

# “I Can See Clearly Now!”

## The ABCs for the Hope That Is in Us B = Biblical Worldview

### PREPARE FOR IT!

1. Carefully read, watch all video content, and prayerfully prepare your heart for leading this lesson.
2. Have all videos queued up and handouts printed before the class starts.
3. Do a youtube.com search for “selective attention test.” Watch a few of these videos and choose one that you think will stump your group.
4. Find the song “I Can See Clearly Now” by Johnny Nash (available on youtube.com or music.youtube.com) and have it queued up to play after the Team Huddle activity.
5. Prepare for the Team Huddle activity by having blindfolds and obstacles set up for Blindfold Bluff.
6. For the Pass Completion activity, decide if you want to provide printout copies (accessible at [www.rforh.com/blog](http://www.rforh.com/blog)) or direct the students to access these articles through the Reasons for Hope website through their devices.

### KNOW IT!

1. **Define** the term *biblical worldview* and explain how a biblical worldview is formed.
2. **Identify** the main ideas of a secular worldview and a moralistic therapeutic deism worldview.
3. **Share** verses and their interpretations in relation to worldview, and **explain** how your worldview affects your decisions.

### LIVE IT! SHARE IT!

1. **Ask** your parents their definition of a biblical worldview.
2. **Share** what you learned in this lesson. (Include the main points from the Know It! section.)
3. **Ask** a Christian parent or guardian (or other adult) how a biblical worldview helps them respond in difficult situations or ask them to identify times when they did not see things through a biblical lens and how that affected their choices.
4. **Find** someone to share “The Eyes Have It” blog with or share some of the irrefutable facts about the human eye (Dr. Miller’s article) and ask them if they would agree that the eyes show clear evidence of design. If they say they agree, ask them if they believe in evolution.
5. **Study** and **practice** a response to “Who is Jesus?”

## **Small Group Check-in**

Prior to starting this lesson, have students form small groups of 2–4 so that each has an opportunity to provide feedback about their Family Support and Pass Completion tasks from this past week as well as recite their chosen memory verses to each other.



## **OPENING BELL**

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**Note:** The purpose of showing this type of video is to illustrate how we can be deceived when we focus on something other than the deception.

Show your students the chosen video on selective attention. After the showing, take a minute or two to let the students respond. (It's quite humorous to watch their reactions after they realize they've been duped.) You could then say something like this:

Nobody likes being fooled. Yet clearly we are not immune to it and are probably fooled into believing lies about the world around us all the time. Why? Because we are not specifically on guard or watching for it. As we work through this lesson, we will learn about how to view and discern things that might otherwise deceive us into believing lies.



## **TEAM HUDDLE**

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### **BLINDFOLD BLUFF**

This fun game will build trust and bonding. Each person in the group chooses a partner. One person is blindfolded, and the other person guides his or her partner through a safe obstacle course (landscaped area, playground, etc.) using verbal instructions only. All blindfolded participants are being instructed simultaneously through the course to illustrate that there may be many “voices” around us that can distract us from our purpose or task. Once all teams are finished, have them re-gather as a group and ask the following questions, taking responses from volunteers:

1. How did you get to the finish line?
2. Did you find yourself listening to voices other than your partner's?
3. If so, did that help you or mess you up?

Ask for a volunteer to read aloud the following information from their workbook.

In life, we're often going to need guidance to reach the truth. The voices we listen to may be leading us in the right direction or they may not. How can we be sure we are being guided correctly?

Well, one of the ways we can guard our hearts and minds against listening to the wrong voices involves our worldview.



## TRAINING CAMP

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Start this part of the lesson playing the first verse of the song “I Can See Clearly Now” by Johnny Nash (available on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1111111111)).

Call on volunteers to each read aloud parts of the “What Is a Worldview?” section.

### ***What Is a Worldview?***

#### **A. How is worldview defined?**

Simply put, a worldview is your view or perception of the world around you. How you look *at* the world makes all the difference *in* the world regarding your choices.

But what does that mean? By definition, a worldview is “a set of basic beliefs, assumptions, and values that come from your understanding of your purpose in the world.” In other words, how you look at the world is determined by your belief system.

