

**“WORLDVIEW IN FOCUS”**  
**Session 1: “Why does it matter what we believe?”**  
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**INTRODUCTION**

**Definition: Your worldview is the beliefs that you build your life on.**

- Everybody has a worldview whether we realize it or not.
- Your worldview is the basis on which you make your decisions.
- Knowing your worldview is the most practical thing in our lives.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (New Living Translation)

*This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

**If you base your life on a faulty worldview the results are disastrous.**

**How do you know when you have a wrong worldview?**

- Why are things not working out?
- Why is this happening to me?
- Why are things not happening the way I thought they were going to happen?

## I. Some Popular Word Views

- “THE ONE WITH MOST TOYS WINS” \_\_\_\_\_  
*Jesus: “A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”*  
Luke 12:15 (NIV)
- “I’VE GOT TO THINK OF ME FIRST” \_\_\_\_\_  
*Jesus: “If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life.”* Matt. 16:25 (NLT)
- “DO WHATEVER FEELS GOOD” \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Are you addicted to thrills? What an empty life! The pursuit of pleasure is never satisfied.”* Pr 21:17 (the Message)
- “WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU” \_\_\_\_\_  
*“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.”* Pr. 14:12 (NIV)
- “GOD DOESN’T EXIST OR MATTER” \_\_\_\_\_  
*“From the beginning of creation, God has shown what He is like by all He has made. That's why those people don't have any excuse. They know about God, but they don't honor Him or even thank Him... They claim to be wise, but they are fools.”*  
Rom. 1:20-22 (CEV)
- “YOU ARE YOUR OWN GOD” \_\_\_\_\_  
*“They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped created things rather than the Creator.”* Rom. 1:25 (NIV)
- “GOD MADE ME FOR HIS PURPOSES” \_\_\_\_\_  
*“For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible... everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him.”* Colossians. 1:16 (the Message)

**There are two common myths about what people believe.**

- **The sincerity myth**
- **The situational myth**

**Q: How do you see people compartmentalizing their lives?**

### **Religious Survey Results:**

- Only four percent of adults in America have a biblical worldview.
- Only nine percent of born again Christians actually hold to a biblical worldview that influences how they make decisions.

### **Regarding absolute truth:**

- One third of America believes that moral truth is absolute. That it's not dependent on circumstance. If it's true it's always true.
- One third of America believes that morality and truth is always determined by the situation.
- One third of America believes that they don't even know if moral truth exists.

## **II. The Bible tells us there are three reasons why it's important to know what we believe.**

### **1. It shapes your life**

*"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."* Proverbs 4:23 (TEV)

### **2. If you have a faulty worldview it's causing all kinds of problems in your life unnecessarily.**

*Proverbs 29:18*

*When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild.*

*But whoever obeys the law is joyful.*

*"If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what He reveals, they are most blessed."* (The Message)

### **3. So we can explain it to others**

*"Always be ready to give a logical defense to anyone who asks you to account for the hope that is in you, but do it courteously and respectfully."* 1 Peter 3:15 (Amp)

### **III. How do I strengthen my worldview?**

#### **1. Learn the truth.**

*“Learn the truth and never reject it. Get wisdom, self-control, and understanding.”*  
Proverbs 23:23 (NCV)

#### **2. Discern what is false**

1 John 4:1 (NLT)

*Do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.*

*“Don’t believe everything you hear. Carefully weigh and examine what people tell you. Not everyone who talks about God comes from God. There are a lot of lying teachers loose in the world.”* 1 John 4:1 (Mes)

#### **3. Turn from the world’s value system to what God says**

*“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.”* Rom. 12:2 (NIV)

*“A wise person is hungry for truth, while the fool feeds on trash.”* Pr. 15:14 (NLT)

#### **4. Concern yourself with God’s work.**

*“God will give you all you need from day to day if you make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.”* Luke 12:31 (NLT)

*“Stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.”* 1 Cor. 14:20 (NIV)

