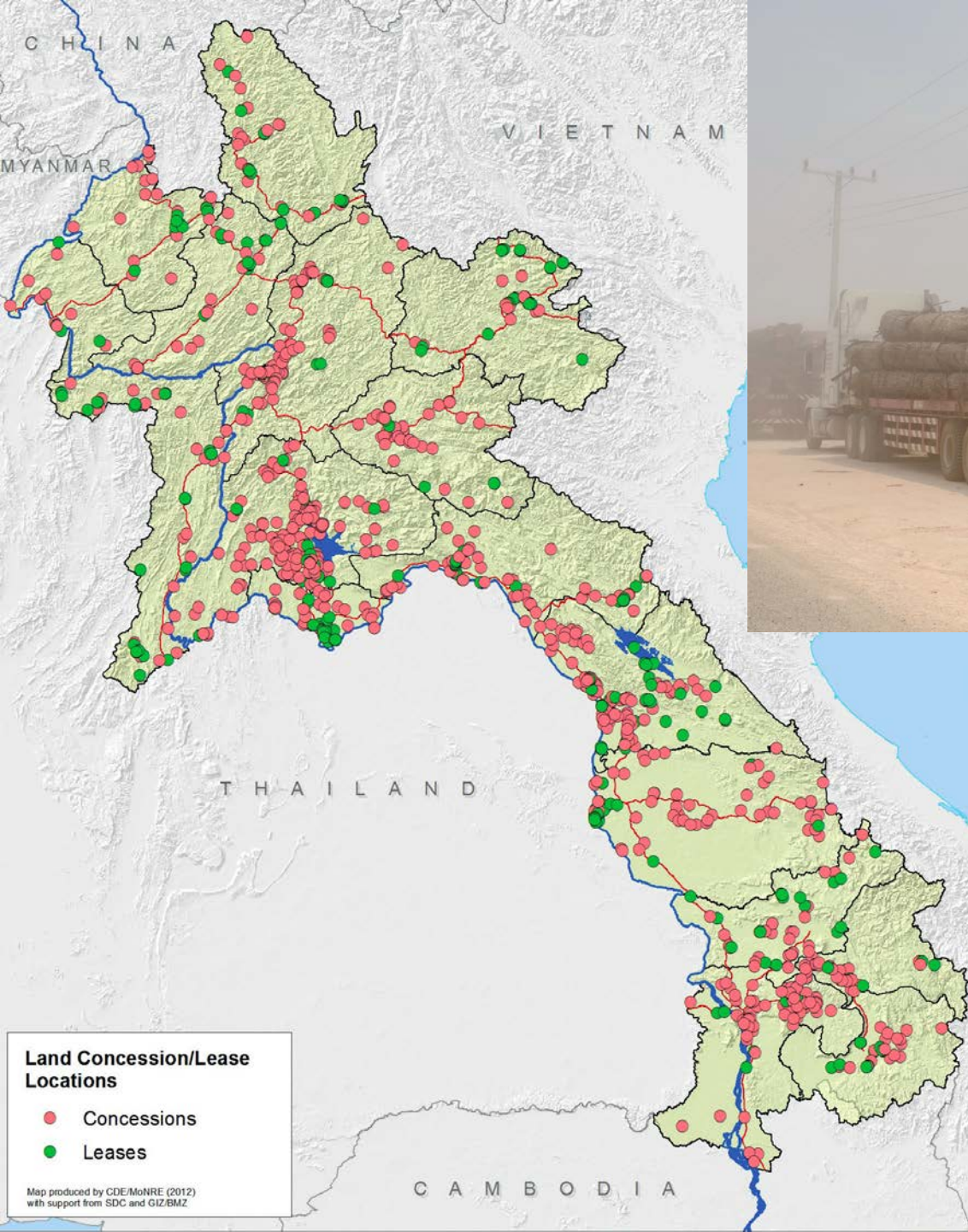
Biodiversity Hotspot, Yunnan & Sichuan





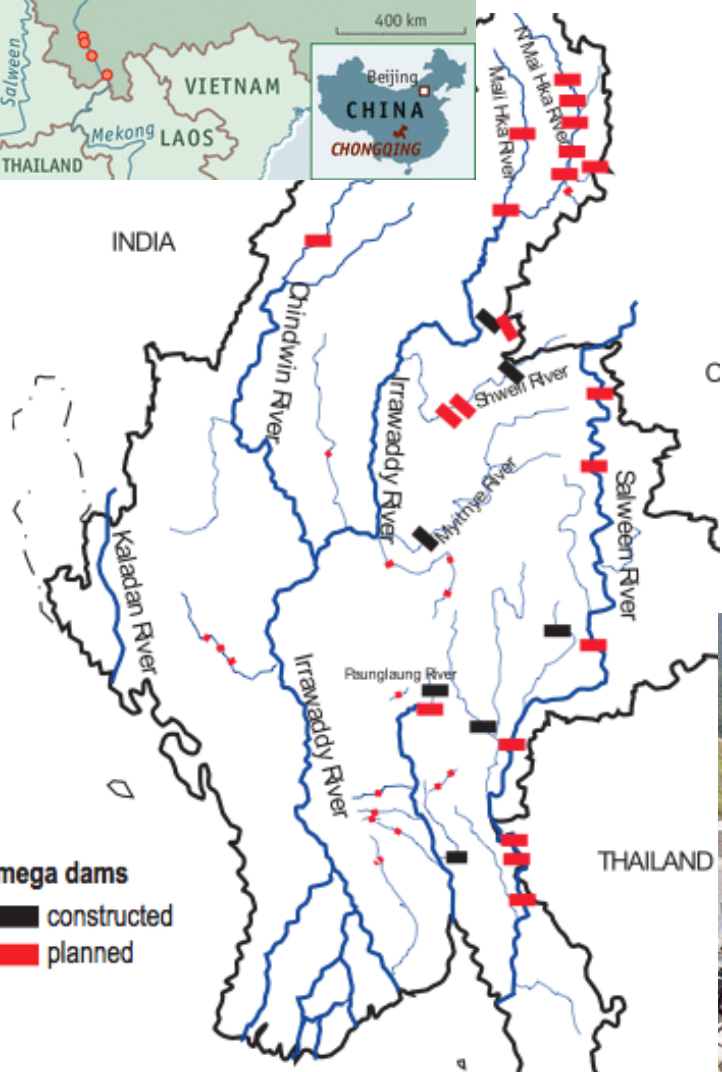


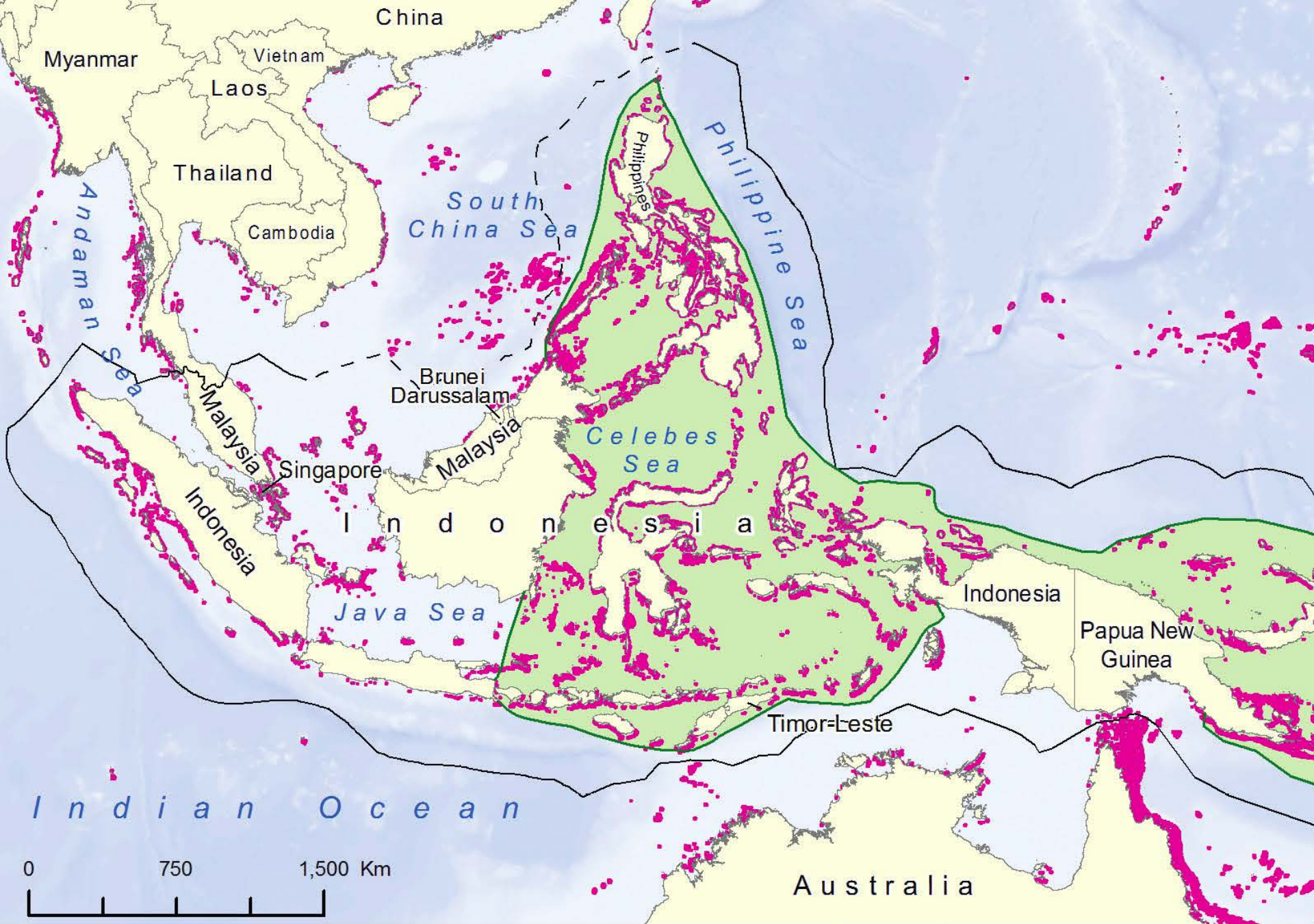






Mainstream dams on the Mekong





— Coral Triangle Region Coral Triangle Core ● Coral Reefs



Polluted water from Tigyit coal mine, flowing into upper Balu creek then Inle lake. Shan State 2010



Testing water near chromium waste piles in Yunnan

100 tonnes of river fish killed in Hubei Province by ammonia spill





Drive to increase food production:

- excessive use of pesticides
- introduction of genetic engineering

Bulldozing land for cassava mono plantation,
Hukawng valley tiger reserve, Kachin State

