



*Let all creation rejoice before the LORD*

PSALM 96:13

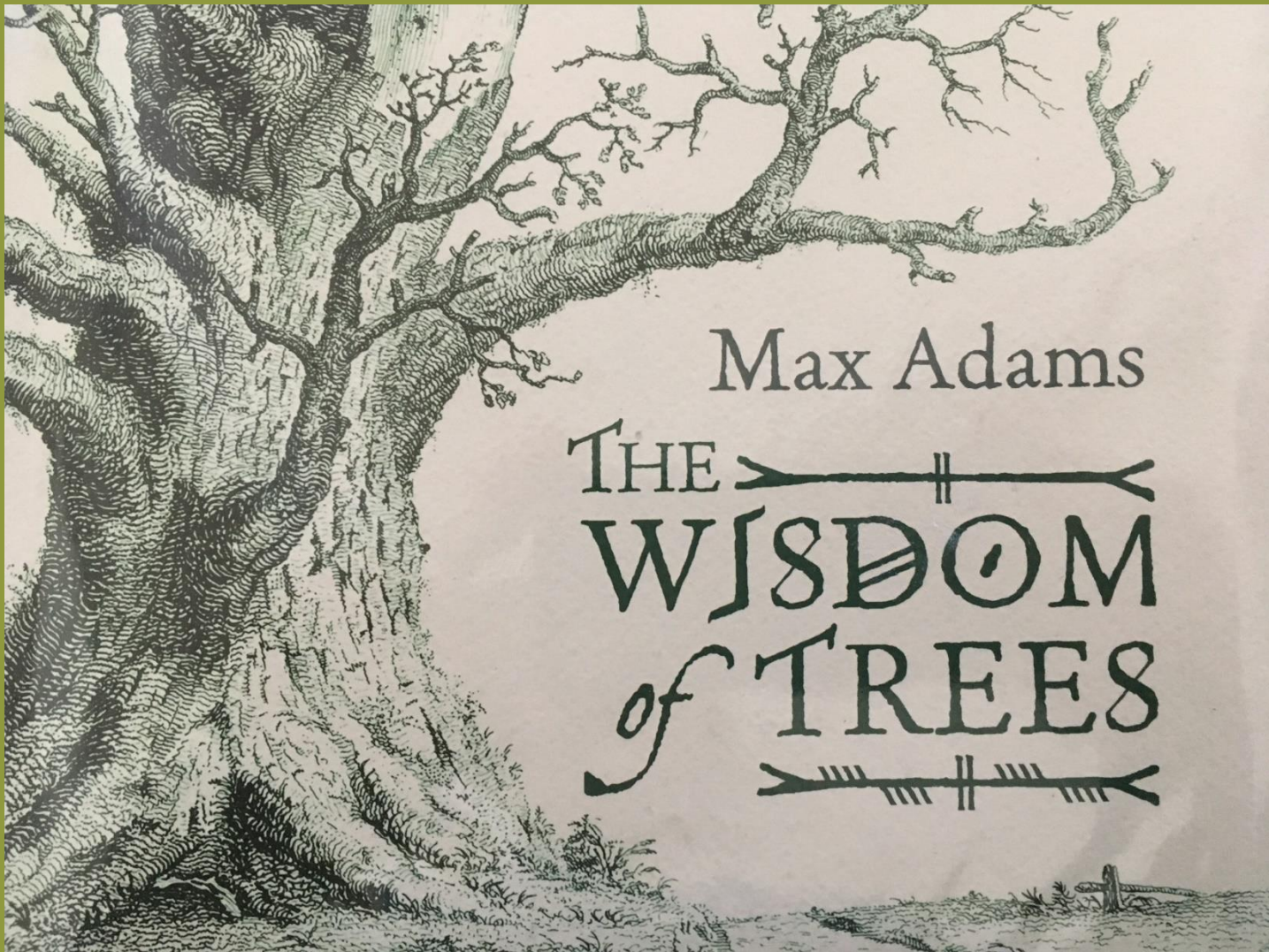
What is your favourite thing  
in the natural world ?











