



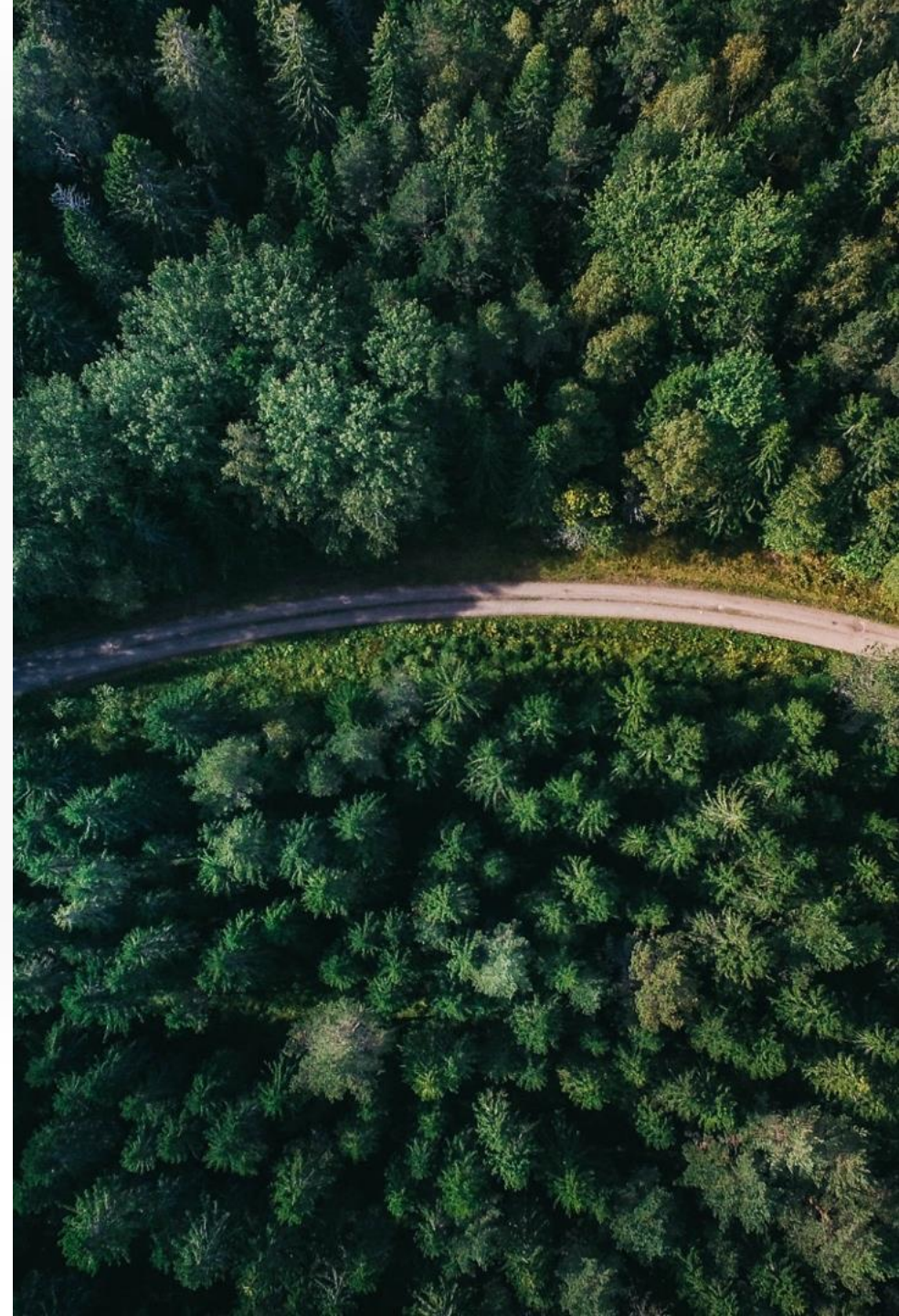
*The
Gospel of Mark*

Opposition and Distraction

Mark 3:20-35

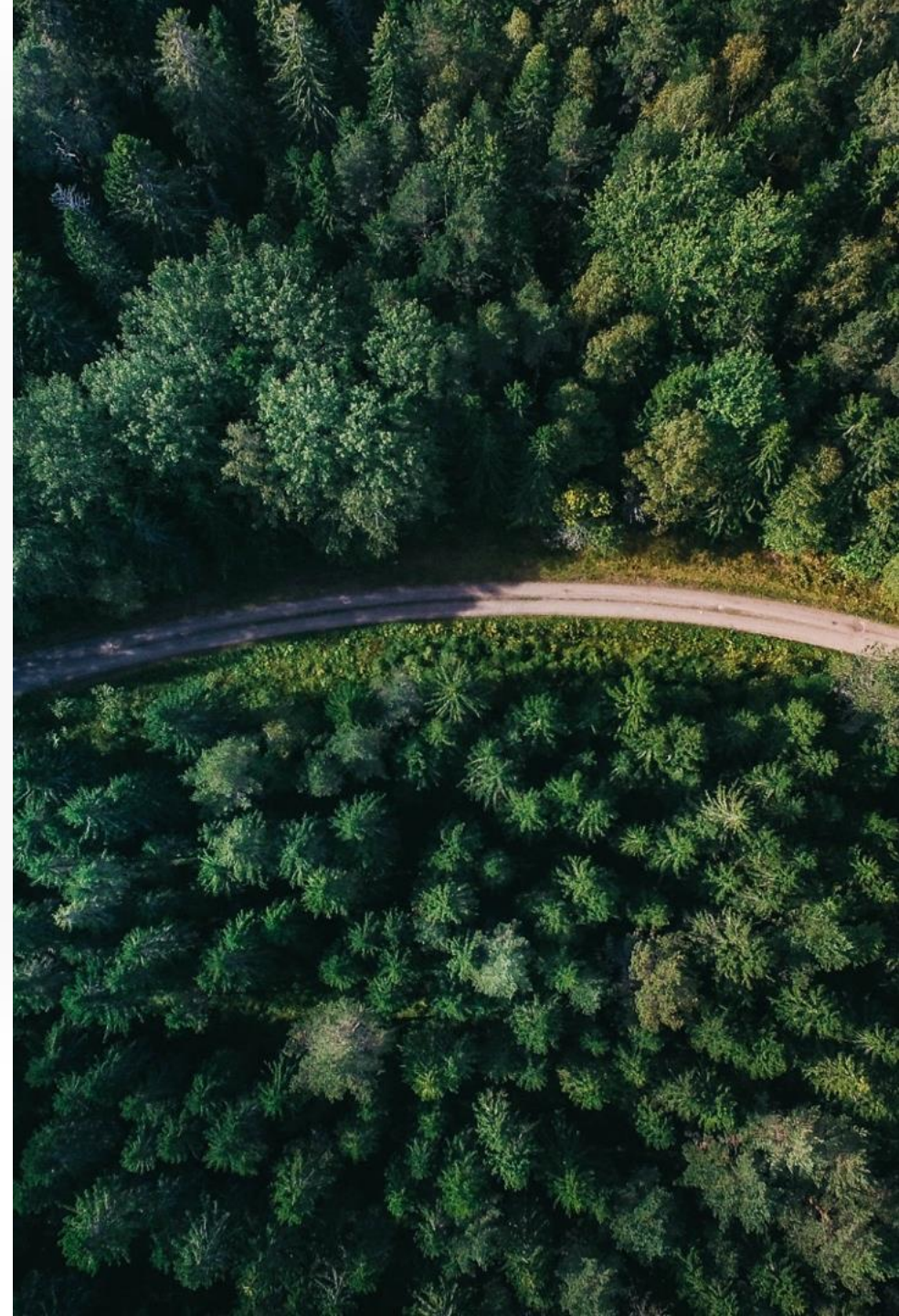
Mark 3:20

²⁰ Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat.



Mark 3:21-22

²¹ When his **family** heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.” ²² And the **teachers of the law** who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”





