



Bottom Line: How you view the world will determine how you live in it.

Scripture References: Genesis 1:1, 26-27; Romans 3:23, 6:23; John 3:16-17; Revelation 21:3-5

Intro:

Have you ever wondered why the world is the way it is? Or maybe you've heard someone ask, "What's wrong with people?" You may have been in a world history class and started to see how messed up things have been, and then you look around and realize that things aren't much better today.

Maybe you've never noticed or had thoughts like that, but you've probably felt pain at some point in your life.

[TEACHER NOTE: Share a personal story of a painful moment in your life, like a broken bone or a teenage breakup story.]

When I was in the eleventh grade, I played on an amazing basketball team. We had three players who were over six and a half feet tall who made scoring look easy. We were so good that we not only won our conference championship, but we also went to the state tournament. This meant that the four top teams in the state competed to be the best in the state.

I went to school in Maryland, which is one of those states where you may or may not get a lot of snow in the winter. Well, that year, we got a lot of snow; enough to cancel an entire week of school. This meant we couldn't have basketball practice either. That's not how you want to prepare for the state playoffs.

Eventually, my coach got fed up with the weather and scheduled a team practice on a snow day, the day before our game. Our team had a good workout, but ten minutes before practice ended, I sprained my ankle. I hit the ground in major pain. It wasn't a break, but it was bad enough that I couldn't put pressure on it. This meant I wouldn't be able to play in the state tournament.

I not only felt the pain in my foot, but I also felt it in my heart. I wanted to play so badly and now I couldn't.

Your story is probably different than mine, but we have all felt pain at some level. It could be as basic as a sports injury or something worse. It might have been a broken bone or a broken heart. It may be an illness, a death in the family, or a bad breakup. Why does life hurt so much? If we're honest with ourselves, somewhere deep inside, we know that this isn't how it's supposed to be, or at least, that pain can't be what life is about.

Everyone has a view of why the world is the way it is, how we got here, and what should be done about it. The term for these answers is called a worldview. A worldview is simply how we look at the world or how we explain how and why the world works the way it does. This is a pretty philosophical concept, but everyone has a worldview, whether they realize it or not.

There are four basic questions that define a person's worldview:

1. How did we get here?
2. Who are we?
3. What's wrong with the world?
4. What's the solution?

Let's take a quick look at each of these.

Question number 1: How did we get here?

This worldview question has less to do with the awkward conversation about where babies come from and more to do with the origin and existence of humanity. Are we here by chance or on purpose?

Question number 2: Who are we?

This worldview question is about meaning and identity. What does it mean to be human? Do we possess value just for being alive, or is our value determined by what we do?

Question number 3: What's wrong with the world?

As we started the message, you don't have to look very far to find pain and sadness in the world. This worldview question wants to know why the world is the way it is. Has it always been like this, and if not, how did it get like this?

Question number 4: What's the solution?

This preview includes a select number of pages from this resource.

If you like what you see, download the entire resource today!

downloadyouthministry.com