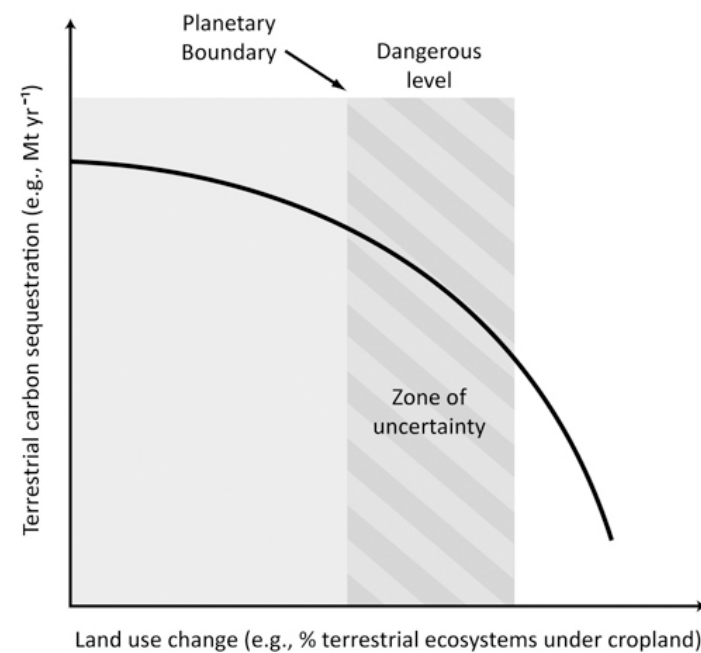
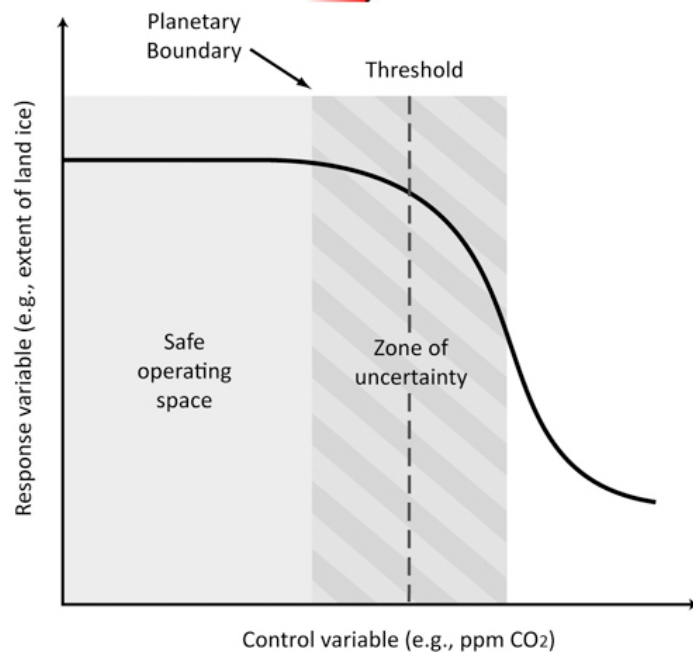
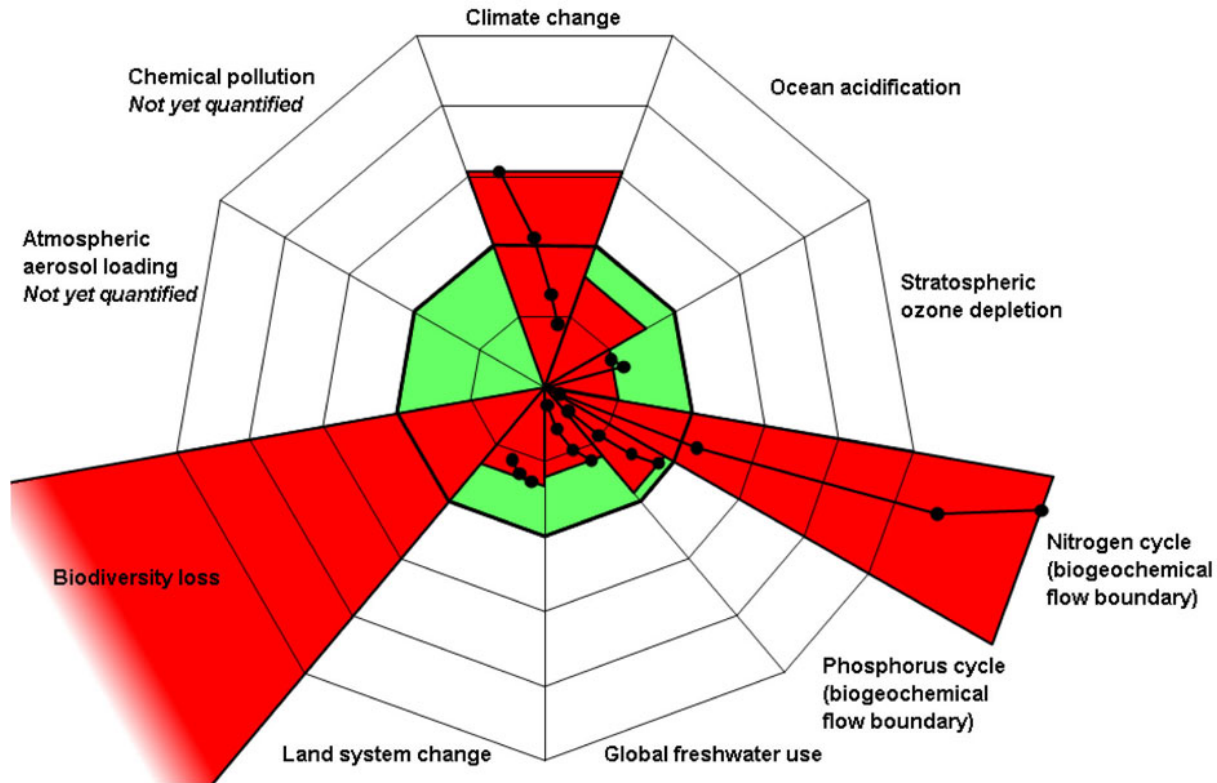


