



# LEGACY

PARENTING WITH ETERNITY IN MIND

— BREAKOUT SESSION —

## BIBLICAL WORLDVIEWS: EQUIPPING YOUR CHILD TO FACE A CULTURE IN CRISIS

LED BY DUSTIN GEORGE

# **BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW**



Equipping Your Child  
to Face a Culture in Crisis

Led by Dustin George

**LEGACY : PARENTING WITH ETERNITY IN MIND**

*So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ... (Ephesians 4:14-15).*

“A worldview is a frame of reference for all thought and action...a set of presuppositions (some which may be true, partially true, or entirely false) which we hold (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) about the basic makeup of our world.”

- James Sire

## **A worldview answers these questions...**

- How did we get here?
- What is wrong with the world?
- How can what is wrong with the world be made right?
- What does the future hold?

## **The Situation by the Numbers**

In three independent surveys conducted by Josh McDowell, the Barna Group and researcher Mike Nappa, it was discovered that among self-proclaimed “Christian” teens...

**41%** were uncertain whether Jesus was physically resurrected.

**63%** didn't believe Jesus to be the son of the one true God.

**44%** believed the Bible is one of many authoritative voices about Jesus, and only **5%** studied the Bible daily.

**60%** were uncertain, unsettled or confused about whether the Bible can be trusted.

**70%** expressed persistent, measurable doubts that what the Bible says about Jesus is true.

## **Common Influences on Worldview Development**

### **Culture: “Everybody is doing it.”**

Exodus 32:3 So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron.

1 Samuel 8:5b “Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

### **Tradition: “We’ve always done it that way.”**

Mark 7:8-9 “You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!”

### **Reason: “It makes sense to me.”**

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. (cf. Isaiah 55:8-9)

### **Experience: “It feels right.”**

Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

### **Pragmatism: “It works.”**

2 Samuel 6:3a And they carried the ark of God on a new cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill... (cf. 1 Samuel 6:7; Exodus 25:12-15)

### **Scripture: “God said it.”**

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...

# **PREMODERN THOUGHT (up to 1600's)**

*(note: all dates are approximations)*

## **Supernatural (God's knowledge)**

---

**Natural (human knowledge – subset of God's knowledge – known by revelation)**

### **Key Ideas**

- The supernatural exists. (The Christian would say that God exists.)
- We understand the supernatural world by revelation – knowledge comes down to us from above.
- Humanity is intertwined with the supernatural and natural realities.
- There is overarching meaning and purpose in the world.

# MODERN THOUGHT (1600's to 1950's)

**Supernatural (inferior, superstitious, unprovable by science – known by faith)**

---

**Natural (provable by science – known by observation)**

## Key Ideas

- The supernatural and the natural are on two different levels. If humans are rational, and we depend upon what we know, then the supernatural is seen as being irrational...therefore inferior.
- The physical universe is all that exists. God, being non-material, is a creation of the human mind (so too for all religions). There is no eternal, only the immediate. If there happens to be a supernatural world, it doesn't have any impact upon reality in the present.
- We can use observation, methods and cause/effect relationships to build upon the foundation of our knowledge and eventually achieve certainty. We don't need revelation from God. Science, logic and reason can make sense of the world.
- Humanity is the measure of all things. We don't exist to serve a higher being; we alone determine truth. Any authority can (and should) be questioned and tested. At the most basic level, a human is full of vast untapped potential to discover, tame and harness the unknown. We are, at heart, good.

# **POSTMODERN THOUGHT (1950's to 2000's)**

**Subjective ideas (chosen, nonrational, unproven, unscientific, "faith-based" - not accepted as knowledge)**

---

**Reality (facts are binding, rational, verified by science, history and experience, truth - real knowledge)**

## **Key Ideas**

- No overarching purpose or meaning or universal foundation. Authorities, including religion, exist to create a contrived hierarchy for the means of domination.
- We can never know anything for certain, and history itself is subject to interpretation and reinterpretation. Our set of knowledge arose from our culture and experiences.
- Truth is determined by whatever community you are in and is adopted for the community. Objective, absolute truth does not exist. Hierarchies are deconstructed because power must be diffused among all.
- Each person adheres to a personal system of values that "work" for the individual. Each value system is "right" for that person. Your "truth" is truth. Everyone must accept your particular system of values as well as your group's system of values.
- All ideas are equally valid (except those that would wrongly claim superiority over another). No religious system is valid unless it is inclusive and accepting of all beliefs.



