

# Northview University: Worldviews 101

## “Learning to Love God with Your Worldview”

### Session I: “Digesting God’s Call to a Christian Worldview”

Rich Knopp, Ph.D. ([rknopp@lincolnchristian.edu](mailto:rknopp@lincolnchristian.edu))  
Prof. of Philosophy & Christian Apologetics  
Director of WorldViewEyes ([www.worldvieweyes.org](http://www.worldvieweyes.org))

Lincoln Christian University  
[www.lincolnchristian.edu](http://www.lincolnchristian.edu)

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Key Questions

1. What is a “\_\_\_\_\_” and why should I care? [week 1]
2. What is a \_\_\_\_\_ worldview? [week 2]
3. What are the \_\_\_\_\_ worldviews? [weeks 3-4]
4. How can I \_\_\_\_\_ to these other worldviews? [weeks 5-6]

##### B. Four approaches to the worldview idea (overview).

#### I. Worldview Illustrated as Visual Perception

##### A. Visual examples.

##### B. What a worldview DOES: Similarities between worldviews and visual gestalts.

1. A WV is a \_\_\_\_\_ that affects what we see and how we see it.
2. A WV offers a BIG \_\_\_\_\_ that guides our interpretation of the \_\_\_\_\_.

##### C. Some differences between worldviews and visual gestalts.

1. Visual gestalts allow more than one \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation.
  - a. Ambiguous gestalts (like visual gestalts)
  - b. Indefinite gestalts
2. Worldviews are \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ has a worldview.
4. Worldviews can be \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Worldviews affect \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. Worldview as Guiding \_\_\_\_\_.**

A. Our assumed answers to the \_\_\_\_\_ questions.

B. What questions would YOU list?

1	4
2	5
3	6

C. James Sire, *The Universe Next Door* (editions 1-3: 1976, 1988, 1997).

1. Definition of “worldview.”
2. Worldview “categories” and related questions and options.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. \_\_\_\_\_
  - h. \_\_\_\_\_ (Added in 5<sup>th</sup> edition. See III.C. below)
3. Sire’s list of worldviews. (Many of these will be discussed in a later session.)
4. A worldview “table”: Worldviews and worldview categories.

D. Key Criticisms of Sire’s Approach:

1. Too \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Too \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Worldview as the Biblical Notion of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. David Naugle, *Worldview: The History of a Concept* (2002).
- B. Sire's changed definition, *The Universe Next Door*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition (2004) and 5<sup>th</sup> edition (2009).
  - 1. A \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. An orientation of the \_\_\_\_\_, not just BELIEFS.
  - 3. Expressible as a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the way we live.
- C. Sire's new (8<sup>th</sup>) category: Worldview implications.
- D. Examples: Worldview affects \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. Worldview as the "Core" of Who You Really Are.**

- A. Four functioning components to who you are.
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. YOUR worldview is the composite \_\_\_\_\_ of who you really are.
- C. The "greatest commandment" (Mk. 12:30).

## V. Worldview and the Biblical Importance of a Christian Mind.

- A. Mark 12:30 (cf. Deut. 6:5) We are commanded to love God with our \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_,  
1. Why the apparent difference?  
2. Biblical timeline.
- B. Romans 12:1-2 We are called to have a \_\_\_\_\_ mind.
- C. Romans 8:5-7 The mind set on the flesh is \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
- D. Colossians 2:8 We are not to be taken \_\_\_\_\_ by deceptive philosophies.
- E. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 We should be able to \_\_\_\_\_ every thought raised up against the knowledge of God and take every thought \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ.

## VI. Someone with a Christian (or Biblical) Worldview:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ God with heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- B. Is adequately \_\_\_\_\_ by God's revelation.
- C. Is NOT taken \_\_\_\_\_ by deceptive philosophies.
- D. Takes every thought \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ.
- E. **Consistently** \_\_\_\_\_ its implications in \_\_\_\_\_ area of life.

**Binder material with the ANSWERS can be accessed at:**

[www.worldvieweyes.org/northview.html](http://www.worldvieweyes.org/northview.html)

**“EXTRA CREDIT”:** Take the online “worldview test” by Wednesday, April 20, at:

<http://www.worldviewweekend.com/test/register.php?testid=WORLDVIEW&groupreg=19225d856>.

Instead of typing all that in, you can (1) go to [www.worldviewweekend.com](http://www.worldviewweekend.com); (b) click on “Free Worldview Test”; (c) put “19225d856” in the “Group Code” box; (d) complete the registration on that page; and (e) take the test.

It will take about 30 minutes to take the test. If enough people take the test, general statistical results will be shared with the entire class.

Note: This “test” is for instructional purposes only. WorldViewEyes does not endorse the test or its validity in accurately identifying your worldview.