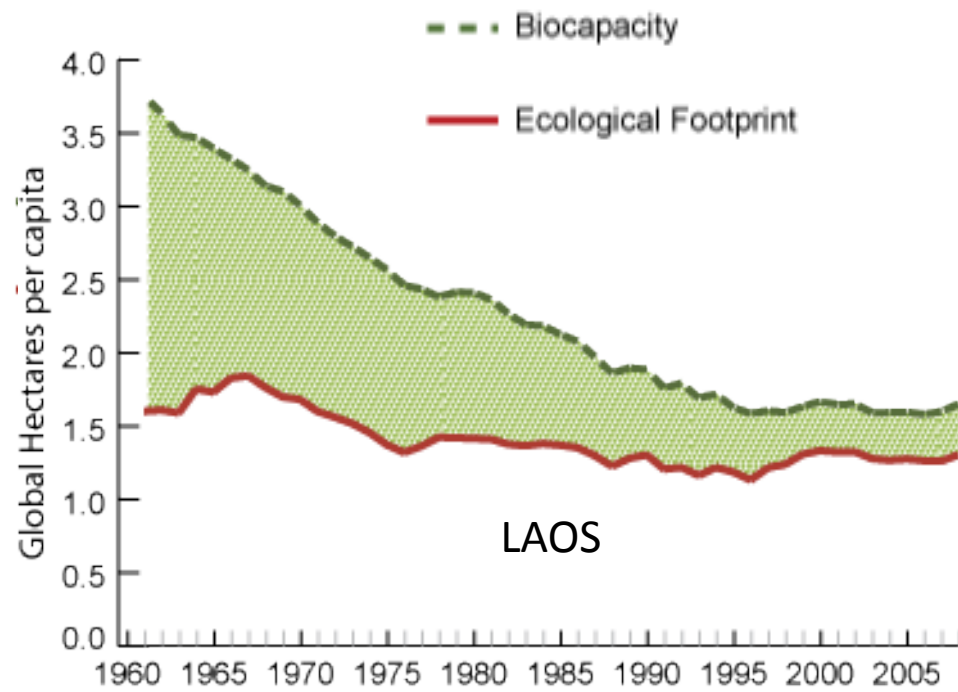
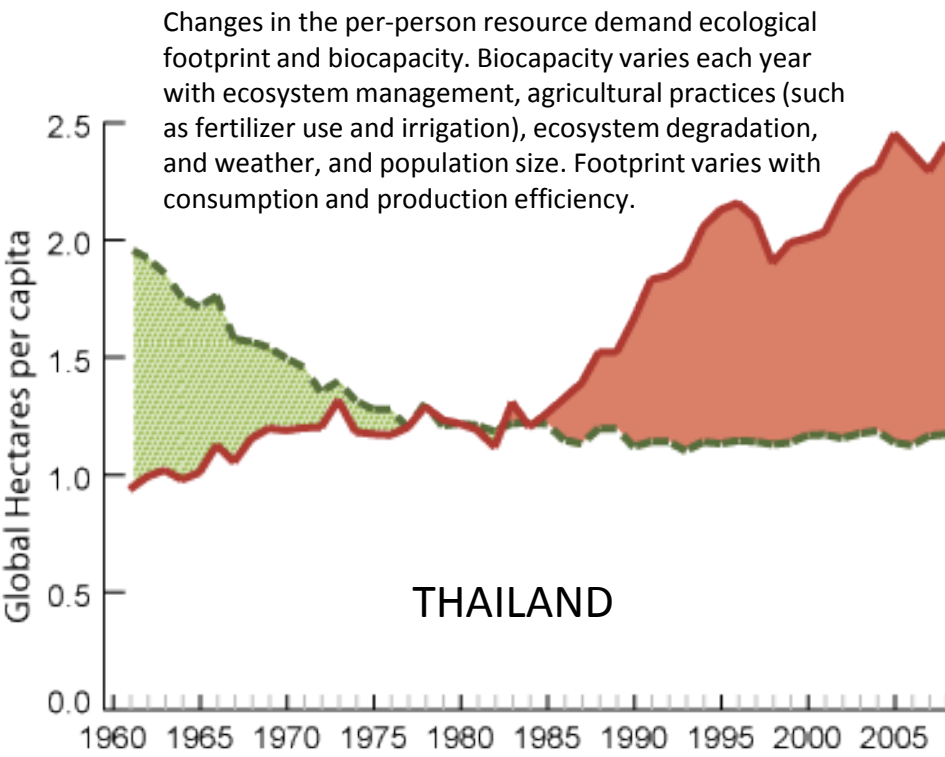
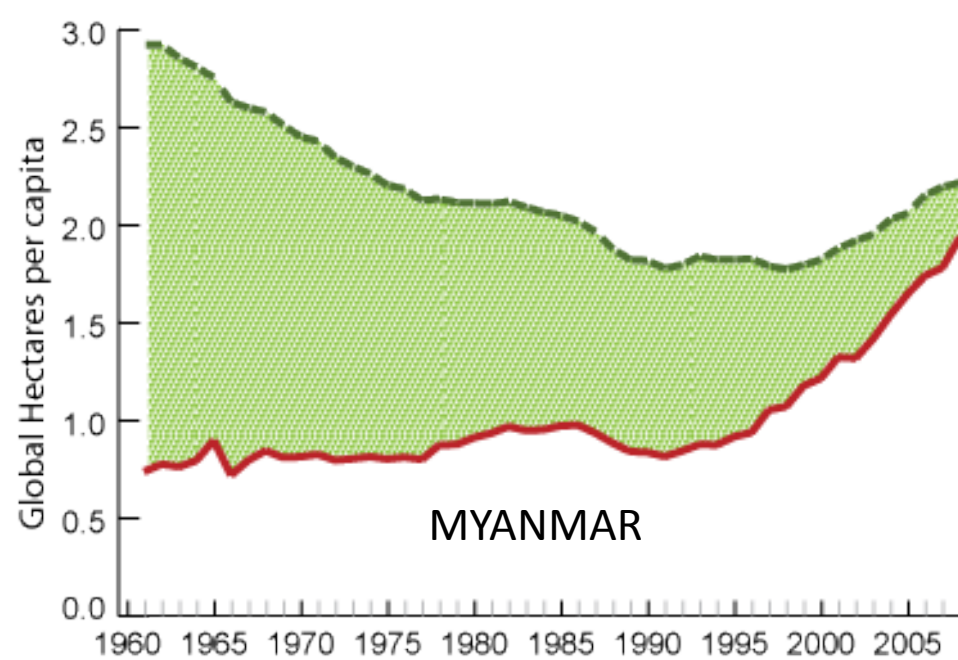
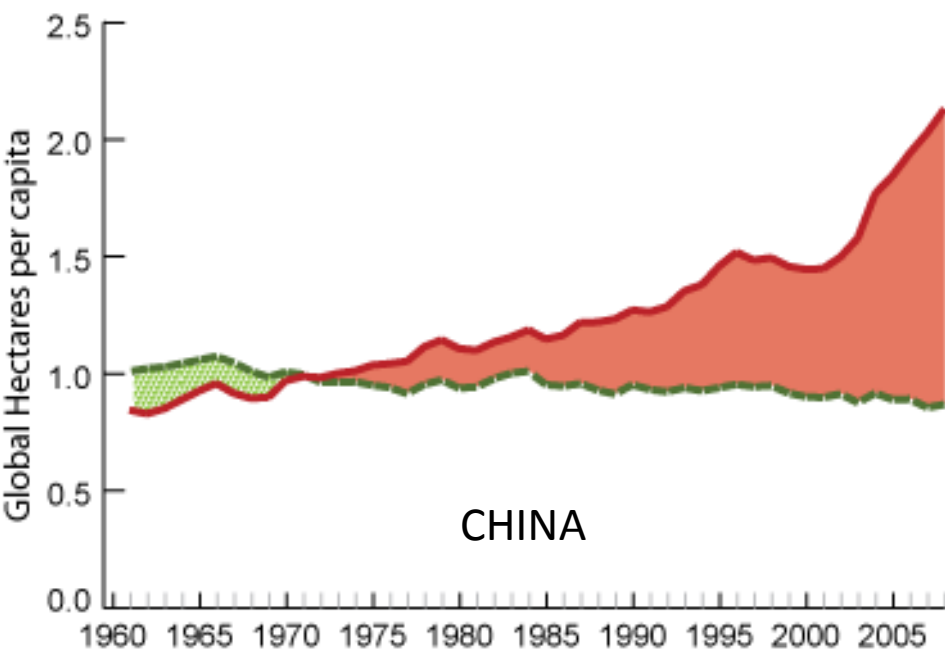




God made every nation of men and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

Acts 17:26





Some Consequences of the Ecological Crisis

- ***Inadequate water supplies and sanitation***
- ***Food shortages and price inflation***
- ***Flooding***
- ***Increasing severity and unpredictability of 'weather'***
- ***Business failure and unemployment***
- ***Economic dysfunction***
- ***Mass migration***
 - *loss of community and family life*
 - *problems with education, caring for the elderly etc*
- ***Loss of Habitat & Biodiversity***
 - *species loss through habitat attrition*
 - *loss of rare species through illegal trade in food, medicines, collectables*
- ***Internal and external political tensions***

Perceptions





This is the life,
I love a good soak.