GROUPS OF RESISTANCE



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1. Jesus' Family

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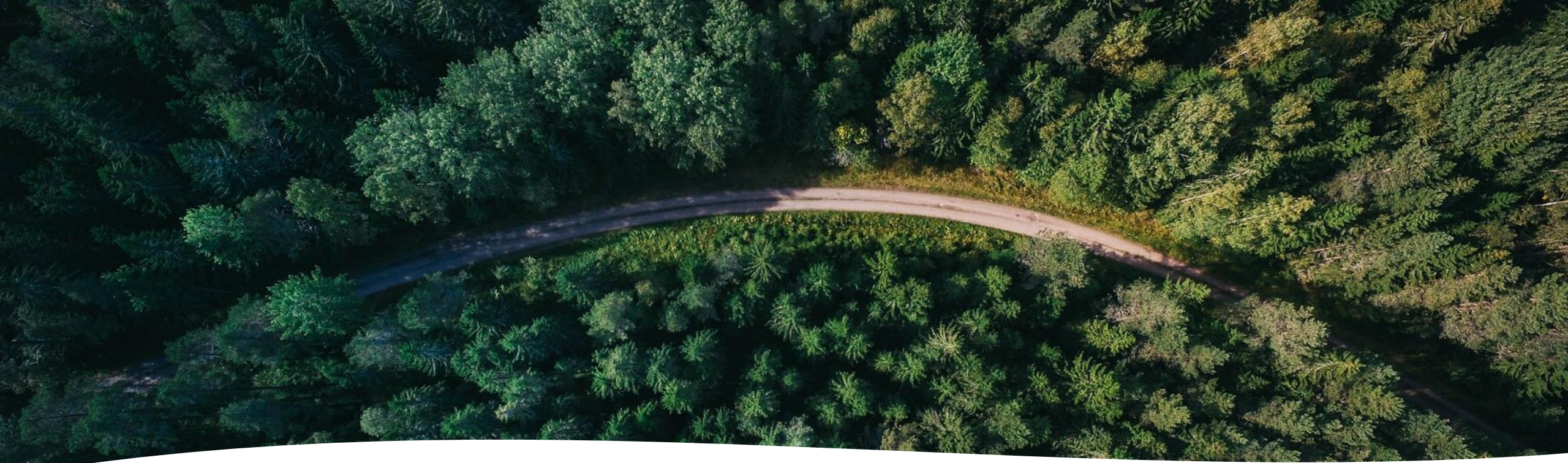
GROUPS OF RESISTANCE

1. Jesus' Family

²¹ When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

2. Teachers of the Law

²² And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."



Jesus finds himself in the middle of a storm of people's **opinions, oppositions** and **distractions** and **concerns**.



CONSIDER

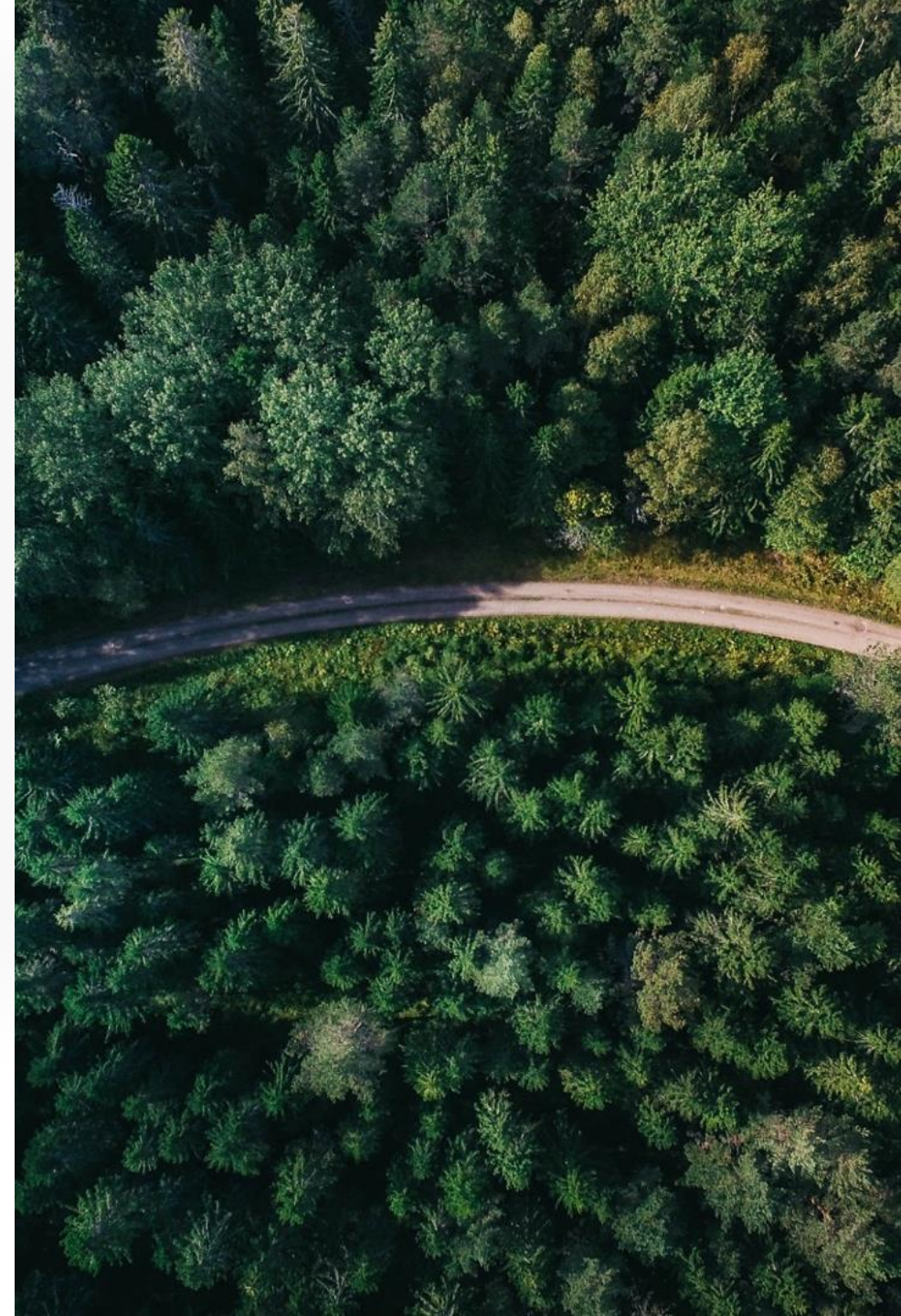
What is an **opposition** that needs to be **engaged**?

