

Living a Biblical Worldview

Pillar #1: “God Rules vs. I Rule”

1. **DISCOVER TRUTH:**

Biblical Worldview: “God Rules” Genesis 1:1, Psalms 24:1-2, Colossians 1:16

Life is defined by GOD (*Theism*)... When life is viewed through this lens, we FIND Purpose and Design for life. Illustration- We are like a gear in a finely crafted watch.

How has God designed us and for what purpose?

SCRIPTURE	DESIGNED...	FOR THE PURPOSE OF...
Gen. 1:26-27, Isa. 43:7	To Reflect God Character	Brining God Glory
Mark 12:30-31	For Relationship	Loving God and Others
Gen. 1:28	To Rule Over Creation	Stewardship of Creation
Eph.2:10	To Do Good Works	Living Out God’s Goodness
John 17:3	For Fellowship with God	Intimacy with God
1 Pet. 2:9	For Witness and Mission	Making God Known
Romans 6:23	For Eternal Life	Living Forever with God

Living with a biblical worldview means that all of our life (thoughts, decisions, relationships, and actions) comes out of God’s given design and purpose for life.

Cultural Worldview: “I Rule” Judges 21:25

Life is defined by SELF.... When life is viewed through this lens, we CREATE the Purpose and Design for life. Illustration- Assembling Ikea furniture without the instructions.

In what ways can people define purpose and design for life apart from God?

- Pleasure, Comfort (Hedonism)
- The Greatest Good (Utilitarianism)
- Humanity Flourishing w/o God (Humanism)
- Express inner self w/o Constraints (Individualism)
- No Meaning (Existentialism, Nihilism)
- What you Own, Achieve, Produce (Materialism)

Living with a cultural worldview means that our life (thoughts, decisions, relationships, and actions) comes from when any of these things take priority over God’s purpose and design for life.

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2. **DISCERN FREEDOM:**

Where in life am I drawing from a cultural worldview vs. a biblical worldview?

Traps of a Cultural Worldview:

Jeremiah 17:9- The heart is deceptive because it can give us the belief that what feels right is right even when it's in opposition to how God has created us.

James 1:14-15- “Self rule” promises life but leads to death.

Freedom of a Biblical Worldview:

Matthew 6:33- The things that culture teaches us to pursue are not all inherently bad, they just need to be pursued in the right priority of submission to God's rule.

Matthew 10:39- If you try to fulfill your life through “self rule”, you will lose your life, but if you live your life in submission to “God's rule” you will find life to the fullest!

Questions:

Can all of my life (thoughts, decisions, relationships, and actions) be traced back to living in submission to God's purpose and design?

Where in my life do I feel lacking and unfulfilled? Am I surrendered to God's design and purpose for life in the area?

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3. **DISCUSS WITH GRACE:**

Conversation Starters:

- What do you think gives life meaning?
- Where do you think people find their worth or value?
- When life gets hard, what helps you hold on to Hope?
- Do you think truth is something we discover or something we create?
- How do you decide what’s right and wrong? What do you think happens after this life?

Example Responses:

If someone says: I think life is about being happy.

You could respond: I get that, happiness is something we all want for. Can I share how I found a deeper kind of joy that doesn’t depend on circumstances?

If someone says: Truth is whatever works for me.

You could respond: It sounds like truth feels very personal to you. may I share why I think truth is bigger than just my perspective?

if someone says: As long as I’m not hurting anyone I can live how I want.

You could respond: I appreciate your concern for others. That matters a lot in the Bible too. Can I show you how God’s design isn’t just about avoiding harm, but actually flourishing?

If someone says: I don’t need God to be a good person.

You could respond: That’s an interesting point, I see a lot of people striving to do good. For me the challenge is not just doing good sometimes, but living consistently with what’s truly good that’s where I’ve needed God’s help.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Discover Truth:

1. Are there any other common ways people in our culture try to create their own purpose or design for life?
2. Has living by God’s design felt restrictive to you before? Has that sense of feeling restrictive ever led to greater freedom?
3. Have you ever recognized that believing “God rules” gives meaning to even ordinary parts of life?

Discern Freedom:

1. Have you ever seen someone chase self-made purpose but ended up unfulfilled?
2. What are some traps of a self defined life that you have felt tempted by?
3. Have you noticed in your own life a tension between God’s design and your design for life?

Discuss with Grace:

1. How can we show others that surrender to God’s purpose isn’t loss but actually life-giving?
2. How would you respond lovingly if someone said: “I need to create my own meaning in life?”
3. What questions could you ask a friend who says, “I just want to be happy, that’s my purpose?”