Attention:
When boiling a frog, place in cool water and slowly turn up the heat.

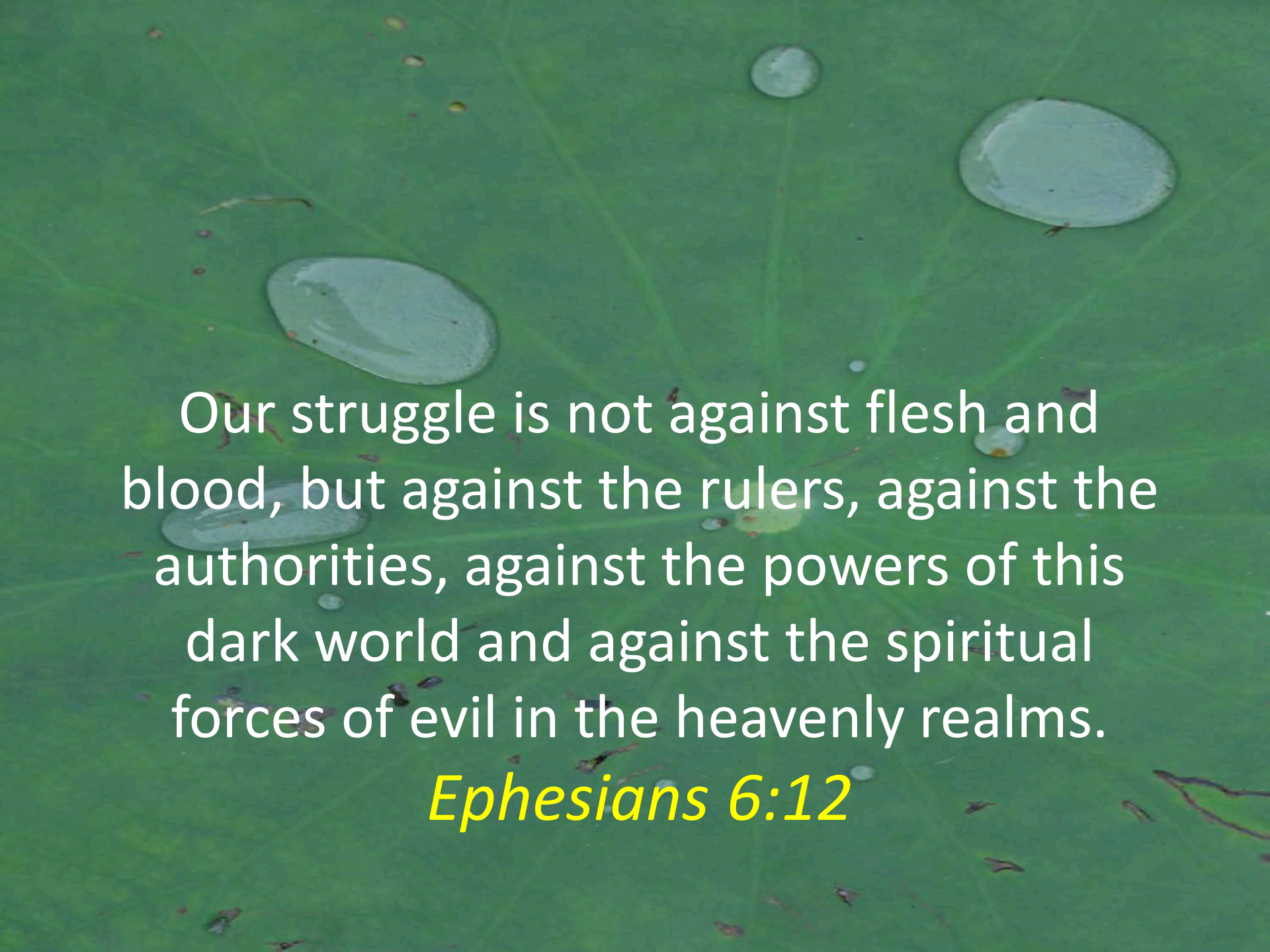
HIGH

Ban Warned 2005







The background is a vibrant green color, possibly representing a leaf or a textured surface. It features several large, clear water droplets of varying sizes, some of which are slightly blurred, suggesting movement or a shallow depth of field. A faint, light-colored grid pattern is visible across the entire background, consisting of thin lines that intersect to form a grid of small squares. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