#### **B. How is a person’s worldview formed?**

1. **Culture**—all the traditions, traits, ideals, customs, arts, value systems, and other influences of the civilization you live in. Examples: holidays, church attendance, and moral values.
2. **Education**—We are the product of what we read, listen to, watch, and are taught. Understand that if you are in the public school system, your worldview is going to be influenced by postmodernism. (We will address this idea later in the lesson.)
3. **Religious beliefs.**
4. **Emotions**—how you feel can be so strong that it overpowers logic and truth.
5. **The Bible**—using God’s Word as your standard for what truth is.

Discuss how these influences are impacting your group. What else could you or they add to this list?

#### **C. What are three common worldviews today?**

Though there are multiple worldviews in our world, we are going to look at the three that are most likely to impact you.

A **secular worldview** (also known as postmodernism) teaches that beliefs are a matter of personal preference, not absolute truth. Truth in a secular worldview comes mostly from human reasoning and preference.

**Moralistic therapeutic deism (MTD)** is a worldview that has become a force not only in the secular arena but also in the church. It is based on the following premises:

- ♦ God created everything but then pretty much leaves us alone unless we need help from Him.
- ♦ We should all just be kind to others.
- ♦ If you are a good person, you will go to heaven.
- ♦ Our primary goal in life should be to find happiness and feel good about ourselves.

U1L3H2

**Distribute U1L3H2: "Handout 2: Don't Worry; Be Happy!" Call on individuals to each read a paragraph aloud. Allow time for comments and insights at the end. Encourage everyone to take a picture of this handout for easy access in the future. This blog is also available to view at [www.rforh.com](http://www.rforh.com) under Resources, then Blog. Scroll until you find this title (November 12, 2021). Instruct students to put this handout in their folder to refer to in the future.**

A **biblical worldview** (or a Christian worldview) is a worldview based on God's Word—unchanging and eternal. This worldview acknowledges God as the Creator of the universe, the author and standard for truth. He is the all-knowing, all-powerful, and unchanging provider for mankind.

**Call on students to read aloud the following verses and notes.**

Psalm 119:160 says, "The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever." This means there is not a speck of untruth in Scripture.

In John 17:17, Jesus prays to the Father that believers will be set apart to give out the truth from His holy Word: "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth."

**Point out the following aspects of a biblical worldview as the students follow along in their workbooks.**

A biblical worldview:

- ♦ Holds that God's Word is truth (Psalm 119:160; John 17:17) and inspired—"breathed out"—by God Himself through the person of the Holy Spirit, who guided and directed men to write down and preserve His holy Scriptures. When we seek the truth, God's Word should be the first place we go for advice.

- ♦ Shows us the world as our Creator intended. By using our biblical glasses, our distorted vision, clouded by sin, can be corrected to see the world through the context of God’s redemption. (The next section will clarify this statement.)

**A. What difference does your worldview make?**

With a biblical worldview, you filter everything through the lens of Scripture. A believer in Christ with a biblical worldview will respond with trust in the wisdom, provision, and love of God. Having a biblical worldview changes the way you respond to what happens to you and those around you, such as:

- ♦ a natural disaster
- ♦ a wrong order at a restaurant
- ♦ a financial crisis
- ♦ a national crisis (e.g., war, COVID, and economic challenges)

**Give the students the opportunity to generate other areas where a biblical worldview would make a difference in their response.**

- ♦ How you respond to \_\_\_\_\_
- ♦ How you respond to \_\_\_\_\_
- ♦ How you respond to \_\_\_\_\_
- ♦ How you respond to \_\_\_\_\_

A biblical worldview also directs your decisions regarding how you spend your time and money, how you respond to authority, who you date or marry, how you raise your children, what kind of job you take, and how you respond to others. It permeates *every* aspect of your life.