Forests are the earth's lungs and climate-regulators, habitat protectors and the greatest reserves of biodiversity

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not much more valuable than they?

Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

<sup>28</sup> “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. <sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these.

<sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? **Matt 6:25-30**

<sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

<sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

<sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**Matt 6:31-34**



“Respect for the human being and respect for nature are one, but both can grow and find their right measure if we respect in the human being and in nature the Creator and his creation. On this, dear young people, I believe to find allies in you, true “guardians of life and creation.”

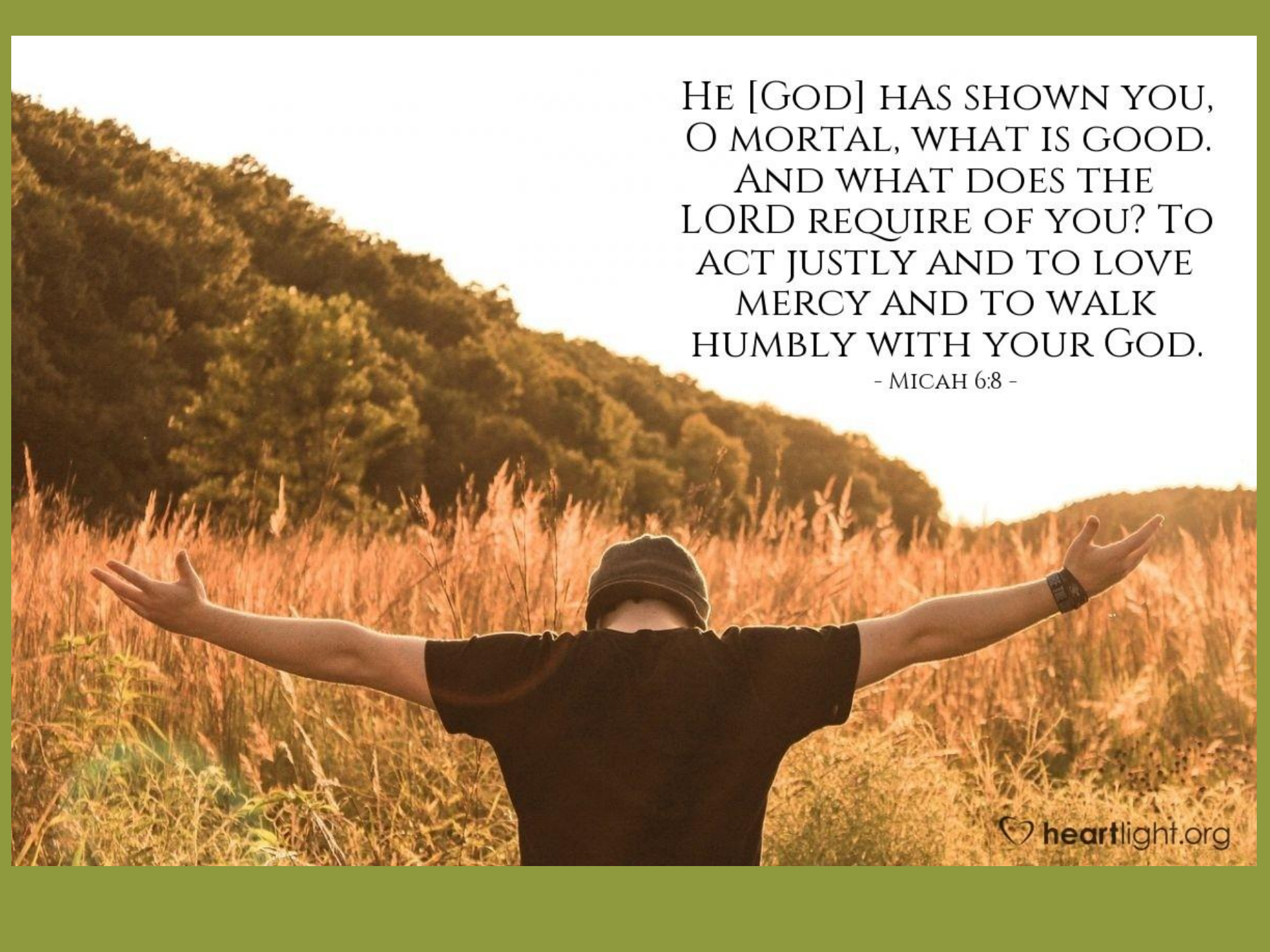




Half earth's people live on less than this a day

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/10/17/nearly-half-the-world-lives-on-less-than-550-a-day>



