

2014 Press Release

Christian “Earthkeeper” Responds to the Call to Care for the Environment

Reviews for Leah Kostamo’s book *Planted: A Story of Creation, Calling, and Community* (Cascade Books, 2013), have been as glowing as they have been diverse. Canadian literary icon Margaret Atwood, reviewing *Planted* for *Sojourners* magazine (sojo.net) called Kostamo’s writing “clear-sighted and humorous.” And she ends her review with, “If all Christians were like Leah and Markku Kostamo ours would be a radically different world.”

Eugene Peterson, best-selling author of the *Message*, writes, “This is a book full of good stories told by a good storyteller. Instead of making a pitch or sermon or propagandistic tract on creation care, Leah has woven everything into a narrative, a story with characters and movement and relationship and Jesus.”

Byron Borger writes, “I’ve read twenty-five books on this topic, and it is rare that one says anything new, in a new way, that is both refreshing and sane. This book is both. It’s one of the best books of the year!”

The appeal of *Planted*, lies in that fact that it is not a “how to” book, but a “how so” book in which the reader is invited to travel with Leah on the wild ride of salmon saving, stranger welcoming and God worshiping as she and her husband Markku help establish the first Christian environmental center in Canada with the ministry of A Rocha (arocha.ca).

Avoiding simplistic prescriptions or cliché platitudes, Leah wrestles with issues of poverty, justice, and the environment through the narrative of her own life experience. The lived-theology and joyfulness of spirit conveyed in these pages draws readers to new and creative ways to honour the Creator and steward creation.

Kostamo is eager to see *Planted* reach justice-seeking Christians and inspire them to live more mindfully toward all of creation.

Connect with Leah & A Rocha:

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