# **METAMODERN / POST-POSTMODERN THOUGHT (2000's+)**

**Unseen reality (interconnected with all visible reality – we exert influence upon this realm)**

-----

**Visible reality (created by thoughts, beliefs, words and actions – we bring positive or negative reality into being and contribute to or detract from the total of unity and resonance in the universe.)**

## **Key Ideas**

- A growing desire to know the transcendent things – something larger than self; “the return of the supernatural.” A fascination with folklore, myth and the unknown. The emptiness of Postmodernism has given way to a longing for hope beyond visible reality. We can make things hoped for a reality.
- Truth can be known, but our understanding of it is at various levels of development. When we understand the interconnectiveness of all things, we will begin to see many interpretations of truth as parts of a greater, unifying truth that is in the process of being formed by (or harmed by) our actions, words and thoughts. All consciousness is one.
- Things move toward chaos, but when we turn our attention upon something, we rescue it. Information does not exist until the individual gives it life. Attention is focused energy that gives existence and meaning. Humans can become creators of reality through themselves; we can manifest things into being.
- “Both-and” thinking. Living in between extremes and oscillating from one to the other like a pendulum. Change between these poles occurs quickly, and one can cling or reject options as they suit the immediate needs.

# Philosophical Thought as Television Shows



*The Andy Griffith Show:* Premodernism - Stories are tied together with an overarching moral theme. Family and tradition are paramount. The community is rural and tight-knit.



*Star Trek:* Modernism  
Man, the measure of all things, through scientific advances, can use logic (Spock) and instinct (Kirk) to “boldly go where no man has gone before.”



*Seinfeld:* Postmodernism  
Sometimes called a “show about nothing.” The plots are loose, the backstories are vague, and the characters live by their individual codes of flexible ethics.



*American Idol:* Metamodernism  
Unless people call in to vote, the show would not continue in the current format. The combined attention of the audience gives the show meaning, direction and existence.

## **The Chew-and-Spit Method of Discernment** (from H.M. Ferrer)

“A mature, informed, discerning worldview does not need to fear the false messages that this world churns out if it has already been trained to identify which aspects to reject.” (Ferrer)

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:2).*

- **Recognize the message.**

1. Identify the key messages being presented
2. Identify the values being elevated (freedom, pride, sex, revolution)
3. Identify the values being demeaned (humility, responsibility, traditional gender roles).

Ask: What is glorified? What is shamed?

- **Offer discernment (affirm the good and reject the bad).**

1. See things accurately.
2. Correctly identify the good.
3. Correctly identify the bad.

Note: the polarization in culture makes it increasingly difficult to “identify the good.”

“There is a big difference in offering discernment and finger-pointing.”

- **Argue for a healthier approach.**

Use biblical truth and practical, real-world, common-sense evidence that points to what God's Word teaches.

"Your children need to know that God's wisdom isn't just valid in church."

"Without God's goodness as a plumb line for right and wrong, moderns have no framework with which to judge the clear evils that exist in human behavior." - Jayme Metzgar

- **Reinforce through discussion, discipleship and prayer.**

"The way we live our lives is evidence that a biblical worldview is coherent, reasonable, rational and good. It isn't enough for our kids to hear us talk about the truth; they must understand how we are live the truth."

