

An aerial photograph of a dense, lush green forest. A dirt road winds through the trees, curving from the left towards the right. The text "The Gospel of Mark" is overlaid on the image in a white, cursive font with a soft green glow. "The" is smaller and positioned above "Gospel". "of" is smaller and positioned between "Gospel" and "Mark".

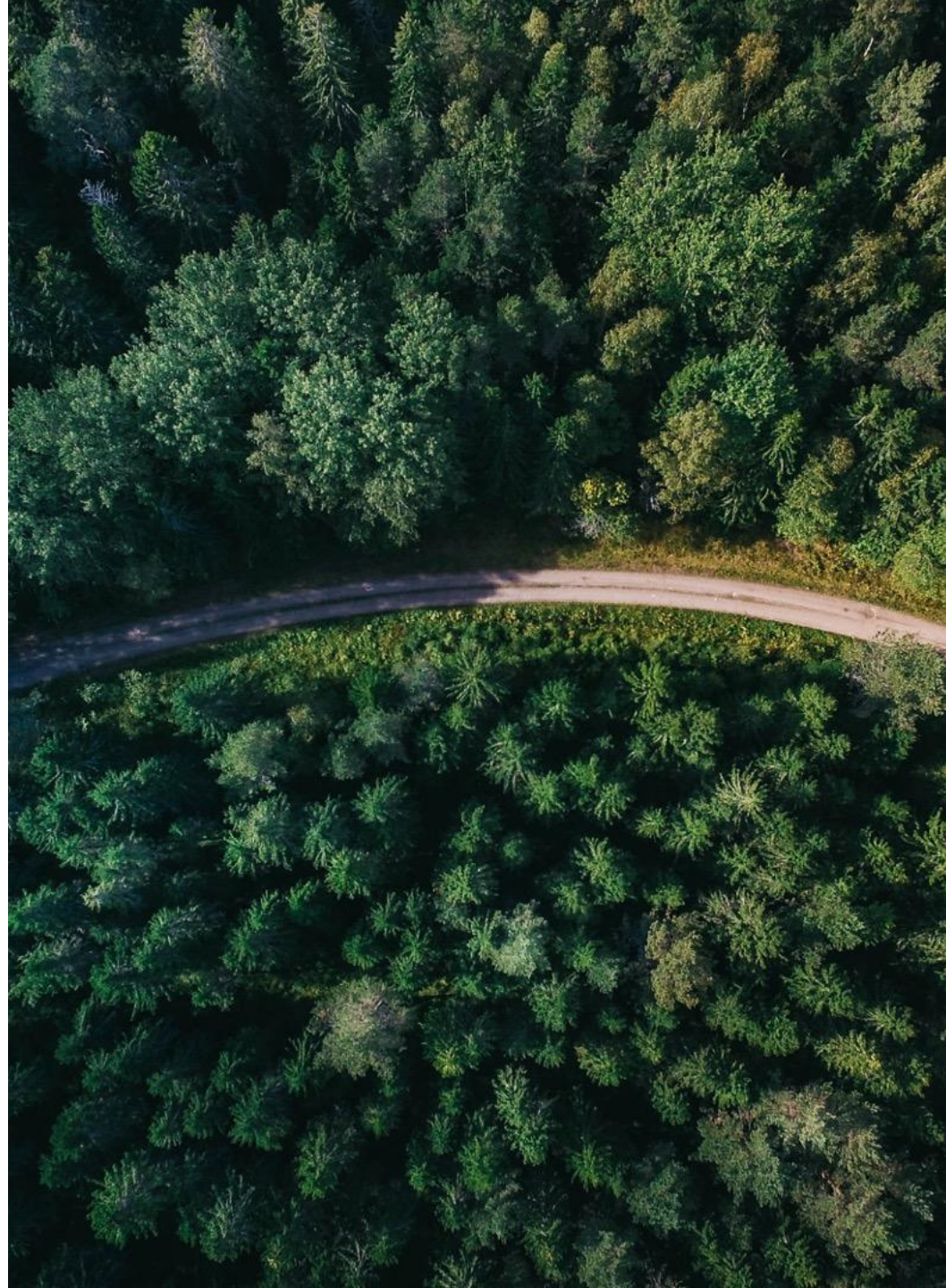
*The  
Gospel of Mark*

Discipleship Costs...