What is a **distraction** that needs to be **dismissed**?

Mark 3:23-27

²³ So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. ²⁶ And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come.

²⁷ In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.





Jesus points out that if they are going to slander him must **either** say:

- 1) Satan is good (because the fruit is good) or
- 2) The fruit of Jesus ministry is evil (because Jesus is evil)

BUT YOU CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS



Jesus points out that if they are going to slander him must **either** say:

~~1) Satan is good (because the fruit is good) or~~

2) The fruit of Jesus ministry is evil (because Jesus is evil)

THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW
LOCK IN ANSWER #...

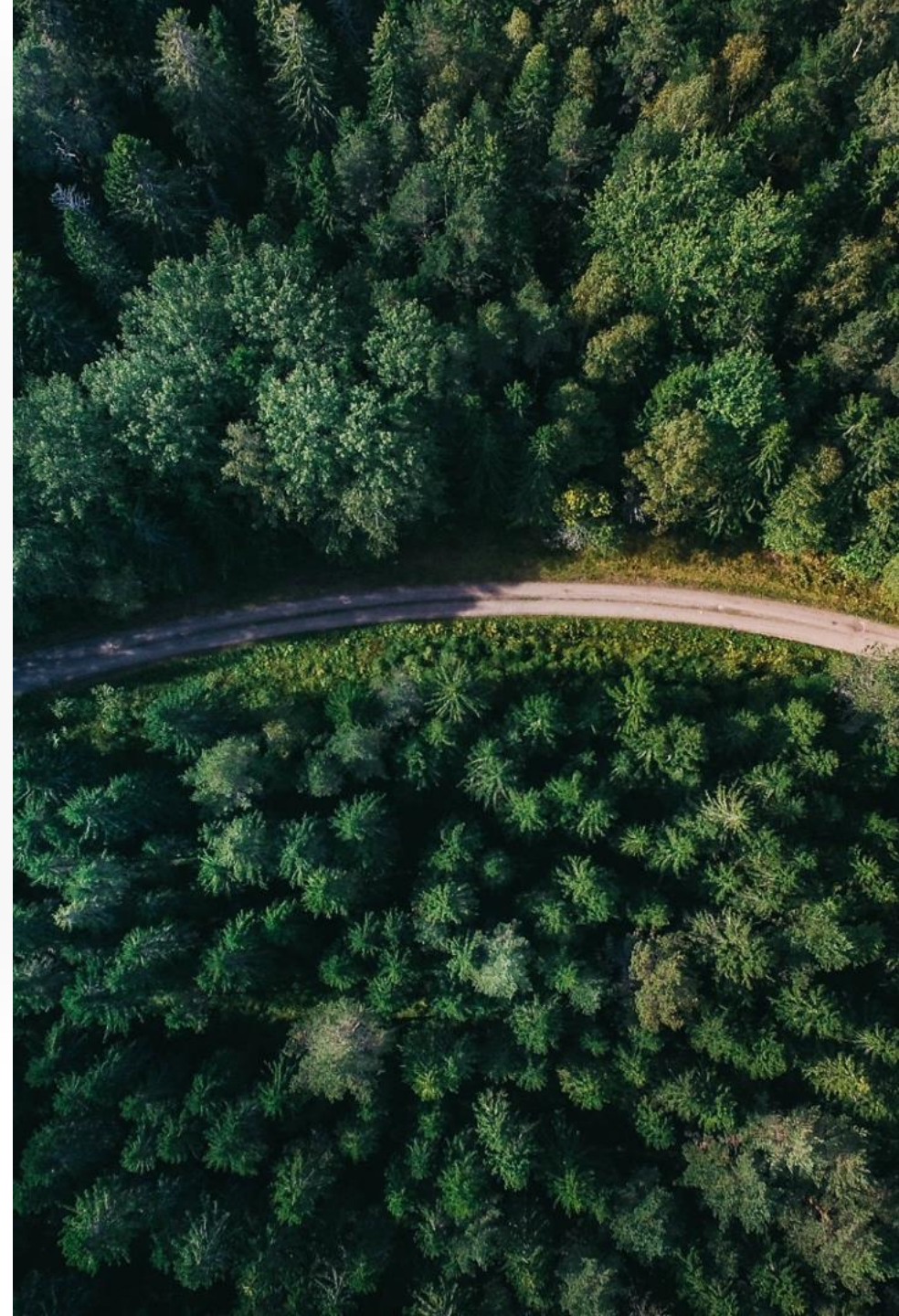


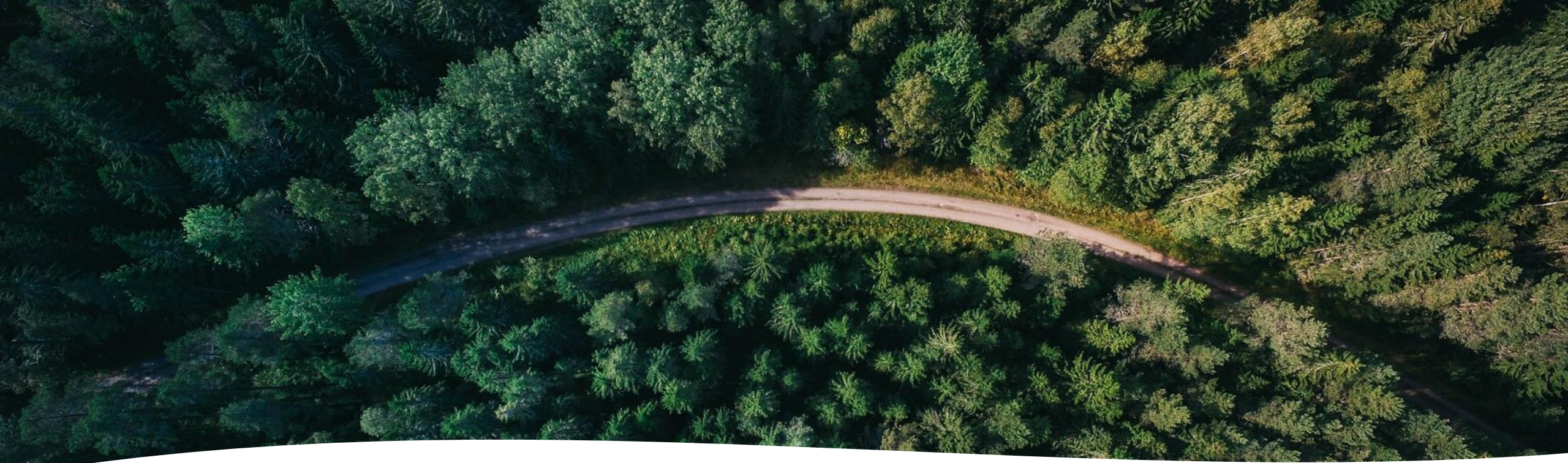
Mark 3:28-30

²⁸ Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.”