**EXTENSION ACTIVITY**

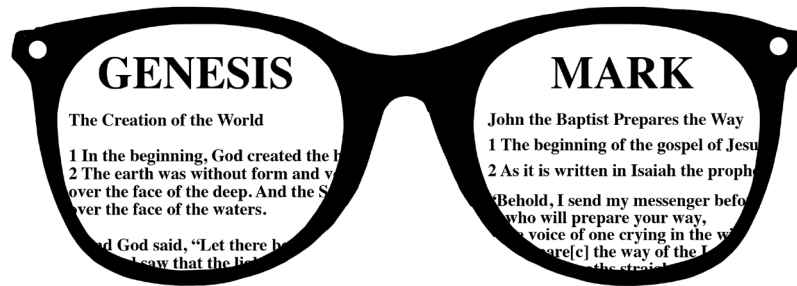
**Go back through the previous list and discuss the contrast between the response of someone with a biblical worldview and someone with a secular or MTD worldview.**

**Call on individuals to read aloud each paragraph below. Encourage discussion about this information.**

According to Barna research, only 17% of those who consider themselves believers and attend church actually have a Christian worldview.

Most Americans have been influenced by postmodernism—the false philosophy that teaches there is no objective right or wrong. It pervades education, entertainment, and social media. People in our postmodern culture need to hear the truth in a convincing, articulate way; and God’s plan is for us to tell them. Christian apologetics—giving sound reasons

for a biblical worldview—is a powerful way to proclaim God’s Word and share the gospel.



### ***How Do I Build a Biblical Worldview?***

**Directions:** With a partner, look up each of the following verses, and write on the lines provided how this passage or verse helps to frame a biblical worldview.

Matthew 22:37-38

And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.”

Love God more than anything or anyone else, including yourself.

Luke 11:28

But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

Spend time reading the Bible so that you know what it says and can follow its wisdom.

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 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.

How I treat my body shows my allegiance to the Lord; don’t practice what the world says to do, but think differently, as we are shown in the Bible.

Joshua 1:8

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to

do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Read, think about, and obey God's Word. That is truly the formula for success!

John 17:17; Psalm 119:160

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.

If a claim is contrary to what God's Word says, it's not the truth; all of God's Word is truth and will last forever.

2 Corinthians 10:4–5

For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

Arguments and opinions that are not in line with God's Word are in opposition to a biblical worldview. These verses indicate that other worldviews can become a stronghold that can be destroyed only by God's divine power.

Colossians 2:6–8

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

As a Christian, I need to walk with Him—live like Jesus. To become established in my faith, I need to be taught from His Word—to have a biblical foundation. I also need to be constantly on guard against false teaching and nonbiblical worldviews that will try to get me to believe lies about God, the world, and my purpose in life.

Once most of the students are finished, signal for them to come back as a whole group. Read each Scripture verse aloud, then ask for volunteers to share the answers. Encourage them to add to or fill in answers they were not able to complete.

Read the following paragraphs aloud to the students as they follow along in their workbooks. Ask for summarizing comments about what they just heard and read.

Believers in Christ and atheists all have the same evidence—the same earth, the same fossils, the same animals, the same landforms, the same galaxies, etc. What we disagree about is the *interpretation* of the evidence.

A biblical worldview drives how we interpret the evidence to explain how the world came to be, why we are here on this earth, and what happens after we die. If we start with God’s Word, our interpretation will confirm that what we see in the world is consistent with what we read in the Word.

U1L3V1



**Show U1L3V1: *Worldview from Apologetics with Reasons for Hope*, Episode 40.**

Use the lines below to jot down comments and thoughts shared by the group during discussion.

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Play the following video for the group and be ready to discuss: How does a biblical worldview affect how we view our identity in Christ?

U1L3V2



**Show U1L3V2: DeBunked 20: *Nobody Loves You*.**

Because most students will not have exposure to the context of both *The Screwtape Letters* and the Marvel Avengers’ movies, background information has been provided.

**SCREWTAPE AND FRIENDS**

Screwtape is the main character in the book *The Screwtape Letters* written by C. S. Lewis in 1942. Screwtape represents a senior demon who is writing letters to his diabolical nephew, Wormwood, coaching him in the finer points of tempting his “patient” to draw him away from the demons’ enemy, God.



**THANOS SNAP**

Fans of the Marvel Avengers’ movies need no explanation of what this means. However, if this term is foreign to you, Thanos represents a godlike being in the universe who, once he had collected “infinity stones” and inserted them into a customized gauntlet (glove), obtained “omnipotent power.” He snapped his fingers and reduced half of the earth’s population to ashes to make a better world for those remaining. (That’s a very abbreviated explanation, but it gives you context for this DeBunked video reference.)