Mark 8:34-9:1

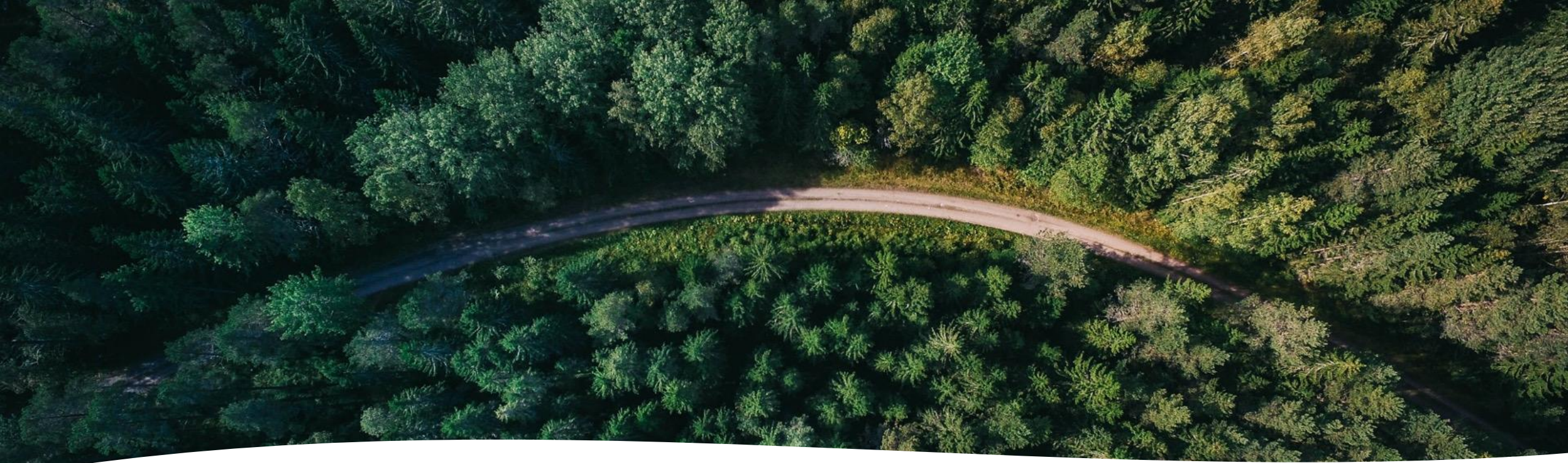
## Mark 8:34

<sup>34</sup> **Then** he called **the crowd** to him **along with his disciples** and said: “**Whoever wants to be my disciple must** deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.



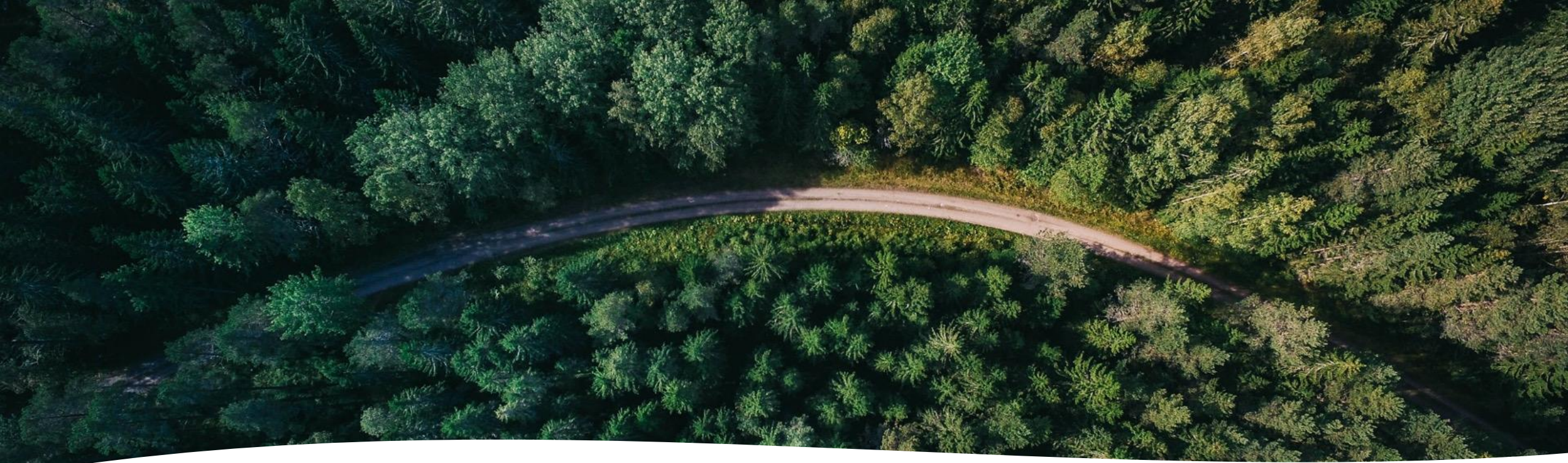
An aerial photograph of a dense, dark green forest. A narrow, light-colored road or path winds through the trees, curving from the upper left towards the lower right. The text is overlaid on the road.