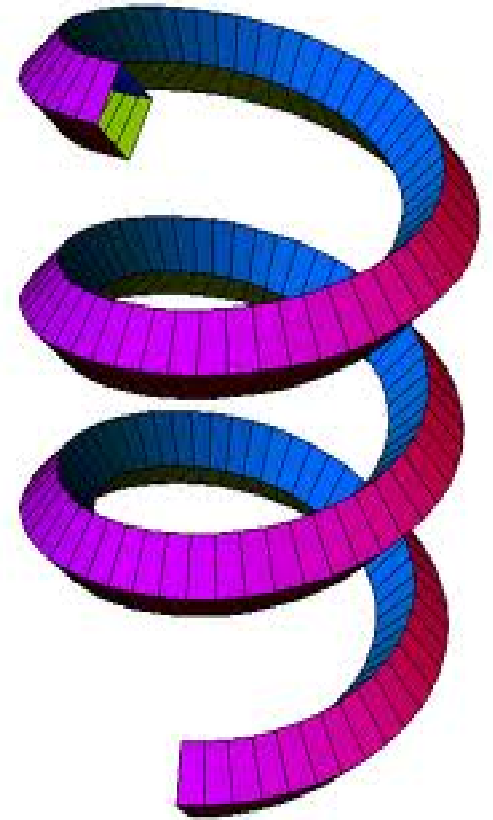
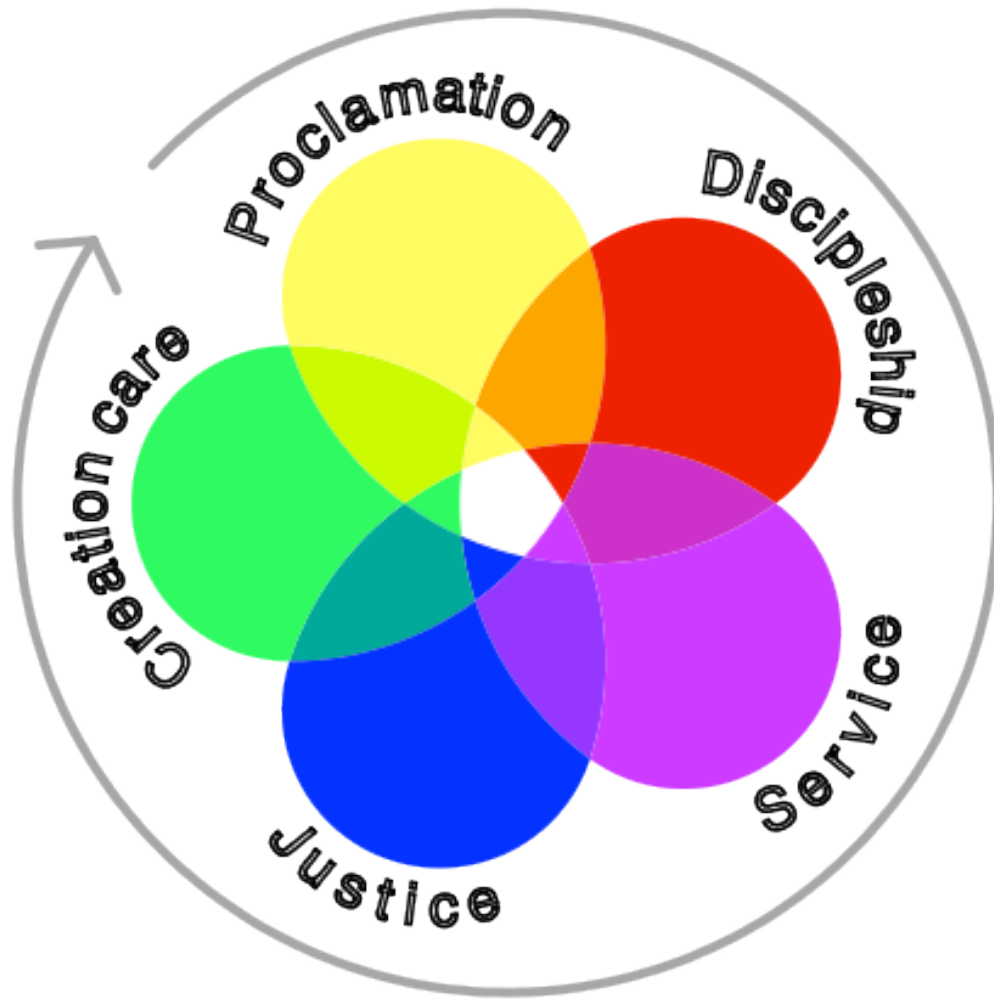
Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12