"The best way to drive out a bad worldview is by offering a good one, and Christians need to move beyond criticizing culture to creating culture." - Nancy Pearcey

"If we hope to pass Christianity along to our children, we must understand that Christianity is a spiritual war waged in the battlefield of ideas." - John S. Dickerson

	<b>Social Justice Worldview</b>
<b>Who are we?</b>	<b>Creatures whose identity is wholly socially determined. Products of race, sex and gender identity.</b>
<b>What is our fundamental problem as humans?</b>	<b>Oppression: The establishment and maintenance of power structures which oppress and subjugate marginalized groups.</b> ( <i>“Privilege” consists of the advantages possessed by someone in a society characterized by racial inequality and injustice.</i> )
<b>What is the solution to our problem?</b>	<b>Revolution: Oppressed victims and their allies must unite to unmask, deconstruct, and overthrow the oppressive power structures, systems and institutions.</b> ( <i>“Justice” is not defined as “conforming to God’s moral standard” but as “the tearing down of the systems and redistributing power and resources from oppressors to victims.”</i> )
<b>How can we be saved?</b>	<b>Victims are morally innocent and do not require salvation. Oppressors can never be fully pardoned, but partial salvation is available if they confess their complicity in oppression and support the revolution.</b>
<b>What is our primary moral duty?</b>	<b>To stand in solidarity with, protect and defend the oppressed.</b> ( <i>Speech, silence and symbols are all weapons.</i> )
<b>How do we know what is true?</b>	<b>Objective truth, reason, logic, evidence and arguments are discredited tools that oppressors employ to maintain control. We gain knowledge of truth through victims, who, based on their lived experience of oppression, have greater insight than oppressors.</b> ( <i>Standpoint Epistemology- the greater the intersectional oppression, the greater the insight into reality.</i> )
<b>Who has ultimate authority?</b>	<b>Victims are the final authority. The claims of victims based on their subjective, lived experience must be believed without question.</b> ( <i>To be valid, the claims must be in line with the group’s collective oppression.</i> )
<b>Is there a future, final judgment?</b>	<b>No. Injustice must be rooted out here and now by those with the power to do so.</b>

## **Biblical Worldview**

**Creations and image-bearers of a good, holy and loving God (Genesis 1:26).**

**Rebellion: All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Rebellion resulted in broken relationship between God and man, man and his fellow man, and between man and creation.**

**Gospel: On the cross, Christ – God incarnate – bore the punishment for our sinful rebellion in order to show us a mercy we could never deserve (2 Corinthians 5:21). His death and resurrection opened a way for the reconciliation of our brokenness before God and each other.**

**“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).**

**To love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:20).**

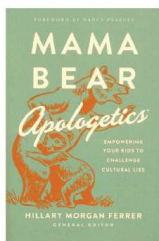
**Divine revelation: God’s Word (2 Timothy 3:16), human conscience (Romans 2:15), God’s creation (Romans 1:20). Also, our God-given capacity for reason, logic, discussion and the discernment of and weighing of evidence in pursuit of truth.**

**God is the final authority (Psalm 103:19; Ephesians 1:21-22).**

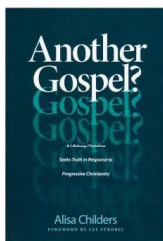
**Yes. Jesus will return and accomplish perfect justice (Matthew 25:31-33). Until then, he extends mercy and forgiveness to sinful people (2 Peter 3:9).**



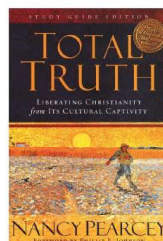
# RESOURCES



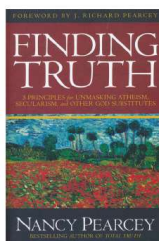
Mama Bear Apologetics  
by Hillary Morgan Ferrer



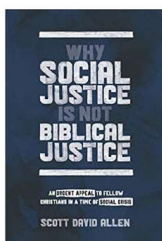
Another Gospel  
by Alisa Childers



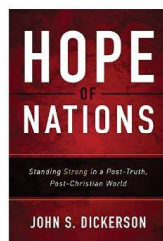
Total Truth  
by Nancy Pearcey



Finding Truth  
by Nancy Pearcey



Why Social Justice Is Not Biblical Justice  
by Scott David Allen



Hope of Nations:  
Standing Strong in a Post-Truth,  
Post-Christian World  
by John S. Dickerson

## Blog:

- [slowtowrite.com](http://slowtowrite.com) - Samuel Sey's blog

## Listen:

- The Alisa Childers Podcast
- The Briefing - Dr. Al Mohler's daily podcast
- Cooper Stuff Podcast

## Watch:

- Voddie Baucham's sermons on critical race theory (YouTube)