



Thru God's Eye: Life in the REAL World

What is Your Worldview?

Crossroads, September 11, 2011 - Mark Bickel



Intro

- **Colossians 2:6-8**

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

- **Romans 12:2**

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.

- **Barna Worldview Survey**

- Do absolute moral truths exist?
- Is absolute truth defined by the Bible?
- Did Jesus Christ live a sinless life?
- Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today?
- Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned?
- Is Satan real?
- Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?
- Is the Bible accurate in all of its teachings?

How is Your Vision?

- *Example: What glasses are you wearing?*

What Is Your Worldview?

- **What is a "Worldview"?**

- **Basic Definition:** how I view / understand the world, how I fundamentally look at / live life
- **James Sire Definition:**
"a commitment, a fundamental orientation of the heart, that can be expressed as a story or in a set of presuppositions (assumptions which may be true, partially true, or entirely false) which we hold (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) about the basic construction of reality, and that provides the foundation on which we live and move and have our being."

- **Three ways to express Worldview**

- **Fundamental Presuppositions**

7 Basis Worldview Questions (James Sire)

1. ***What is really real? What is prime reality?***

Possible answers: (a) God, (b) matter, (c) energy, (d) some impersonal force

2. ***What is the nature of external reality, the world around us?***

Possible answers: It is (a) real, (b) designed, (c) created, (d) orderly, (e) sustained, (f) an illusion, (g) here by chance, (h) chaotic

3. ***What or who is a human being?***

Possible answers: A human is a (a) machine, (b) sleeping god, (c) naked ape, (d) person made in the image of God

4. ***Is there life after death? What happens to a person at death?***

Possible answers: (a) extinction, (b) transformation, (c) some higher state

5. ***How do we know? Why is it possible to know at all?***

Possible answers: (a) Humans are made in the image of God. (b) Evolution is responsible for our ability to think. (c) Thinking is a survival tactic. (d) We can't really know anything for sure.

6. ***What is the basis for morality? How do we know what is right and wrong?***

Possible answers: (a) It is determined by the culture. (b) It is determined by human individual choice alone. (c) God's character is good, right, and just; He is the standard.

7. ***What is the meaning of human history?***

Possible answers: (a) What goes around comes around. (b) It is to make a paradise (utopia) on Earth. (c) It is to realize the purpose of gods or God.

- ***Biblical Expressions***

- **Meta-Narrative**

- ***Biblical Expressions***

- **Heart**

- ***Biblical Expressions***

- Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. (Proverbs 4:23)
- For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; (Proverbs 2:6,10)
- The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly. (Proverbs 15:14)
- The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. (Psalm 53:1)
- They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. (Ephesians 4:18)

Why is Worldview Important?

- 1) **Worldview shapes our actions** (Mark 7:15, 20-23)
- 2) **Our Actions Shape Our Worldview** (Matthew 6:21)
- 3) **We Will Each Face Challenges to Our Worldview** (Ephesians 4:11-14)
- 4) **Understanding Worldview, and the Heart takes work ... But it is well worth it**
(Proverbs 20:5, Romans 12:2a)
- 5) **Whether They Know it or Not, Everyone Lives out of a Worldview ...**
Which they will answer for one day (Romans 14:11-12, John 3:16-19)
- 6) **Whether They Admit it or Not, Everyone Knows There is a God** (Romans 1:20b-23)
- 7) **God Can and Does Open Eyes and Change Hearts** (Acts 26:18, Ezekiel 36:26-28)

Goal 1: See Through God's Eye – See world / life not from world's perspective, but God's!

Goal 2: Life in the REAL World - as we see the world from God's perspective that will form an anchor for our soul and will have very profound yet practical applications to the life we live in this world

Goal 2': Help Others Understand Life in the REAL World - Deeply enter into the lives of other people, helping them to see the world and themselves as they really are

Goal 1': See Other People's Eyes Opened to God - Trusting in God to open the eyes of our friends, family, neighbors and co-workers so that they would see, repent, and turn to the one True God

Example / Conclusions: (excerpts from "Life After God" by Douglas Coupland)

Recommended Reading

"The Universe Next Door" by James Sire

"The Universe Upstairs" by Merv Jones

"Hidden Worldviews" by Steve Wilkens and Mark L. Sanford

NEXT WEEK: The Elephant in the Room: How Do We Know Anything At All?



September / October Calendar

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
11 6:30 Crossroads What is your worldview? Thru God's Eye: Life in the REAL World (<i>meal</i>)	12 6:00 Sports Grace Gym	13	14 <i>First week Of Family Night at Grace BFC</i>	15 8:00 Bible Study Open Forum	16	17
18 6:30 Crossroads The Elephant in the Room: How do we Know Anything at All?	19 6:00 Sports Grace Gym	20	21	22 8:00 Bible Study Fall Study	23	24 6:00 Cowtown Rodeo
25 6:30 Crossroads Who is God? Why does it Matter? (<i>hang-out</i>)	26 6:00 Sports Grace Gym	27	28	29 8:00 Bible Study Fall Study	30 7:00 Game Night	October 1
2 6:30 Crossroads Who are We? Why are You Here?	3 6:00 Sports Grace Gym	4	5	6 8:00 Bible Study Fall Study	7-9 BFC Young Adult Mission Training Weekend At Pinebrook	

Upcoming Events

Saturday September 24 at 6:00 pm

Go with International Students to Cowtown Rodeo

Friday September 30 at 7:00 pm

Game Night at Mark Bickel's place

Weekend October 7-9

BFC Young Adults Missions Training "Retreat Within a Retreat" at Pinebrook - ** Required for summer BFC Young Adult Missions trip to Mexico **

Weekend October 22-23

Sat. 9:30 – 3:30 / Sun. 6:30pm

Fresh Encounters Weekend – Saturday Prayer Seminar,
Sunday Night Worship-based Prayer

Friday November 4 at 4:00 pm

Go with International Students Bowling

Stay in Touch!

Web: GraceBFC.org/Crossroads
Facebook: Crossroads Young Adult Community
Email: mbickel@gracebfc.org

Mark Your Calendars

Week of Nov. 13 – 20

Grace BFC Missions Conference

Week of Nov. 20

International Student Thanksgiving

February 10-12, 2012

Crossroads Winter Retreat

Other Events of Interest

Sign Language: Thursday 7-8 pm, see Jesse

Grace BFC Sun. Sermon Series: Faith in Formation – Spiritual Development in the Life of Joseph

Grace BFC Sun. Bible Study Hour: James: Putting Feet on your Faith; Life of Faith: Trusting God in Daily Life; Raising Cain: Parenting in 2011

Grace BFC Wed. Family Night: Discipleship Explored; Prayer: What Difference Does it Make?; GriefShare; DivorceCare