John 3:16 (Write your name in the blanks below.)

For God so loved \_\_\_\_\_, that He gave His only begotten Son,  
that if \_\_\_\_\_ believes in Him, \_\_\_\_\_ will not perish  
but have everlasting life.

Distribute U1L3H3: "Handout 3: Who Was Jesus?" (On this sheet will be a QR code for Apologetics with Reasons for Hope, Episode 19, for students to watch in addition to reading the material on this sheet.)



Encourage students to take a picture of the handout with their phones for easy access later. Have the students quickly find a partner and read through the handout aloud together and watch the accompanying video by scanning the QR code with a cell phone or an iPad.

Instruct the students to put the handout in their folder and make time over the next week to learn and practice the response. This is the second of eight handouts they will receive over the course of this unit to start building their apologetics arsenal.

As we move into the Reflection part of our lesson, let's pray for God to prepare our hearts and minds to respond thoughtfully to each of the questions posed.

Pray or ask for a volunteer to pray before releasing them to answer these questions. Distribute U1L3H4: "Handout 4, My Identity in Christ," to each of the students.



## REFLECTION

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1. Using the information just viewed in the DeBunked video, how does its message reflect a biblical worldview? (Be prepared to discuss with a partner and/or share with the group.)

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2. To help you "set your mind on things above" (Colossians 3:2), read through the handout "My Identity in Christ." Claim God's truths about your value to Him as stated in Ephesians 1-3, and take a few minutes to write down which of these truths are most meaningful to you right now. When finished, put this handout in your folder.

(Plan a time later to read through these chapters in your Bible and highlight these key words to refer to often.)

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3. Write down the reference(s) for Scripture verse(s) you will commit to memory this week. (Be prepared to say these to someone else during the next meeting.)

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Signal for students to come back together as a group. Using the information below, summarize the biblical worldview by reading over the assumptions we will have if we are practicing a biblical or Christian worldview. Call on a volunteer to read the paragraph after the assumptions.

### ***Christian Worldview Assumptions***

1. God is who He claims to be.
2. He did what He said He did the way that He said that He did it.

Start with these two assumptions and go into the world viewing it with these “lenses.”

Being a believer in today’s culture is not an easy task. However, when we are made aware of the threats to our faith, we can be better prepared to counter them. Here are three common threats to a biblical worldview that, if countered, can help us to make more of an impact, as we are grounded by the hope that is in us.

Ask for a volunteer to read “Three Threats to a Biblical Worldview” to the group as they follow along in their workbook.

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### **Three Threats to a Biblical Worldview**

1. Not seeing all of life through God’s Word—picking and choosing which specific areas you choose to live biblically.
2. Not believing your biblical worldview is based on absolute, right truth. If you don’t live by John 17:17, you will be easily swayed by the winds of postmodernism. Be in the world but not of the world.

3. Viewing other worldviews as the enemy. Rather, you should view them as opportunities to shed the light of God’s truth. Follow Paul’s example from Acts 17 on Mars Hill.

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Look over the tasks for these last two sections now and ask any questions you have before we conclude our lesson for today.



## **FAMILY SUPPORT**

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1. Ask your parents their definition of a biblical worldview.
2. Share what you learned in this lesson. (Include the main points from the Know It! section.)
3. Ask a Christian parent or guardian (or other adult) how a biblical worldview helps them respond in difficult situations or ask them to identify times when they did not see things through a biblical lens and how that affected their choices.



## **PASS COMPLETION**

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1. Get U1L3H5: “Handout 5: The Eyes Have It” from your leader and find someone to share it with. Alternatively, you could share some of the irrefutable facts about the human eye (Dr. Miller’s article referenced in the handout) and ask your friend or family member if they would agree that the eyes show clear evidence of design. If they say they agree, ask them if they believe in evolution. If so, how would they explain the design of the eyes without a designer? Record their responses on the lines below.

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2. Study and practice a response to “Who is Jesus?”

**Either distribute print copies mentioned in this section or show the students how to access these resources on the Reasons for Hope website.**

Close in prayer.