Integral Mission



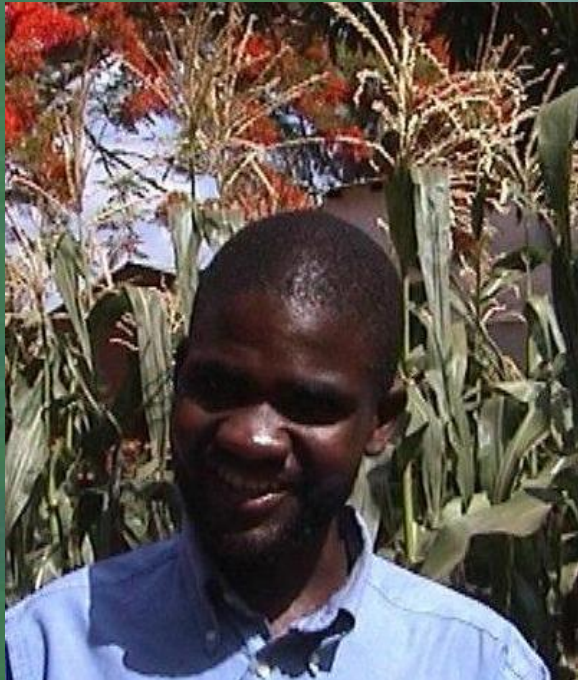


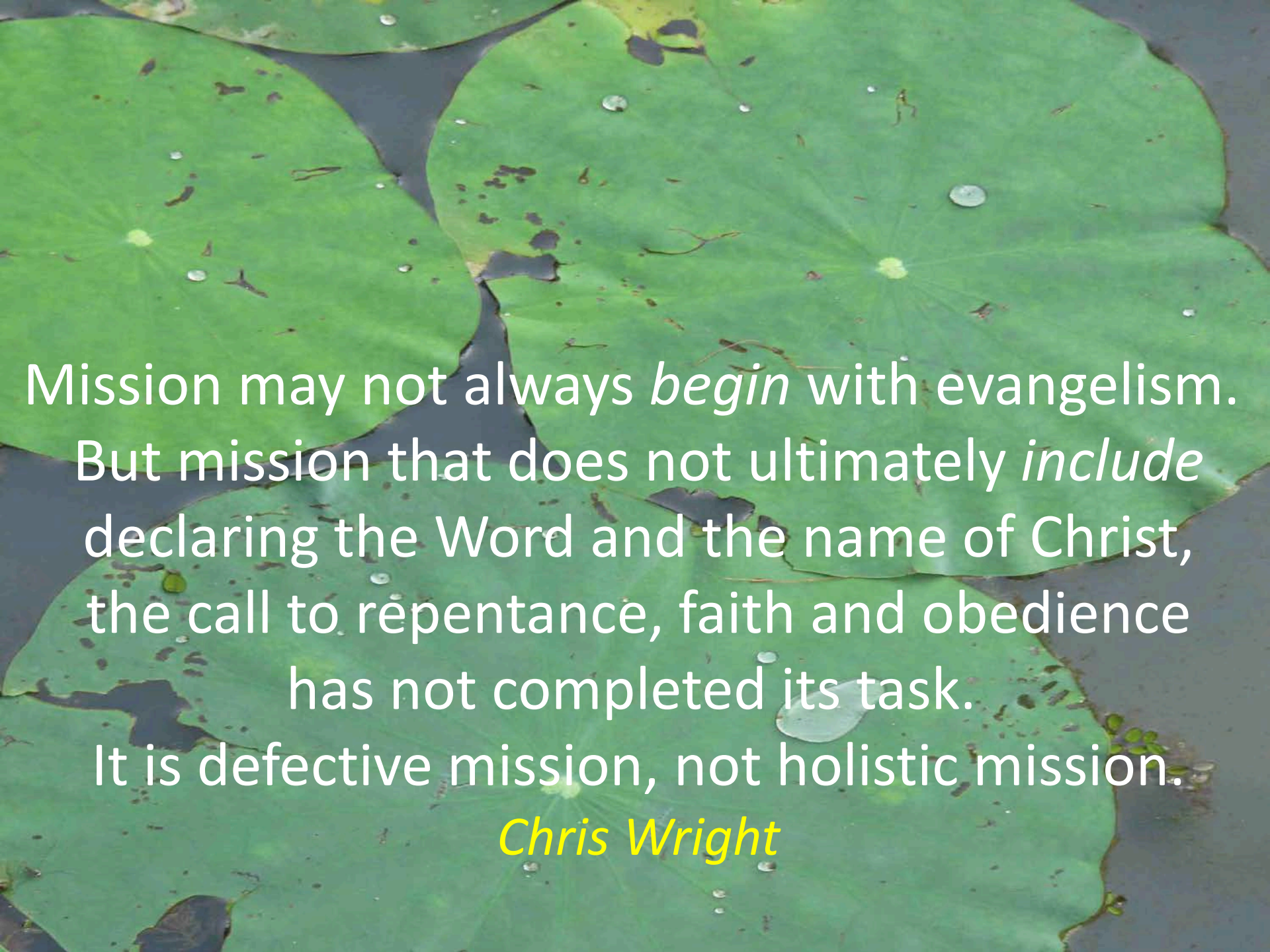


The Cycle of Church Growth
based on the 5 Marks of Mission



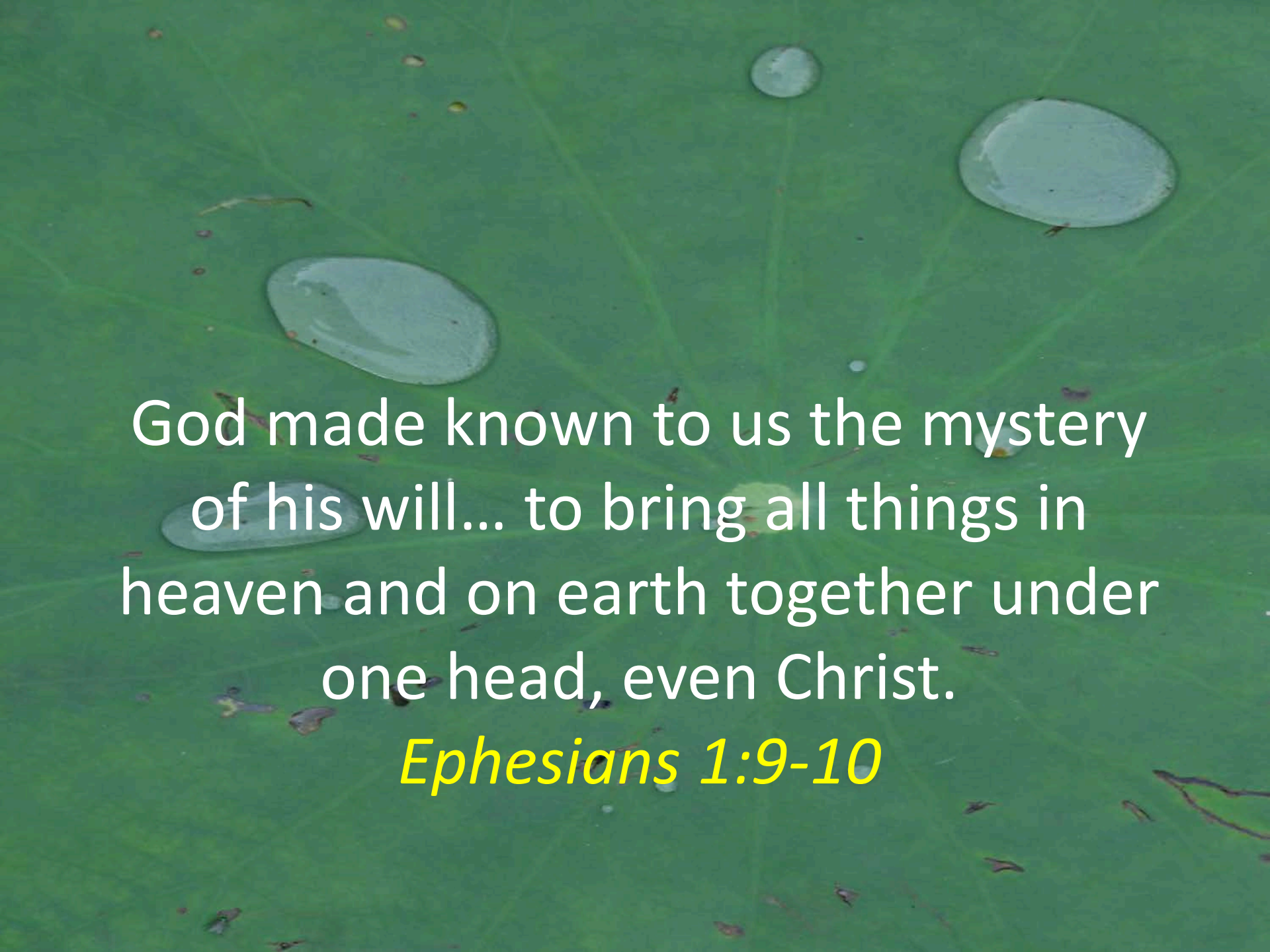
Joseph was a peasant farmer in Thyolo, Malawi. His life was in a mess, struggling with poverty, alcohol abuse & ancestral worship issues. He averaged just 7 bags of maize from his plot per year which was not even enough to care for his own family. He was without hope and aimless in his poor farming community when Johan van der Ham picked him out, along with several others, to disciple him in Farming God's Way. They met weekly over the preplanting season and with the opportunity of teaching Farming God's Way came the opportunity for Joseph to be discipled in the fulness of God's ways. He submitted his life to the Lordship of Christ, cleaned up his life and began to walk in faithfulness and good stewardship of the Farming God's Way tool he had been empowered with. At harvesttime his yield was an astounding 70 bags - 10 times his average yield and the poverty cycle over his life was broken. Joseph now ministers full time with YWAM in Malawi.





