



**Thinking like  
A Christian**

**Theology:** Getting the Center Centered  
Lesson 1 (Colossians 2:1-12)

1. While everyone has the right to choose the lens through which they view the world and make decisions, many are unaware of the lens they use.  
Colossians 2:8-23
2. Your “worldview” is based on what you begin with at the center of the picture.  
Genesis 1:1  
**Atheism** - In the beginning no God  
**Theism** – in the beginning God  
**Cosmic Humanism** - Everything is God
3. Without a centered worldview each decision to be made on its own.  
Romans 1:18-32
4. A Christian worldview sees everything through the lens of God’s action in Christ Jesus.  
Colossians 2:2-8 & II Corinthians 10:3-5

**The BIG IDEA** - Where does GOD fit in your picture?



**For Life Group Discussion:**

1. How has your view of the universe changed since you were a child? What assumptions did you bring to your view of the universe when you were small? How have those assumptions changed? How has that change impacted your view of the world?
2. Read Colossians 2:2-16 What is Paul worried will “capture” the minds of the believers to whom he is writing? What examples of these foes can you think of in today’s world? How can one tell if one is “captured”?
3. Read II Corinthians 10:3-5. What kind of battle does Paul describe? Why is the battle over ideas so important to him? How is this felt in your life?
4. In Romans 1:18-32 Paul describes the results of one worldview. What is it? What are the results? What is this picture meant to teach us? How does your worldview impact your opinions in politics, ecology and economics? Do these have anything to do with our faith?
5. Read Genesis 1:1-3 together out loud and pray for God’s strength in maintaining Him at the center of your view of the world this week.



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**Philosophy:** Getting Real about Reality  
Lesson 2 (II Corinthians 4:16-19)

1. Our worldview shapes our perception of reality and is based in a personal philosophy. Proverbs 3:13-14 & Colossians 2:8-9  
**Philosophy** - The love of wisdom
2. Philosophy asks, “What is real and how can I know it?”  
Acts 17:18-21  
**Naturalism** - Reality is only the physical  
**Non-Naturalism** – Reality is only the non-physical  
**Supernaturalism** - Reality is both.
3. These views have significant impacts on one’s world view.  
*What you see is what you get.* II Peter 3:3-7  
*Perception is reality* Genesis 1:1-3  
*Seeing beyond the seen.* II Corinthians 4:16-5:5

**The BIG IDEA** - Where do you get your reality?

Proverbs 3:9-22

Science -

Intuition -

Revelation -

**For Life Group Discussion:**

1. What kind of slogans that are “life philosophies” have you heard? How do these represent a certain world view? Why is a philosophic idea so powerful?
2. Read Colossians 2:8-9 Why is Paul worried about philosophy? How does this compare with Proverbs 3:13-14? Where does the writer suggest you look for wisdom?
3. Review the three answers to the question: What is real? How does each impact a person’s world view? What philosophy is described in II Peter 3:3-7? What is the problem the writer points out?
4. Read II Corinthians 4:16-5:5 How does Paul deal with the question of philosophy? In what sense is Christ the answer to that question?
5. Share places where you have seen a worldview being shared or promoted this week. Discuss a Christ-centered response to that worldview and pray for God’s wisdom and guidance as you live with a Christian worldview this week.



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**Biology:** The Connection between Origin & Purpose  
Lesson 3 (Mark 10:2-6)

1. A Christian worldview begins with two questions: “What about God?” and “What is real?”  
Colossians 2:8-9
2. Having answered these one is ready to ask, “How did we get here?”  
Mark 10:2-6
3. While several answers exist, the Christian turns to God’s word for the answer: Christ  
John 1:1-4 & Genesis 1:26-31
  - Spontaneous Evolution** - Life came from nothing
  - Theistic Evolution** – Life was created through evolution
  - Creationism** - God created life instantaneously.
4. Each view leads to important conclusions about the meaning of life.
  - There is no meaning? Philipians 3:18-21
  - Was there a fall? Romans 5:12-15
  - We were made with purpose? Colossians 1:15-20

**The BIG IDEA** - *What were you put here for?*

*Psalms 8:3-9*

Random -

Design -

**For Life Group Discussion:**

1. What were the first explanations you heard for how the world began? How did they impact the way you look at your purpose on the planet? How much thought did you give to this?
2. Read Mark 10:2-6 Why does Jesus introduce creation into a discussion about marriage? What is significant about his statements? What would the absence of a belief in creation do to marriage itself? Why?
3. Review the three answers to the question: How did we get here? How does each impact a person’s world view? Read Colossians 1:15-20. Why does Paul emphasize our origins here?
4. How would you respond to the statement, “*It doesn’t matter how we got here: Just enjoy life!*”
5. Read together out loud Colossians 2:8-9 and discuss ways to engage in loving conversations about your purpose in life with others around you. Pray asking God to guide you in living out your purpose in Christ Jesus this week.



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**Psychology:** The Inside Story on Your Inner Life  
Lesson 4 (Matthew 10:26-30)

1. While some see psychology and religion as disconnected, but a cohesive worldview recognizes that they flow from the same set of beliefs.  
II Corinthians 10:3-5 & Colossians 2:8-9
2. Psychology is the study of our soul and mind that asks “What is the nature of a human?”  
Matthew 10:28 & I Corinthians 6:17-20
  - Psychological Monism or Dualism?**
3. Our view of mankind’s nature will directly impact our response to the pain and trouble we face  
Genesis 1:27
  - Secular Humanism** - Man is good and society is the problem
  - Christianity** - Man is fallen and society is the result
4. Christ addresses the central psychological: The difference between our desired self and who we are.  
I’m OK – Your OK...*Be yourself!* Romans 3:10-12  
We’re not OK...*Deny yourself!* Matthew 6:32-33

**The BIG IDEA** - *What my problem?*

*Romans 3:23-26*

Sin is a myth -

Sin is real -

**For Life Group Discussion:**

1. What movies or TV shows can you think of that centered on psychology? What seemed to be the aim of the psychologist? How does that compare with the aim of Christianity?
2. Read Mark 10:26-30 Whom does Jesus say we should fear? What does he suggest about the nature of man? What parts of our nature does he mention?
3. Review the two basic approaches to understanding man’s nature? How does each respond to the question, “Is mankind good?” What is important about the answer?
4. Read Romans 3:10-12 and 23-26. How does Paul address the nature of man and the hope for change? How would that impact how one looks at the pains and frustrations of life?
5. Discuss the concept of sin and why it is central to a Christian view of psychology. Pray together thanking God for the hope we have in Christ Jesus and the courage to share that Good News with others.