

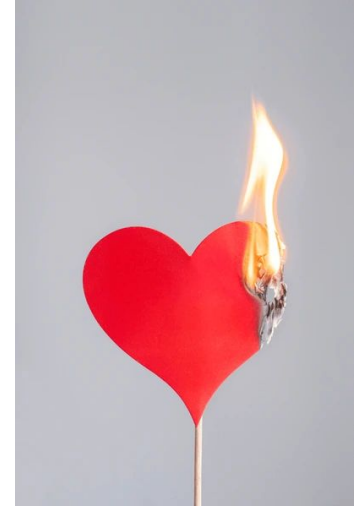
Connecting with the Ache

Connecting with the desire for more than comfort is key

CST in action is compelling evangelization

There is a drive to love, to make a difference, and to serve

It is connected with the drive to pray, worship, and understand.



Connecting with Concerns and Trends

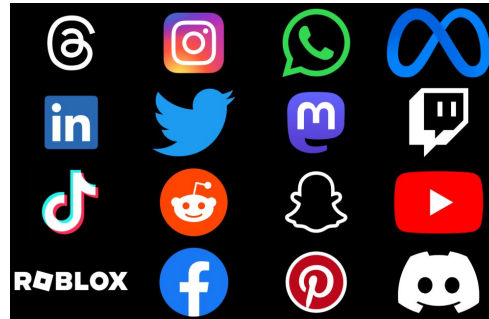
We must engage issues from the perspective of Faith

Teens are getting indoctrinated and ideologically colonized on Tik Tok

We must be in the conversation with the Gospel, not just with politics etc...

The Gospel is more compelling and balances ideological buzz and dissonance.

Both/And



Connecting with Questions

We need to find out what they are wondering about and engage those questions?

We can and should help youth learn to engage, discuss, and even disagree lovingly and helpfully.



Connecting with Christ

CST is from the Gospel

Jesus is the source of the Church's most compelling teachings

Connecting with the poor is connecting with Christ.

Connecting with one another is connecting with Christ



Connecting with your story and identity

When we open to the big issues, we invite a new perspective on our own stories.

Hearing and sharing story, real encounters, and testimonies can be a powerful window into who we are and what we are called to.



Connecting with your mission

CST in teaching and action helps us to become clear about our call to generous service

To be disciples is to baptize and preach—but also to love and serve.