A person is seen from behind, standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. Their arms are outstretched horizontally to the sides. They are wearing a dark t-shirt and a grey beanie. In the background, there is a dense line of trees on a hillside, and the sky is a warm, hazy orange from the setting or rising sun. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

HE [GOD] HAS SHOWN YOU,  
O MORTAL, WHAT IS GOOD.  
AND WHAT DOES THE  
LORD REQUIRE OF YOU? TO  
ACT JUSTLY AND TO LOVE  
MERCY AND TO WALK  
HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.

- MICAH 6:8 -

# Some lifestyle changes





# A plant-rich diet



# God's creation

God saw all that he had made, and it was **very good**  
Genesis 1:31





The genesis story brings us three radical ideas about creation

1. Non-human creation is God's gift to humanity
2. Humanity is God's gift to non-human creation
3. All creation (both human and non-human together) is to be a theatre for God's glory (Psalm 19 etc.) .... Because when we enjoy non-human creation as God's gift to us, we appreciate God more fully, and his generosity to us. When we mirror God's generous and self-giving rule over creation, benefiting not only ourselves but all creation, we put God's own goodness on further display in the world, thus magnifying his glory.

Gospel and the environment (2017, The Presbyterian Church of Queensland)

<https://www.gist.org.au/issues-papers/the-gospel-and-the-environment/>

AOTEAROA NZ  
**A ROCHA**  
Conservation and Hope

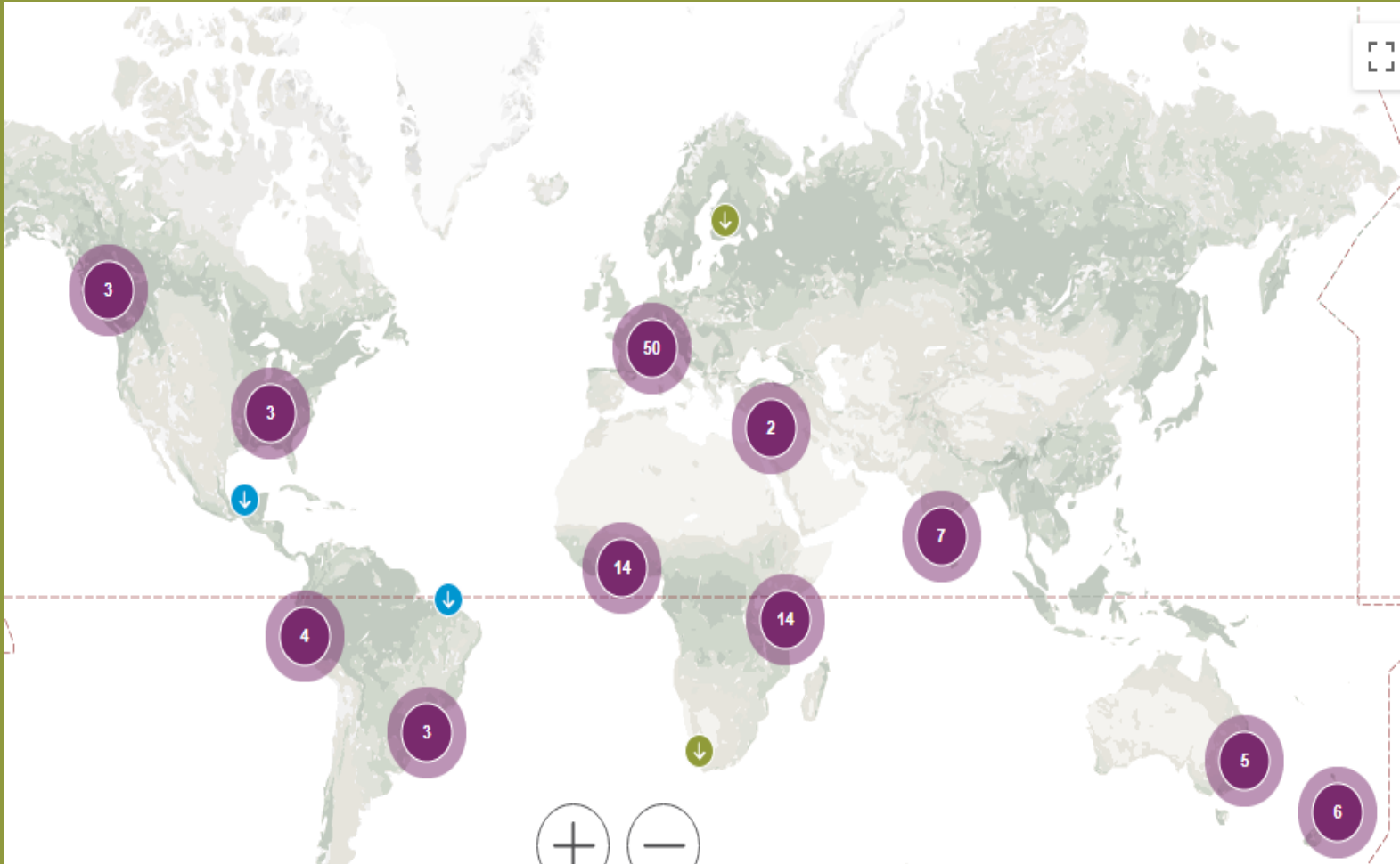
A Rocha is a Christian nature conservation organisation.