Mission may not always *begin* with evangelism.
But mission that does not ultimately *include*
declaring the Word and the name of Christ,
the call to repentance, faith and obedience
has not completed its task.
It is defective mission, not holistic mission.

Chris Wright



God made known to us the mystery
of his will... to bring all things in
heaven and on earth together under
one head, even Christ.

Ephesians 1:9-10







A managed forest of at least 6.2km² (>4500m²pp) or
a mangrove of 7.0 - 9.3km² (5000 - 6700m²pp)
is needed to sequester OMF's air travel CO₂ emissions.

Worksheet for Good Creation Stewardship
'The Earth is the Lord's and Everything in it' Psalm 24:1

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pick at least two or three new habits from each category, or come up with your own creation stewardship actions, and make a covenant with the Lord to follow them.
2. If you wish, share your journey with a 'partner', or in a group/team or with me at David.Gould@omfmail.com
3. Think about it: changes can be made at home, church, school etc as well as at IHQ. Caring for God's creation intersects with every aspect of our Christian walk. It's easier to change habits in community than on our own.

Lord, help me TODAY to:

- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle everything I can.
- Turn off the tap while brushing my teeth or shaving.
- Turn up my air-con thermostat by two or three degrees, to achieve a 20 or 30% reduction in energy consumption.
- Wash my clothes in the coolest water possible and reduce my use of tumble dryers.
- Turn off the lights, TV and other equipment when I leave the room for more than (say) 30 minutes.

My covenant

1. _____
2. _____

Lord, help me THIS WEEK to:

- Take a day of rest - no shopping, no work, no driving.
- Bike, walk, carpool or use public transport instead of driving.
- Research and change to environmentally friendly cleaning products. Avoid bleach.
- Buy and use recycled paper/materials whenever possible.
- Compost suitable food waste.

My covenant

1. _____
2. _____

Lord, help me THIS MONTH to:

- Use low energy light fittings when replacing/ buying new.
- Read and meditate on Psalm 23, 24, 104, 147, 148.
- Wait a month and review before deciding to buy 'non-essential' products. When I do make such purchases, let me buy quality items that will last many years.
- Review my use of disposable plates, cups, cutlery etc.
- Review my diet, reduce my food consumption & eat more healthily.
- Reduce my consumption of food etc imported from other continents.
- Donate something useful to someone who needs it more than I do.

My covenant

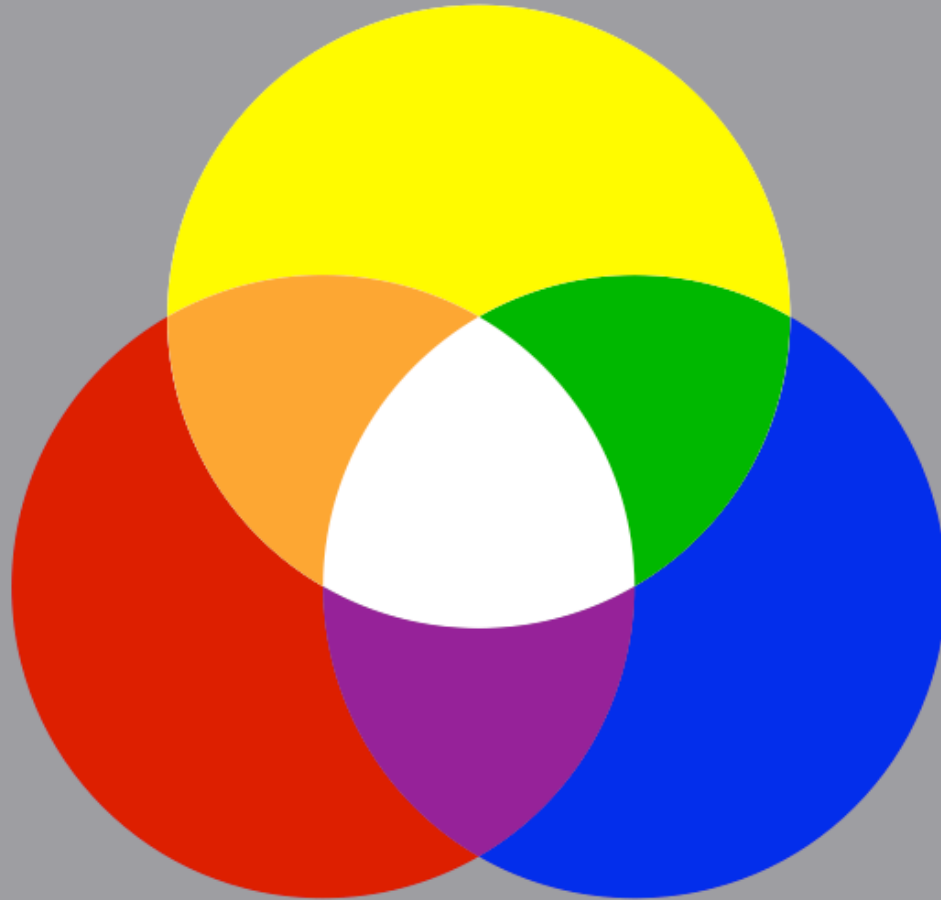
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Lord, help me THIS YEAR to:

- Review and reduce my use of pesticides and avoid DDT-based sprays etc that are very harmful to the environment.
- Delay replacing my cell-phone, computer etc. Donate my old equipment to a good cause.
- Start a vegetable/flower garden in IHQ, my community or my church.
- Study creation care in my cell group, based on something like 'Serve God, Save the Planet'.
- Reduce my non-essential air travel. Consider off-setting my carbon footprint with donations to managed tree-planting projects such as <http://www.climatestewards.net/cs-int-en/home.html>
- Wherever possible, buy timber products from certificated farmed forests.
- Investigate fair trade options in Singapore http://www.concern.sg/Fair_Trade

My covenant

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Common Ground Between Organizations

Questions

- 1. What lessons can be learned from creation care integral mission approaches that you are already involved in?*
- 1. Are there opportunities that lend themselves to creation care integral mission approaches in the communities you are working among?*
- 1. How could Biblical creation care help in fostering trust and friendship with those from other religious backgrounds?*
- 1. How can we encourage one another to 'walk the talk?'*