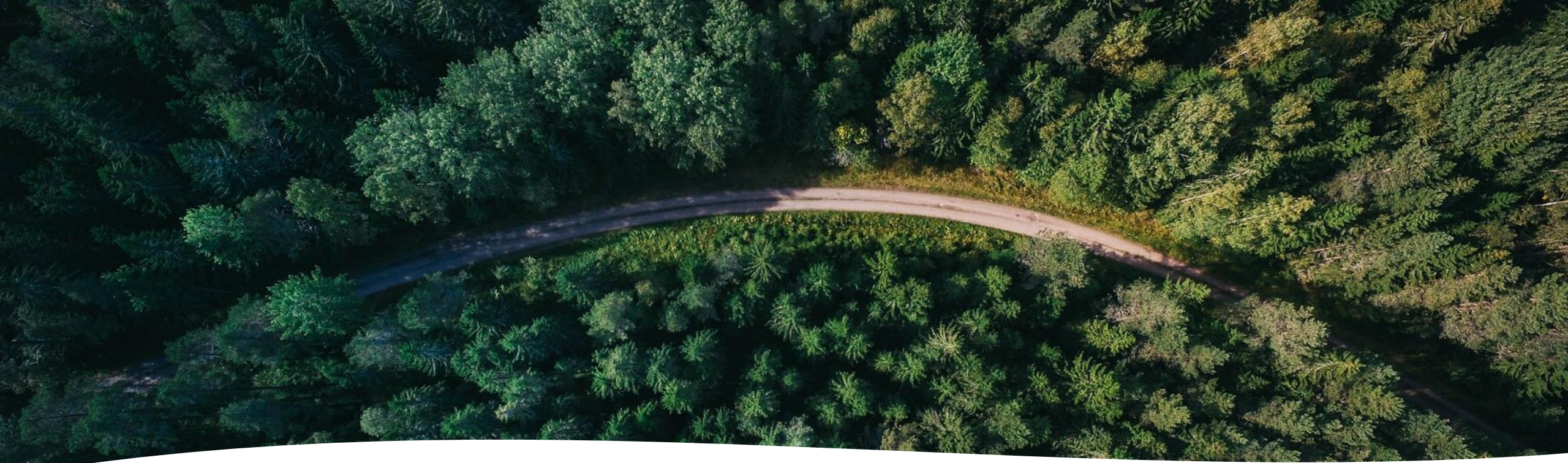
³⁰ He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

(ANSWER #2)





Jesus was a threat.
So the fruit didn't matter.