In 1983, British Anglican missionaries, Peter & Miranda Harris, established a bird observatory/field study centre on the Algarve estuary in the south of Portugal.

Our name, A Rocha ('the Rock') comes from this first initiative.



# 21 A Rocha projects today



# A Rocha's Core Commitments

In all the countries where we work, A Rocha is identified by five core commitments and to a practical outworking of each:

- **CHRISTIAN** – Underlying all we do is our biblical faith in the living God, who made the world, loves it and entrusts it to the care of human society.
- **CONSERVATION** – We carry out research for the conservation and restoration of the natural world and run environmental education programmes for people of all ages.
- **COMMUNITY** – Through our commitment to God, each other and the wider creation, we aim to develop good relationships both within the A Rocha family and in our local communities.
- **CROSS-CULTURAL** – We draw on the insights and skills of people from diverse cultures, both locally and around the world.
- **COOPERATION** – We work in partnership with a wide variety of organizations and individuals who share our concerns for a sustainable world.



In 2018/2019:  
571 individual  
volunteers  
8500+ volunteer  
hours







**Mt Karioi Flagship project**  
Reintroducing grey-faced petrel  
Working with 160 landowners  
Science, trapping, education



# How can I be involved?

**SIGN UP** - Receive our bi-monthly A Rocha E-News detailing A Rocha stories from around the country and the globe.

**LIKE US** – On Facebook to follow us and receive our posts.

**VOLUNTEER** - Get involved in our practical conservation projects.

## **ENGAGE**

– Go deeper with our *Rich Living* booklets.

- Utilise our on-line resources to deepen and enrich your faith.
- Attend A Rocha hui or camps and/or visit an A Rocha hub.

