

## Getting Started

- What may contribute to almost 70% of Christian college students walking away from their faith during their first year on campus?

An apple sitting on a table is seen by several people. A botanist looking at the apple classifies it. An artist sees a still-life and draws it. A grocer sees an asset and inventories it. A child sees lunch and eats it. How we look at any situation is influenced by how we look at the world at large. Every worldview, Christian and non-Christian, deals with at least these three questions:

- 1) Where did we come from? (and why are we here?)
- 2) What is wrong with the world?
- 3) How can we fix it?

## Discussion

- How would you define a “worldview”?

Here’s a definition from GotQuestions.org

A “worldview” refers to a comprehensive conception of the world from a specific standpoint. A “Christian worldview,” then, is a comprehensive conception of the world from a Christian standpoint. An individual’s worldview is his “big picture,” a harmony of all his beliefs about the world. It is his way of understanding reality. One’s worldview is the basis for making daily decisions and is therefore extremely important.

- Discuss how Colossians 2:8 provides a warning and a motivation to be grounded in a Christ-center, biblical worldview  
“See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.”

Pastor John shared a few basic steps to consider as we build a Christ-centered worldview into our children (and ourselves).

1. All beliefs make claims. We need to develop a basic understanding of the claims of the major worldviews in our day. (i.e., Theism, Naturalism, Pantheism, Islam, Moralistic Therapeutic Deism, etc.)

A prevalent worldview today is naturalism, which answers the three questions like this: 1) We are the product of random acts of nature with no real purpose. 2) We do not respect nature as we should. 3) We can save the world through ecology and conservation. A naturalistic worldview generates many related philosophies such as [moral relativism](#), [existentialism](#), [pragmatism](#), and [utopianism](#).

A Christian worldview, on the other hand, answers the three questions biblically: 1) We are God’s creation, designed to govern the world and fellowship with Him ([Genesis 1:27-28; 2:15](#)). 2) We sinned against God and subjected the whole world to a curse ([Genesis 3](#)). 3) God Himself has redeemed the world through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ ([Genesis 3:15; Luke 19:10](#)), and will one day restore creation to its former perfect state ([Isaiah 65:17-25](#)). A Christian worldview leads us to believe in moral absolutes, miracles, human dignity, and the possibility of redemption.

2. All beliefs have reasons for why people live by that worldview: We need to know what we believe and why we believe it.

“but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15)

3. All beliefs have Implications – If this is true then this must be true.

Paul used this approach to teach the Corinthians about the truth of the resurrection in 1 Cor 15:12-19.

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup> If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

4. All beliefs lead to actions

Discuss the truth of these statements ...

“You may not live what you confess, but you will live what you really believe.”

“What your children actually believe compared to what you tell them to believe can be two very different things.”

“It is important to remember that a worldview is comprehensive. It affects every area of life, from money to morality, from politics to art. True Christianity is more than a set of ideas to use at church. Christianity as taught in the Bible is itself a worldview. The Bible never distinguishes between a “religious” and a “secular” life; the Christian life is the only life there is. Jesus proclaimed Himself “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6) and, in doing so, became our worldview.”  
(GotQuestions.org)

- Reflect on what Pastor John shared and read Colossians 1:15-20. Discuss how this passage guide helps to guide us toward a Christ-centered, biblical worldview?

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

- What was your major take away from this week’s message and how might you continue to strengthen your biblical worldview and teach this to your children, grandchild, and/or spiritual children?

## Prayer