Questions

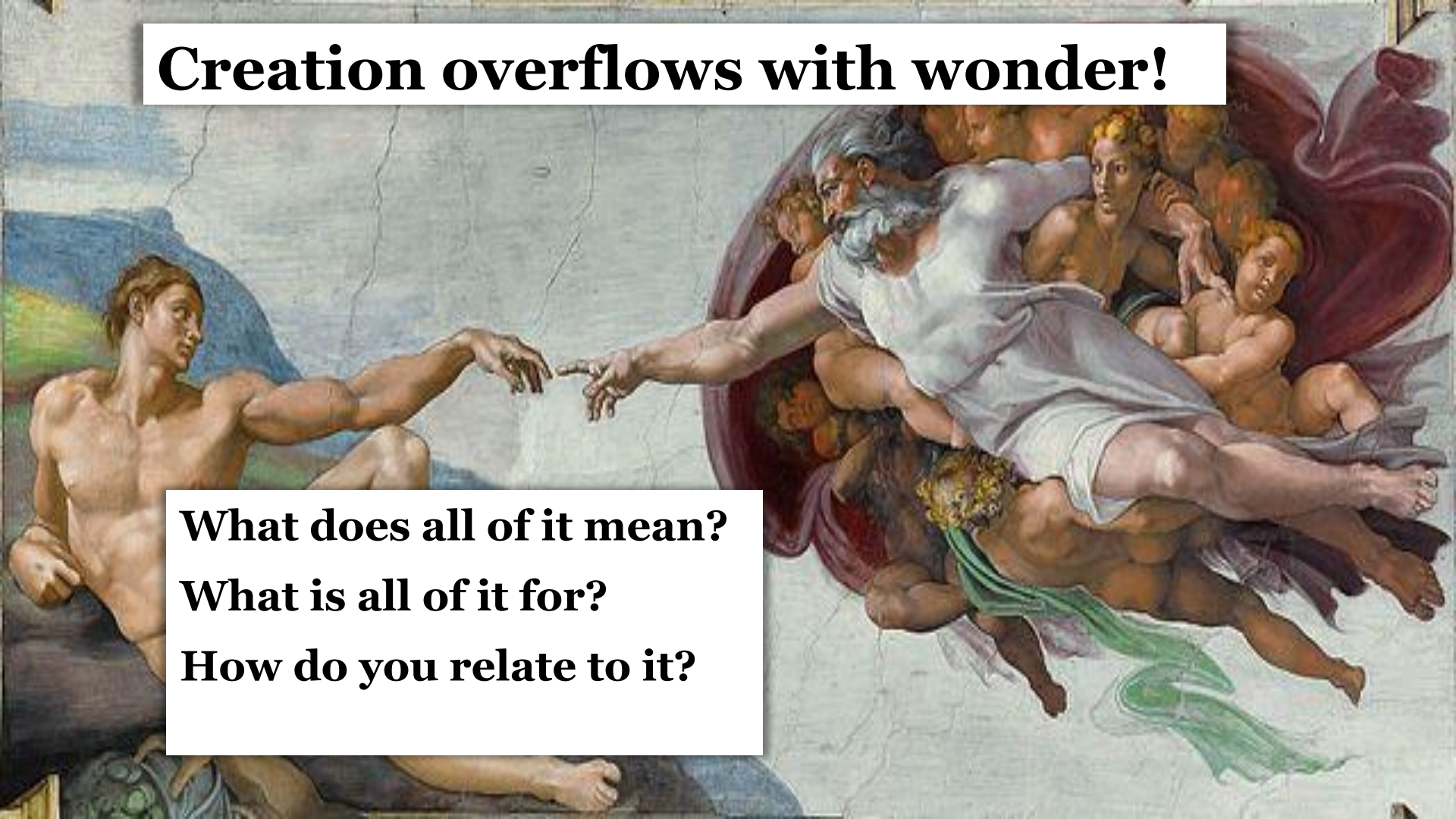
What are your youth talking about when it comes to social issues?

What are you finding in terms of connecting with them (in terms of what's working and what's challenging you)?

What aspect of the first presentation is standing out to you?