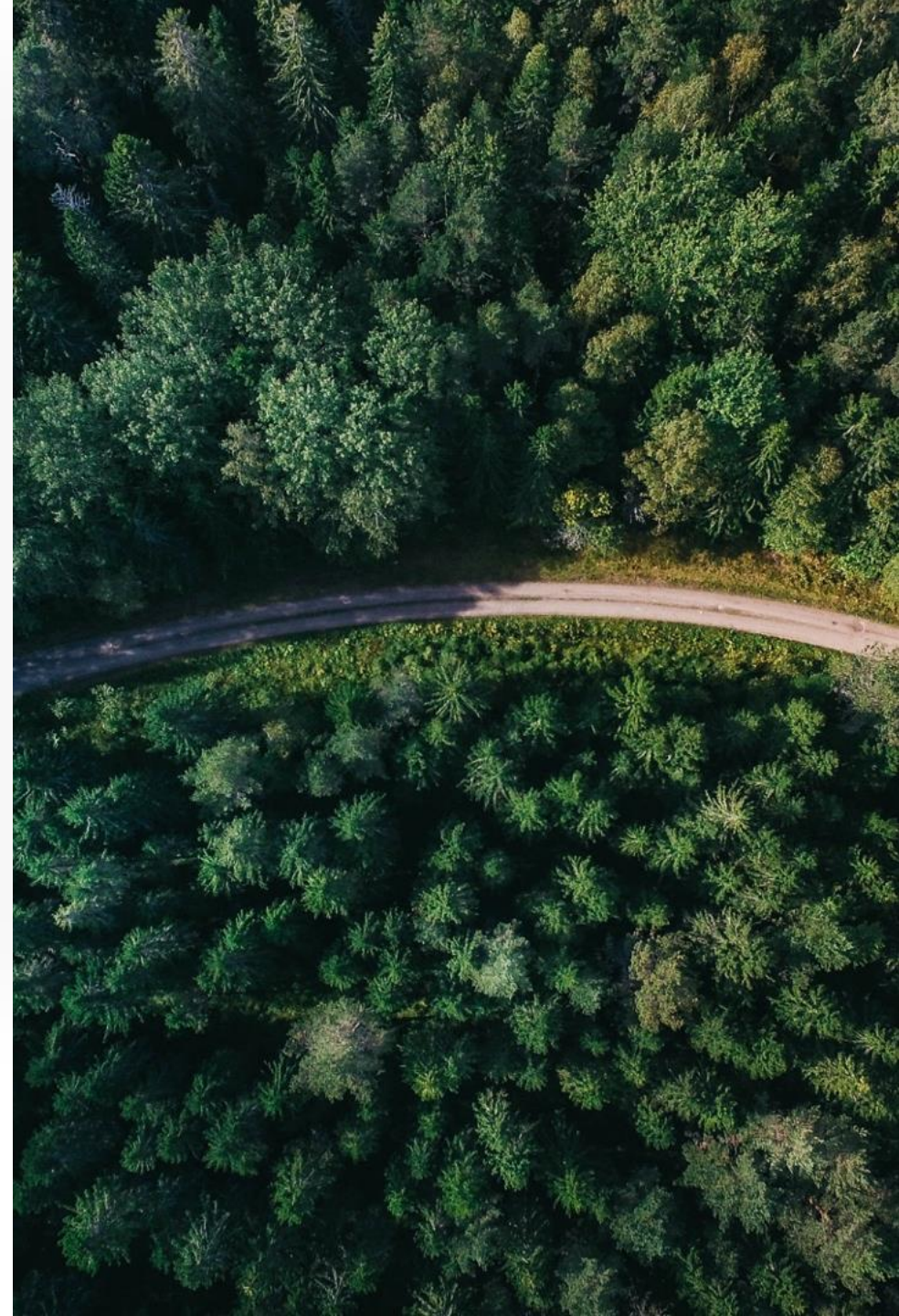
TEACHERS OF THE LAW

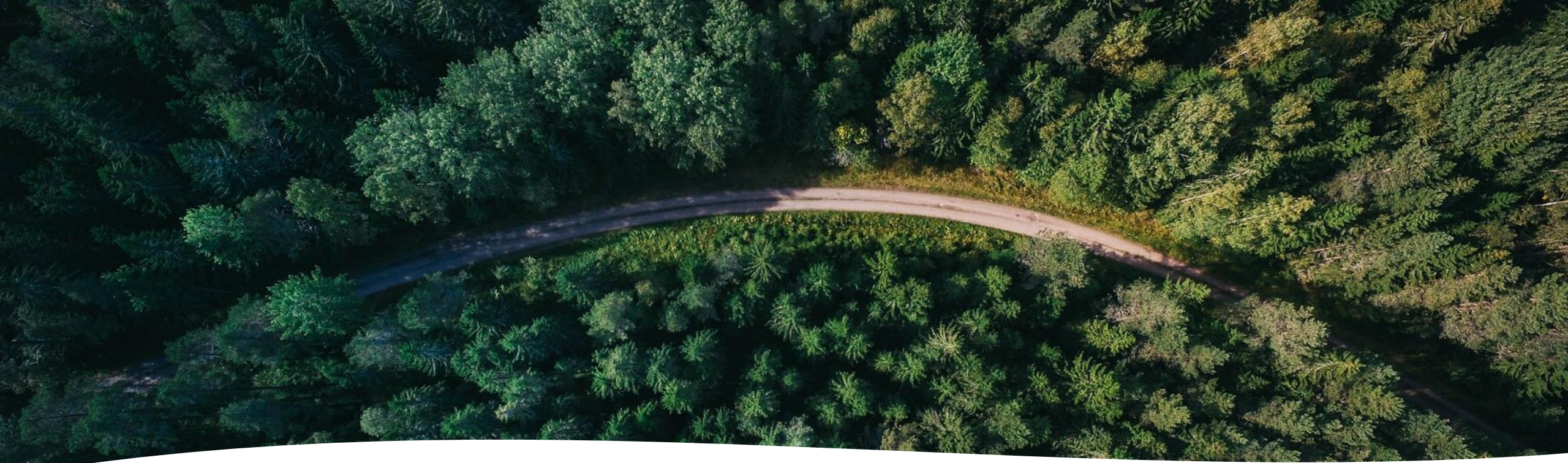
When resistance is unacceptable, destructive, for them
and for others we **ENGAGE the OPPOSITION.**

Mark 3:31-35

³¹ Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, **they sent someone in** to call him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