**PRAY** – Pray for our staff, our volunteers and the communities and ecosystems we work in.

**GIVE** – Become a regular financial supporter.

**SHARE** – Tell your friends and congregation about A Rocha.

**VISIT** – <https://www.arocha.org.nz/> for more



<sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. **Romans 8:18-25**

# Our playground – Queen Elizabeth Park







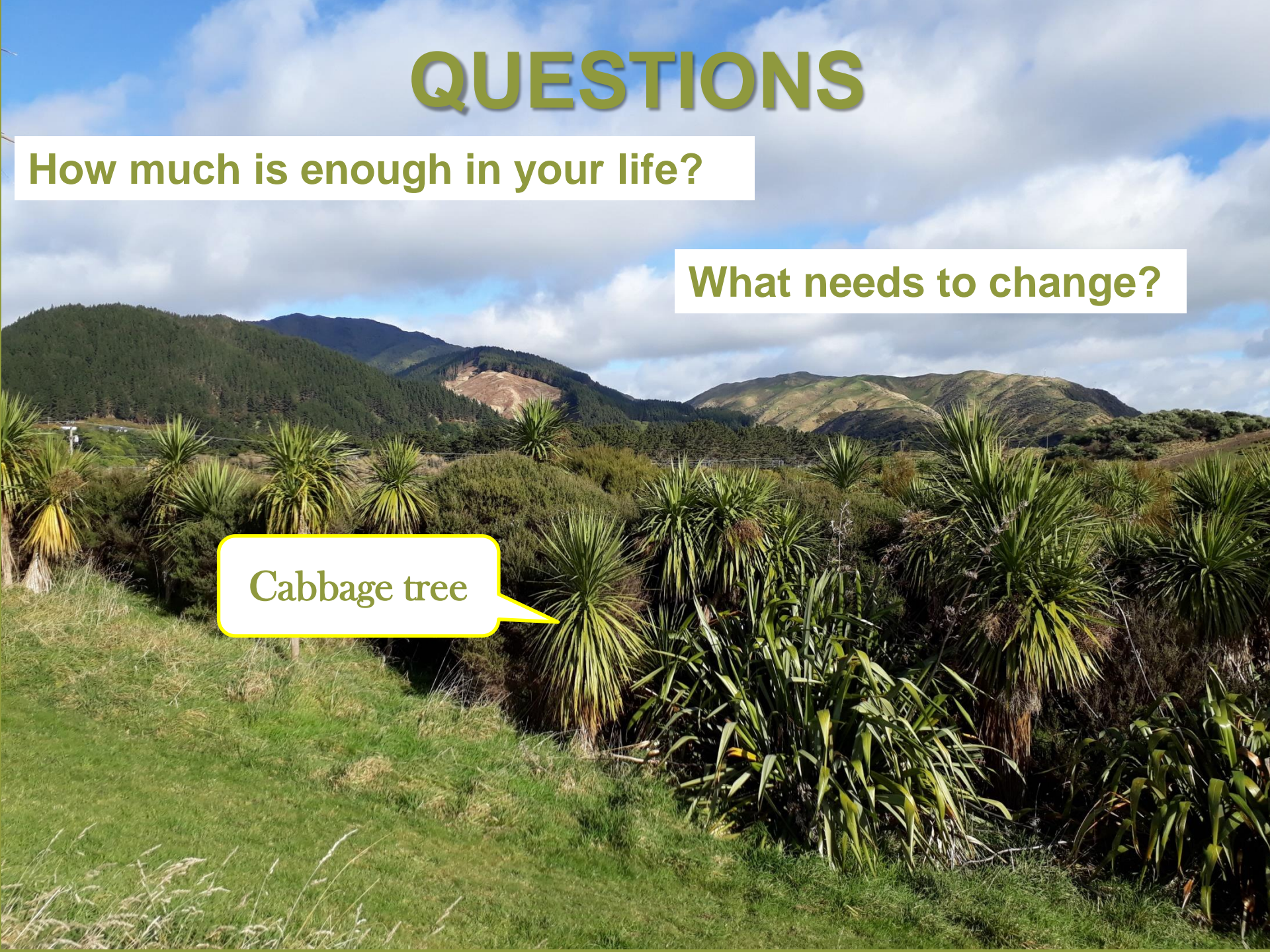


# QUESTIONS

How much is enough in your life?

What needs to change?

Cabbage tree





# QUESTIONS

How much is enough in your life?

What needs to change?

Cabbage tree

What might God be saying about his plans for you ?



# Ngā mihi nui