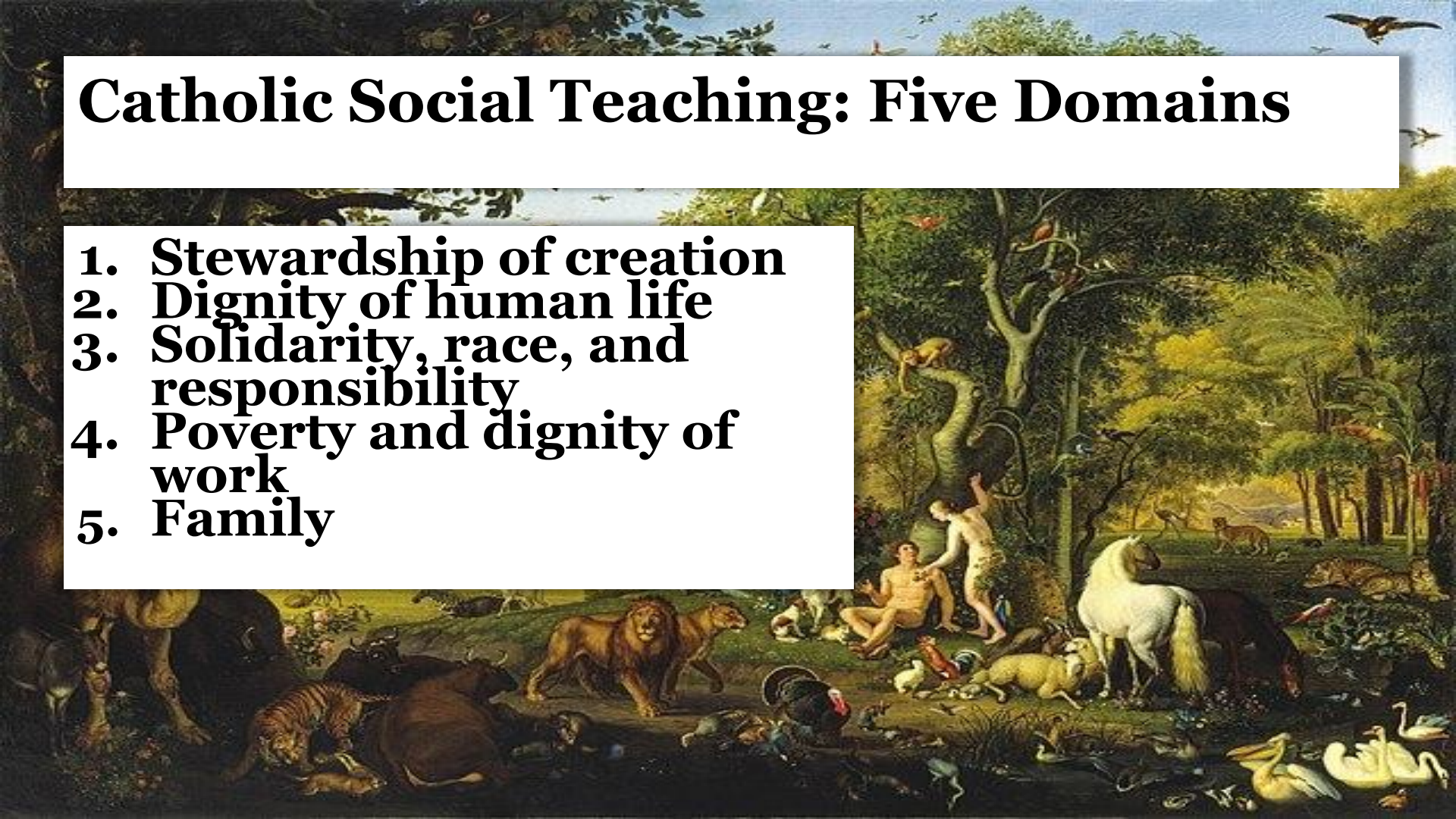
Creation overflows with wonder!