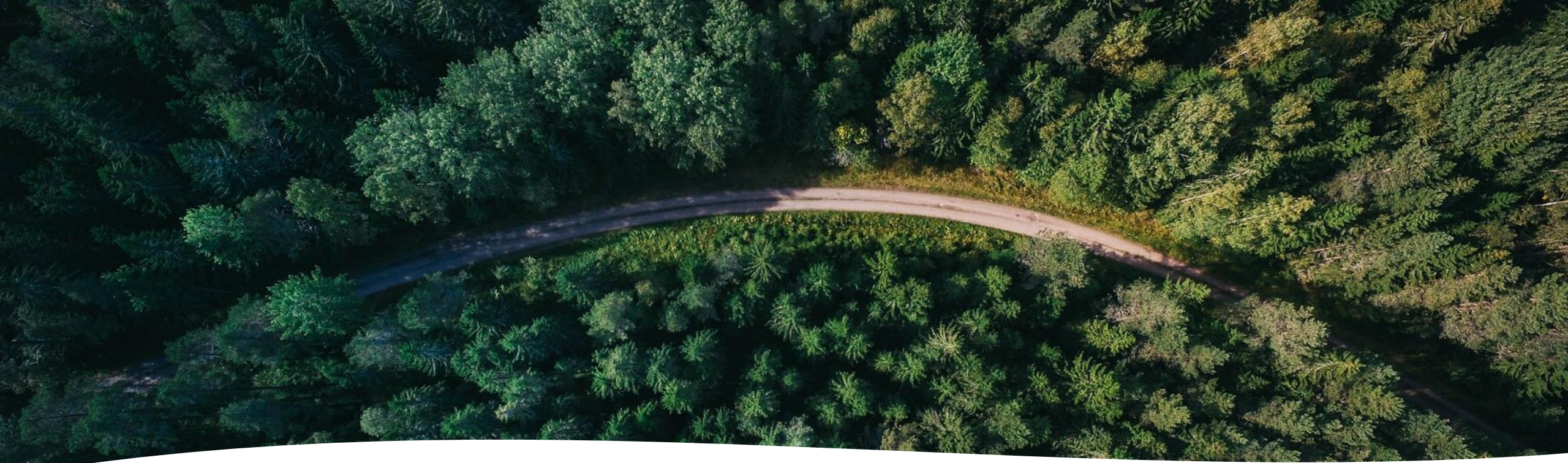
³³ "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. ³⁴ Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever **does God's will** is my brother and sister and mother."





JESUS' FAMILY

When resistance is perhaps ill-informed, but not destructive to themselves or others, we **DISMISS the DISTRACTIONS.**



A THIRD POSSIBILITY...

Jesus was good.
The fruit was good.



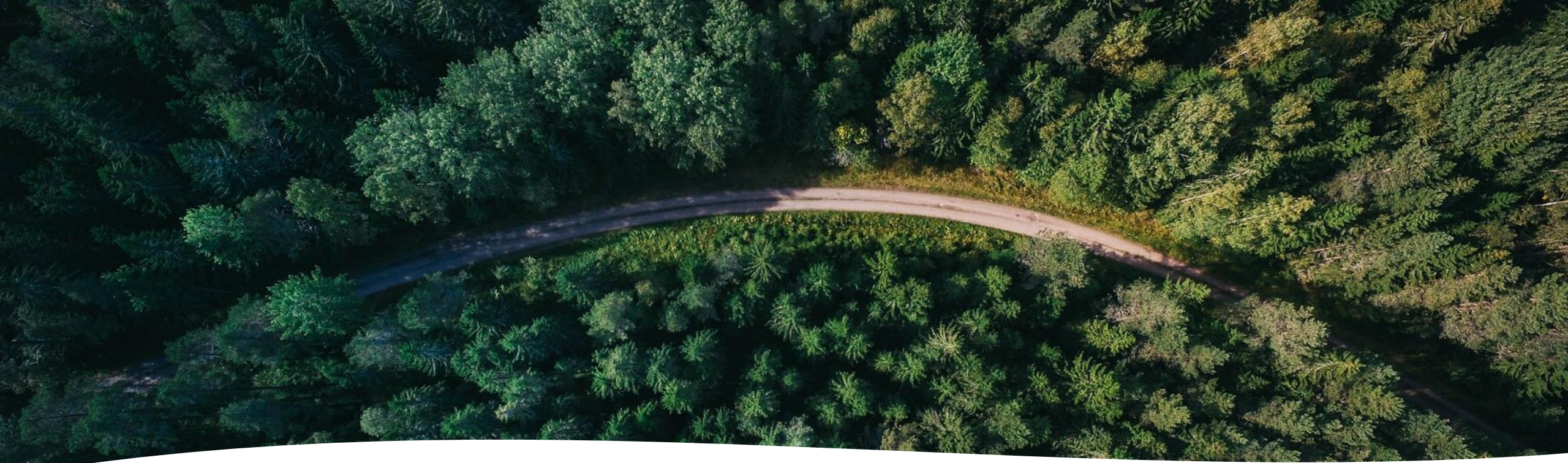
Mark 1:23-25

²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the **Holy One of God!**”

²⁵ “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly.

Mark 3:11-12

¹¹ Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the **Son of God.**” ¹² But he gave them strict orders not to tell others about him.



JESUS, IN THOSE INTENSE MOMENTS OF RESISTANCE:

1. Engages with opposition.
2. Dismisses the distractions.