

WRETCHED WORLDVIEW



STUDY GUIDE



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How to Use This Curriculum

In the cacophony of voices that demand our attention, how can we be sure we form the right perspective on the myriad of issues that confront us? *Wretched Worldview* will equip you with a 7-part framework for developing a truly biblical position on any topic. After watching all 22 episodes, you will be trained to boldly approach any question and thoughtfully develop a position that is soundly biblical.

Introduction to *Wretched Worldview* (Lesson 1)

The first lesson of *Wretched Worldview* provides a scripted lesson plan to help you introduce your student to the idea of a worldview and how it should inform our opinions and positions on any given topic. The lesson includes two video clips. The first breaks down the 7 steps for building a biblical worldview perspective on any given topic. The second is an example of how to use the framework, examining the biblical perspective of the “Life of the Mind.” This lesson builds the foundation for the following episodes.

Topical Episodes (Lessons 2–22)

The remaining 21 lessons deal with specific topics that are of significant interest in today’s culture. You may choose to complete these episodes in order, or choose the ones that are most engaging to your students. The goal of these episodes is to train students to intentionally develop biblical positions, thus strengthening a biblical worldview foundation. You may choose either of the approaches listed below, or use a combination of the two.

Discussion Approach

Each episode is accompanied with a discussion guide with questions to help you generate discussion among your students. Although each episode does conclude with a biblical position on the topic in question, the goal is not to convince a student of a certain position. *Wretched Worldview* is intended to help students learn how to think through a topic in a way that should result in a truly biblical perspective. To this end, the questions are developed to encourage students to think through the process as much as the issue itself.

You may choose to watch the episode in its entirety (generally 15-18 minutes long) and then use your remaining time for dedicated discussion using the guides provided.

Alternatively, you may wish to pause the video after each step and spend a few minutes discussing how the topic was handled in that section. The discussion guides are organized by step to facilitate this approach.

Hands-on Approach

The hands-on approach gets students engaged in the process of developing biblical perspectives. Use the provided worksheet template to have students work through the topic for that lesson. For the first few weeks, this may be best done walking through the steps as a class. After completing the worksheet, play the video and use any remaining time to discuss the video, discussing ways your students can improve their process.

As your students become more familiar with the process and more adroit at employing it, you may wish to maximize engagement by having students work together in small groups, pairs, or individually. You may even extend the series by choosing topics of specific concern to your group and challenging your students to work through the process (during the week or at the beginning of the class) and then discussing how they arrived at their positions.

The 7-Step Process

Wretched Worldview employs a 7-step process for developing a biblical position on a given topic. The first video episode explains the process.

1. Pre-understandings—identify and set aside all pre-understandings
2. Explicit Bible Verses—examine verses that speak directly to the topic
3. Implicit Bible Verses—examine verses that are not direct but provide helpful insight
4. Gospel—consider how the Gospel of Jesus Christ informs us on the issue
5. Historic Christian Position—consider what the Christian church has historically believed about the topic
6. Personal Testimony—evaluate how your personal testimony may be affected by your position
7. Common Objections—handle common objections in light of the biblical understanding developed through the first 6 steps.

TOPIC:

Pre-understandings:

-
-
-

Explicit Verses:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Implicit Verses:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Gospel:

Personal Testimony:

Historic Christian position:

Common Objections:

-
-
-
-

My Position:

Lesson 1

Worldview



Introduction

Explain to your students that you are going to call out a variety of issues we deal with in the world today. For each one, they should raise their hand if they have a position. Quickly call out a list of issues (e.g., global warming, abortion, homosexuality, denominationalism, working women, immigration, etc.).

Ask: What informs your position? How do you decide where you stand on an issue? Allow discussion.

We often rely on experiences, feelings, and anecdotes to form our opinions. But as Christians, we should be starting with the Bible as our authority and foundation for determining how to deal with these important issues. We must intentionally cultivate a biblical worldview.

Define: A worldview is the way someone views or thinks about the world. Everyone has a worldview, whether you realize it or not. So a biblical worldview is when we approach the world with an understanding that comes from God's Word.

Explain: In this series, we are going to look at how to develop and strengthen a biblical worldview. Specifically, we are going to learn a process that will help us to consider an issue from a biblical starting point. Our first video will explain how we are going to do that.

Play Wretched Worldview Introduction.

Discuss: Ask students to respond to the video. Clarify any parts they may have questions about, define any terms they may not have known. Ask students what they think about the approach. If it seems daunting, assure them that we are going to go through 22 issues together, and it will make more sense as we work through these examples.

In fact, we're going to look at an example right now. This issue is the life of the mind. In other words, what role should thinking play in the life and witness of a Christian?

Play Wretched Worldview—Life of the Mind.

Note: You may choose to watch through the entire episode (approx. 17 minutes) or stop to discuss after each section. It may be helpful to play this episode uninterrupted so that students see how the entire process from start to finish.

Discuss: Use the questions below to guide discussion.

- Have you held or heard these pre-understandings/objections? Have you ever intentionally thought through this issue?
- Did it surprise you what the Bible had to say about this issue? Were you surprised by the church's historic position?
- Are there any questions you still have about the issue?
- Do you agree or disagree with Dr. Strachan's explanations, reasoning, or conclusion?
- Did your opinion/position change through this process? Why or why not?
- What questions do you still have about this 7-step process for considering an issue biblically?

Conclusion

As Christians, it is important that we frame our thinking from a biblical perspective, and that only comes from intentionally organizing our thoughts with a priority on Scripture. We don't automatically get a biblical worldview when we become a Christian. We must train our minds to think biblically. We must cut through the voices of the world and even well-meaning Christians to get to the solid foundation of Scripture. I hope that this 7-step process will help you to organize your thoughts and to build a truly biblical worldview. In the coming weeks, we will tackle some difficult issues. But as you will see, following this framework will help us simplify the issues and formulate truly biblical positions.