**What does all of it mean?
What is all of it for?
How do you relate to it?**



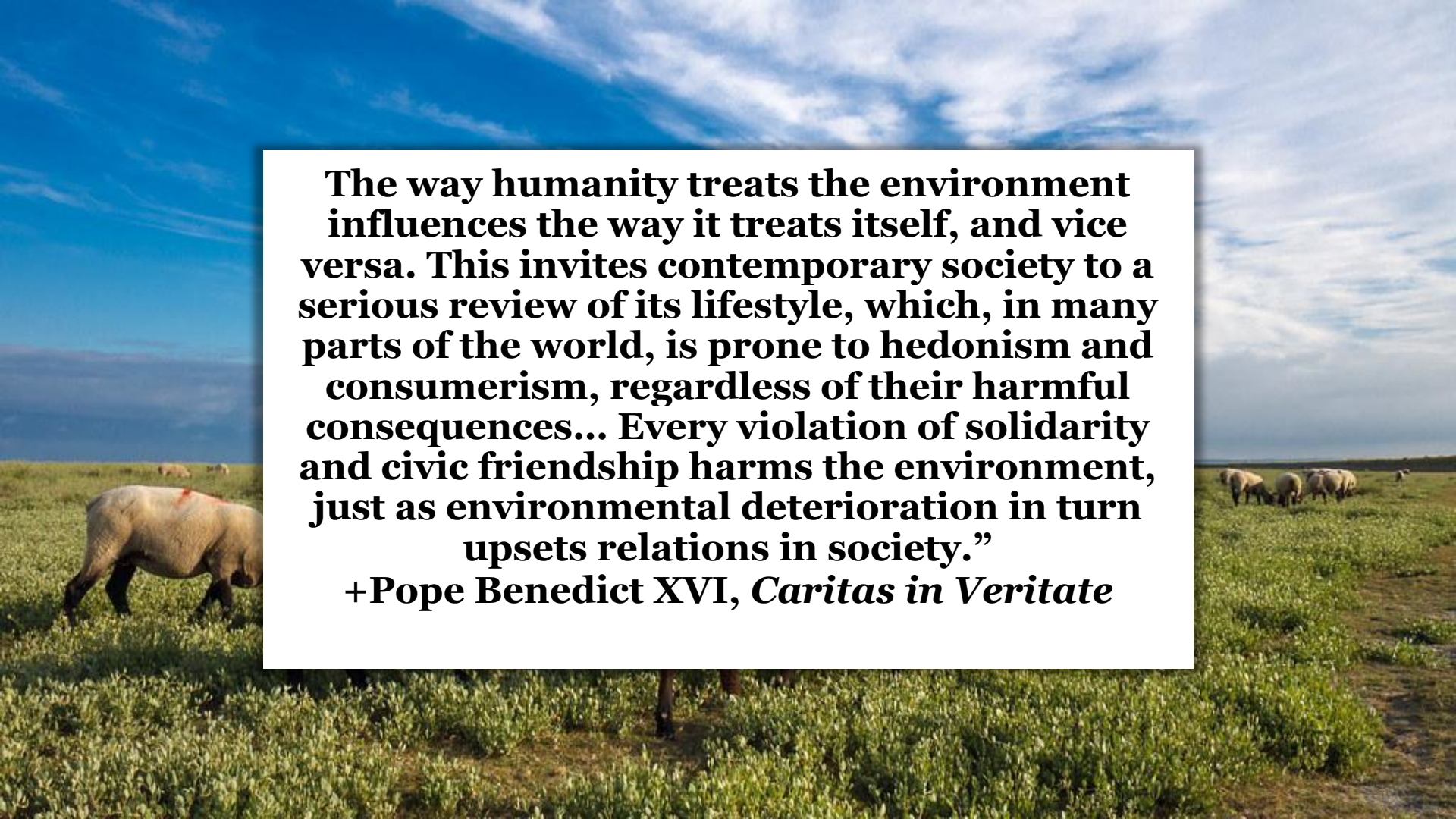
Catholic Social Teaching: Five Domains

1. Stewardship of creation
2. Dignity of human life
3. Solidarity, race, and responsibility
4. Poverty and dignity of work
5. Family