Jesus asks us;  
Do *you* want to be my disciple?



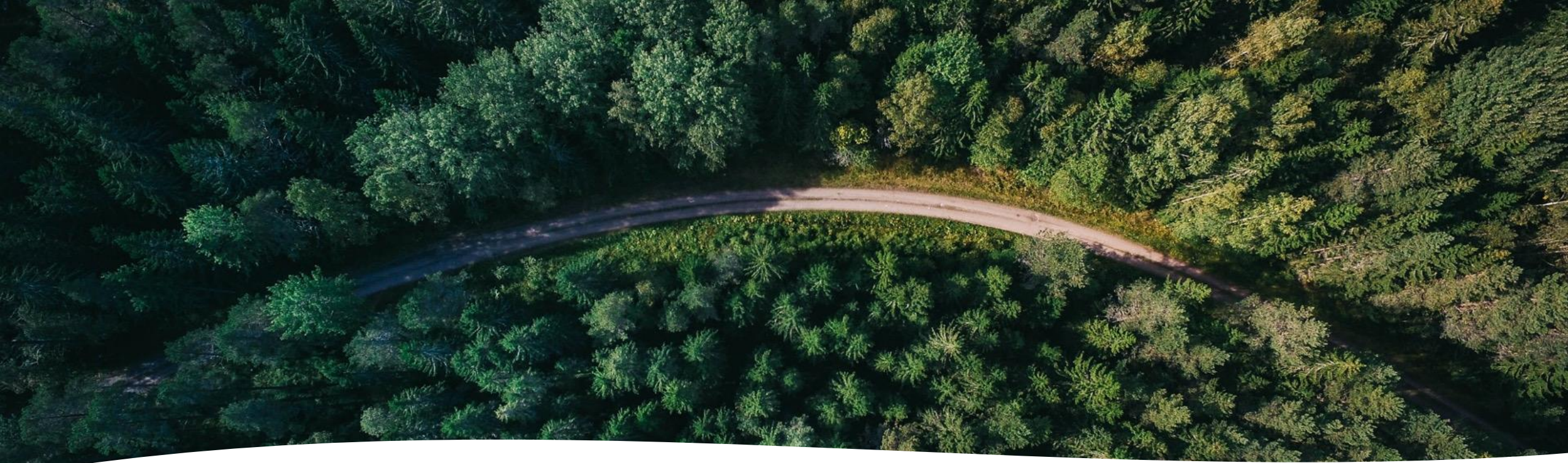
## Discipleship Has A Cost

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves** and **take up their cross** and **follow me**. (Mark 8:34)



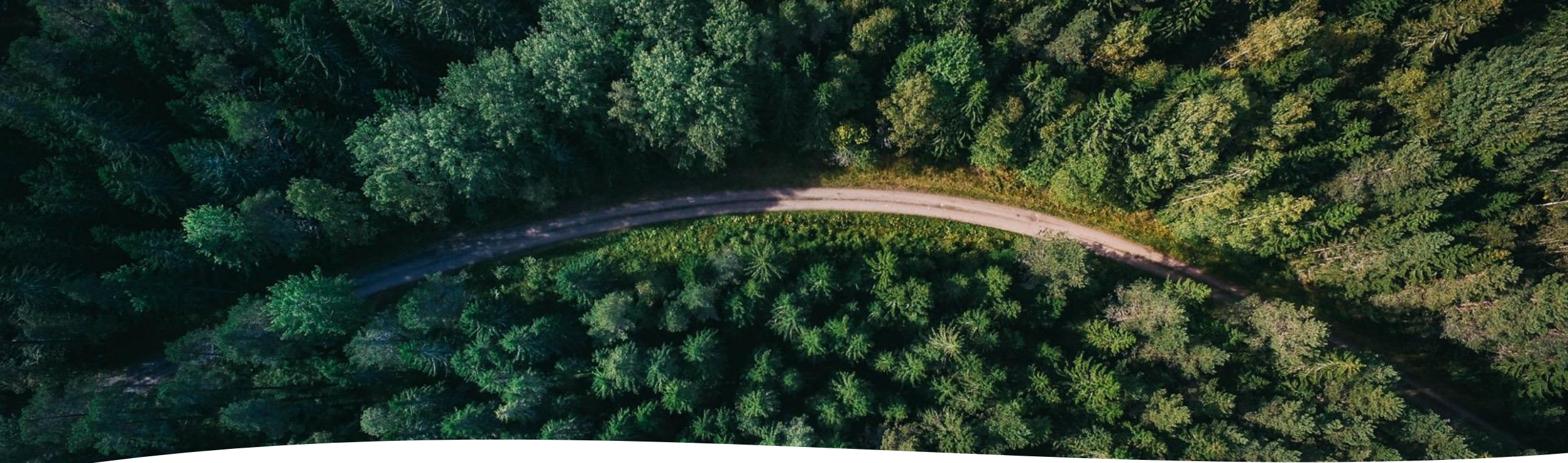
# Discipleship Means A Shift in Our Priorities and Focus By: Denying Yourself