Stewardship of Creation



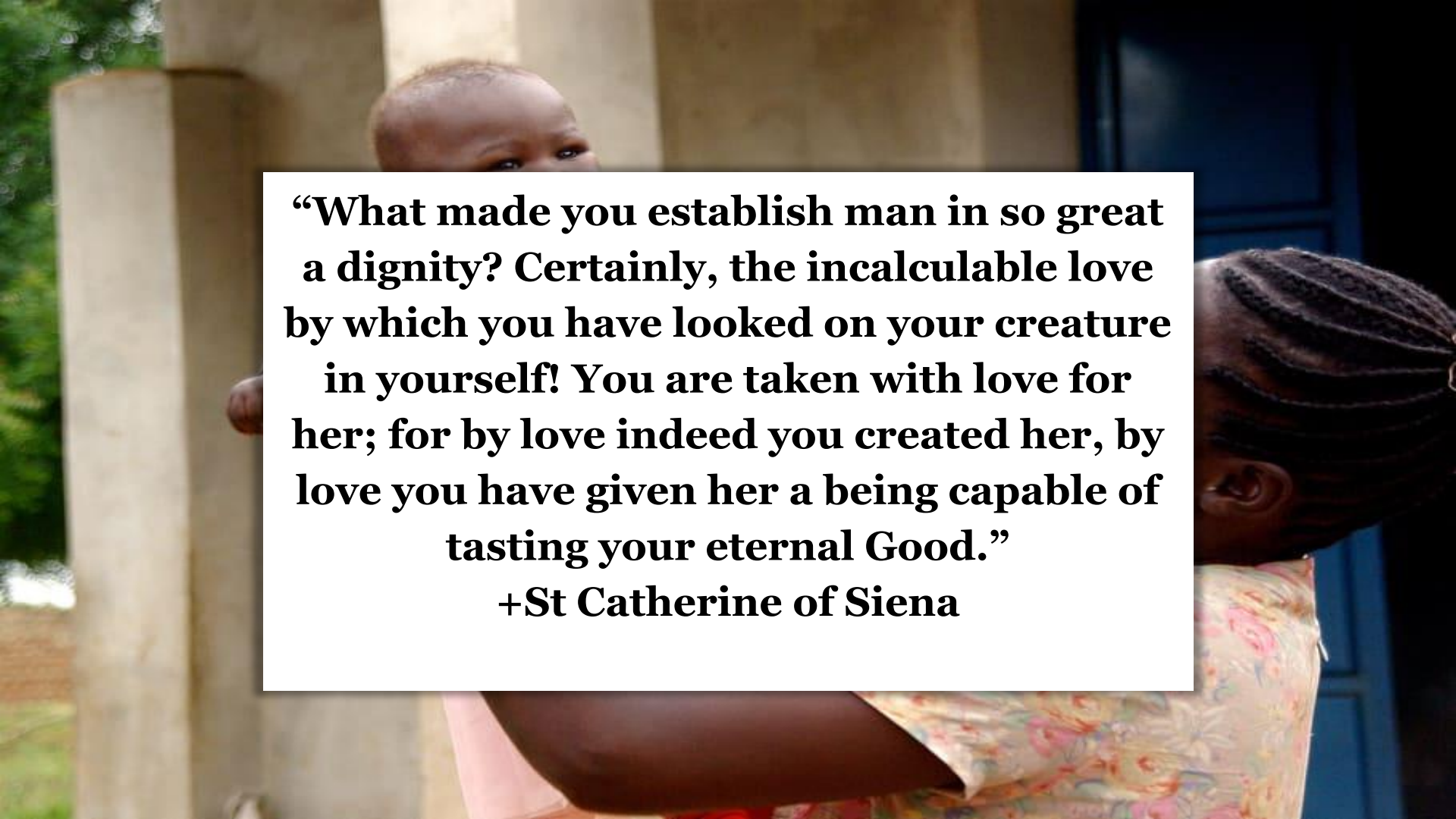


The way humanity treats the environment influences the way it treats itself, and vice versa. This invites contemporary society to a serious review of its lifestyle, which, in many parts of the world, is prone to hedonism and consumerism, regardless of their harmful consequences... Every violation of solidarity and civic friendship harms the environment, just as environmental deterioration in turn upsets relations in society.”

+Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*

Dignity of human life



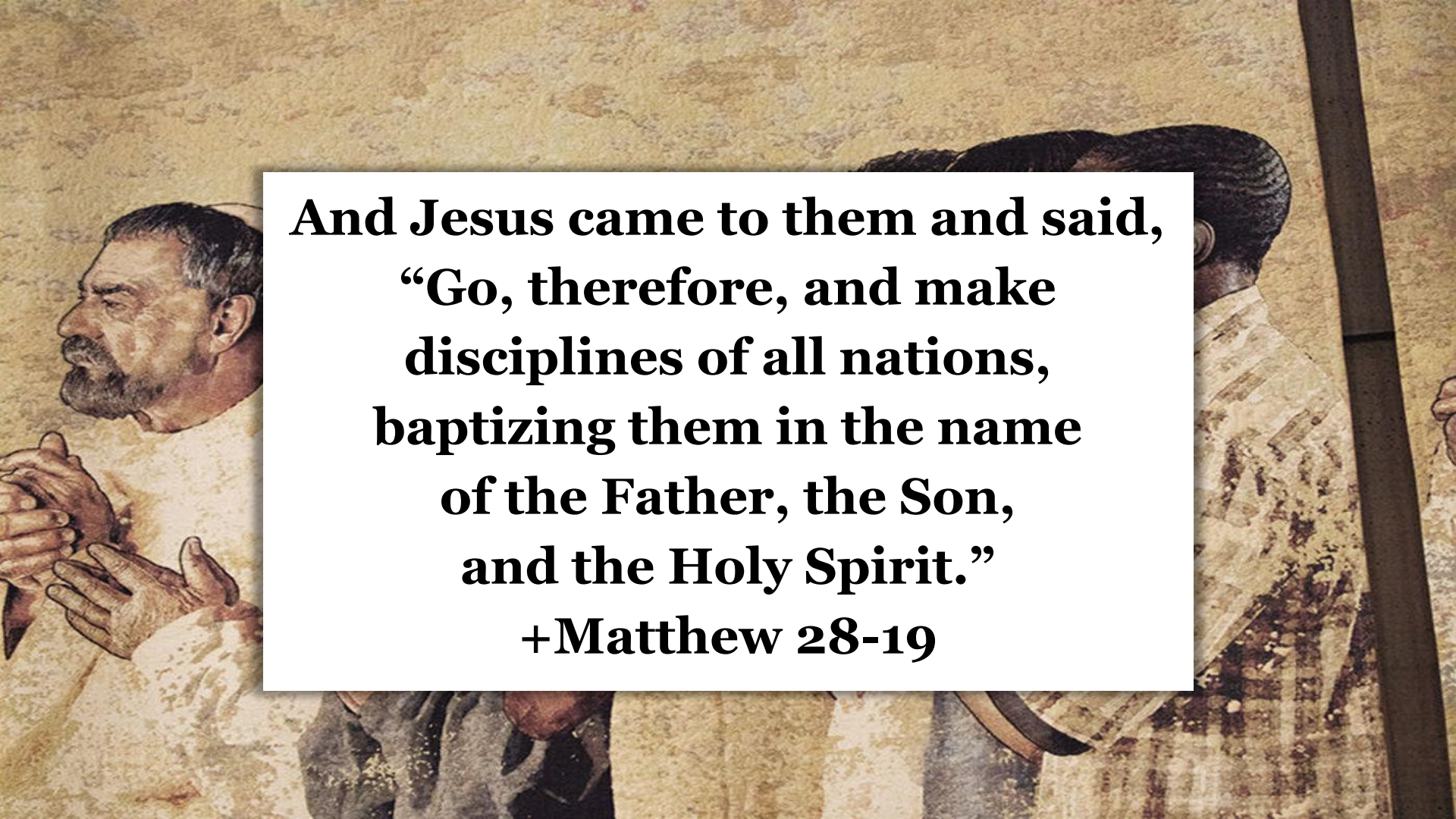
A photograph of a woman with dark skin and braided hair, wearing a colorful patterned garment, holding a baby. The baby's face is visible at the top center. The background is slightly blurred, showing a wooden structure and some greenery.

**“What made you establish man in so great
a dignity? Certainly, the incalculable love
by which you have looked on your creature
in yourself! You are taken with love for
her; for by love indeed you created her, by
love you have given her a being capable of
tasting your eternal Good.”**

+St Catherine of Siena

Solidarity, Race, & Responsibility

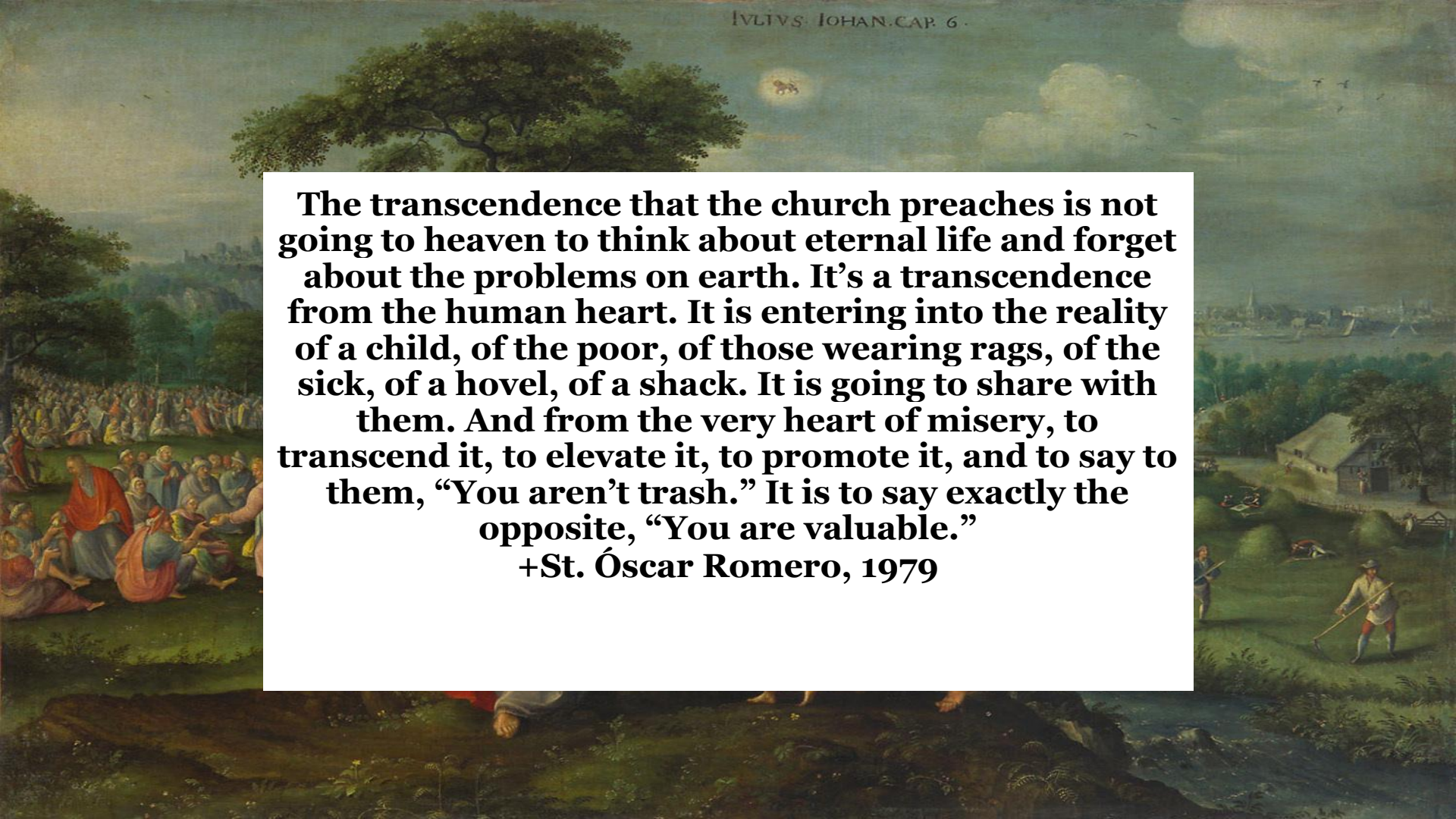




**And Jesus came to them and said,
“Go, therefore, and make
disciplines of all nations,
baptizing them in the name
of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.”
+Matthew 28-19**



Poverty & Dignity of Work



The transcendence that the church preaches is not going to heaven to think about eternal life and forget about the problems on earth. It's a transcendence from the human heart. It is entering into the reality of a child, of the poor, of those wearing rags, of the sick, of a hovel, of a shack. It is going to share with them. And from the very heart of misery, to transcend it, to elevate it, to promote it, and to say to them, "You aren't trash." It is to say exactly the opposite, "You are valuable."

+St. Óscar Romero, 1979

Family

The role and nature of the family in society are also crucial to understanding CST.

"The family is thus an agent of pastoral activity through its explicit proclamation of the Gospel and its legacy of varied forms of witness, namely solidarity with the poor, openness to a diversity of people, the protection of creation, moral and material solidarity with other families, including those most in need, commitment to the promotion of the common good and the transformation of unjust social structures, beginning in the territory in which the family lives, through the practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy." (Pope Francis, *The Joy of love* [[Amoris Laetitia](#)], no. 290, quoting the Final Report of the Synod of Bishops, 10/24/15)

Questions

How can we ensure that our youth come to know the rich teachings of the Church on these key issues?

How can we can our youth involved in living them out?

What should we prioritize in our particular parishes and situations?

What else did this presentation stir in you?