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves** and take up their cross and follow me. (Mark 8:34)




# Discipleship Means A Shift in Our Priorities and Focus By: Taking Up Your Cross

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and **take up their cross** and follow me. (Mark 8:34)



# Discipleship Means A Shift in Our Priorities and Focus By: Following Jesus

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and **follow me**. (Mark 8:34)

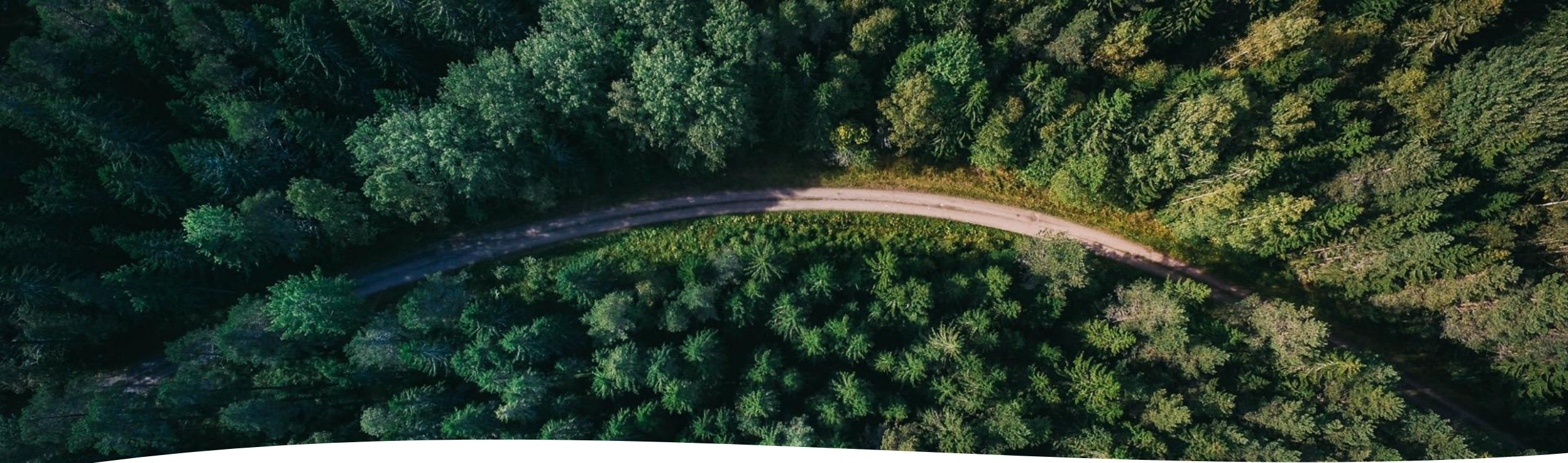
An aerial photograph of a dense forest with a dirt road winding through it. The trees are mostly green, with some yellowing, suggesting autumn. The road is a light brown color and curves from the upper left towards the center of the frame.

# Why Seek The Temporary, and Ignore the Eternal?

<sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but **whoever loses their life** for me and for the gospel **will save it.** <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to **gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?** <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> **If anyone is ashamed of me and my words** in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Mark 8 :35-38





Discipleship is Hard, but there is **HOPE!**

And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the **kingdom of God has come with power.**”(Mark 9:1)

# Where does your focus need to shift?

Am I seeking power, influence or wealth for myself or am I seeking to see others flourish?

Am I here just to fit in or for self-preservation, or am I prepared to give my whole life to the Kingdom?

Am I ready to submit to and follow Jesus, even when that might be uncomfortable, or I want something else?

