





# Putting It All Together

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## Foreword

*Foundations for Living* is a ten-unit elective for high school students, providing the biblical basis and historical development of the Christian worldview. Fundamental truths and principles from the Bible are used to apply the Christian worldview to a range of contemporary issues from family life to art, music, and politics.

Gathering all of a student's education into a unified whole, this course assists contemporary teenagers in recognizing the value of Christian truth. As teenagers discern the differences between Christian and non-Christian worldviews, they will be better equipped for their new adventures in life beyond high school.

*Foundations for Living* contains the following units. The specific unit you will be studying next is highlighted below.

Unit 1 – What Is a Biblical Worldview?

Unit 2 – Presuppositions

Unit 3 – The Doctrines of the Bible

Unit 4 – God's Creation

Unit 5 – The Family

Unit 6 – The Bible and Marriage

Unit 7 – Dating to Matrimony

Unit 8 – Christian Education

Unit 9 – Art, Music, and Politics

**Unit 10 – Putting It All Together**

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*All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.*

*Cover: Earth photo courtesy of NASA*

**NOTE:** All vocabulary words appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used in the text. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given in the Glossary.

# Putting It All Together

*The ability to learn is a blessing from God—one that can greatly benefit you. What you learn is also to be used to benefit others. What you have learned concerning a biblical **worldview** will benefit you for the rest of your life. When you teach others to look at the world around them in the light of what Scripture teaches, they will also enjoy great benefits. When you apply biblical principles in all you think, say, or do, you will be a blessing to the people around you. Use what you have learned. The more you apply biblical principles in every area of your life, the more you will enjoy the blessings of God and be a blessing to others.*

*In this unit we will tie together what you have learned. We will examine what it means to look at the world through biblical eyes; we will learn the nature of biblical faith; we will discover some biblical strategies; and we will consider the importance of applying what we learn.*

*As high school students, you are looking forward to graduation. After graduation, you will enter an entirely new phase of your life. You may continue your education, begin working, join the military, or perhaps get married. After high school graduation, you will begin to experience what it means to “be on your own.” It is with this in mind that we have designed this course. As you begin this new phase of your life, you will be faced with many new challenges. You will find that the application of God’s Word will help you to face any challenges you may encounter. You will be able to make wise decisions, live a full and productive life, help others and, most importantly, you will live in a way that is pleasing to God.*

## The Worldviews Presented in this Unit



## Objectives

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC®.

When you complete this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

- Understand the true meaning of biblical faith.
- Learn how to develop biblical eyes.
- Realize the importance of using biblical strategies to live in a way that is pleasing to God.
- Comprehend the importance of biblical applications.
- Present an overview of your *Foundations for Living* course.

# The Worldview Tree

**B**efore you read your first section, we would like to introduce you to the “Worldview Tree,” a recurring visual metaphor that will unify and explain the entire curriculum. It teaches that our actions do not occur randomly; rather, they are the natural results of our beliefs and presuppositions. Therefore, what we believe and think truly does make a difference! This is how it works (see the opposite page for the chart).

The Worldview Tree illustrates how a **culture** develops within a particular **civilization**. This process begins in the soil with **presuppositions**, which move up a root system into the trunk of the tree. Once above ground, the **worldview** affects one’s perspectives on life and directs one’s choices. These choices manifest themselves in a variety of activities, which are repeated over time as an ongoing **heritage**, passed from one generation to the next.

There are four successive steps that lead to a developed culture. The first step is **believing**, followed by **thinking** (or, in the case of Postmodernism, **feeling**). The process moves to **seeing**, and this leads through choices to **doing**. These steps of human progress illustrate how internal ideas lead to external actions.

Each time a Worldview Tree is displayed, its structure remains essentially the same, while its content follows the information in each unit and is represented by the **roots** (boxes in the lower portion of the ground) and the **fruit** (which are located on or near the tree). This content demonstrates how a variety of topics all follow a similar path of development from foundational beliefs (roots) to behavior (fruit).

There are two basic worldviews, God’s and Man’s. **God’s Worldview** is depicted with bright green leaves and healthy red fruit. **Man’s Worldview** is depicted with dull brown leaves and decaying purple fruit. Within **Man’s Worldview**, there are two variations: a single tree represents a single worldview and multiple trees represent a plurality of sub-worldviews (as with Postmodernism, which will begin in Unit 4). Each Worldview Tree asks a thought-provoking question and provides space for your answer.

Historically, these two worldviews (God’s and Man’s) developed over four periods of time as depicted in the pullout chart and provide a picture of the ongoing differences between the Christian and non-Christian perspectives on the origin, history and destiny of humanity.

## WORLDVIEW TREE LOCATIONS

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Contemporary Christianity . . . . . | 34 |
| Postmodernism . . . . .             | 35 |

Believing



THINKING  
OR  
FEELING

**Civilization:** Locations that display worldviews

**Fruit:** Resulting behavior



**Culture:** Activities that express a worldview

**Roots:** Foundational beliefs

**Worldview:** A comprehensive view of life

**Presuppositions:** Beliefs that develop a worldview

▶ **Seeing = Doing**

# I. APPLYING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

## Biblical Faith

Ask yourself this question: “Do I really believe God’s Word?” You probably answered yes without giving it much thought. One dictionary definition of faith is the assent of the mind or understanding to the truth. This definition is not incorrect; however, it is incomplete. According to Scripture, faith as it applies to Christians, is much more than mental assent. Consider the words of James 2:19: “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.” James points out that even demons admit to the existence of God, yet such mental assent does not save them. When Scripture speaks of the faith of a Christian, it means much more than mere belief in the existence of God.

Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as “...the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” The word *hope* is not synonymous to wish. Hope is a confident expectation. In other words, biblical faith is that which gives substance to what we confidently expect. It makes real to us what is not yet tangible, what cannot yet be seen. For example, as Christians we confidently expect to spend eternity with Christ. We do not yet see heaven, yet our faith causes us to confidently expect it to the degree that it is already a reality to us.

Our faith applies not only to our hope of eternity in heaven, but also to our life here on earth. When we read the words of Scripture, we confidently expect them to be true, even if we do not immediately see any tangible evidence. For example, Scripture tells us that we will reap according to what we sow. “*But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully*” (2 Corinthians 9:6). This principle is contrary to what the world would have us believe—in fact, it is the opposite of the world’s beliefs. The world teaches that if you have little, you had better hold on to what you have. Yet Scripture tells us that we will prosper by giving. In the world’s way of thinking, such a principle does not make sense; it is illogical. In order to believe the words of 2 Corinthians 9:6, one must have faith. One must confidently believe them to be true, even though there is no



**Biblical faith accepts and follows the teaching of Scripture**

tangible evidence; one must confidently expect the tangible evidence even before it is seen.

Most Christians would profess to believe the words of Scripture, but their belief is often merely mental assent. Many do not truly have a confident expectation to the point that they put the words into practice. Jesus was aware of people’s lack of true faith when He said, “*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*” (Luke 6:46). By this He meant that those who have true faith in Him express that faith through their obedience. James put it this way, “*Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works*” (James 2:17-18). James points out that true faith is expressed by one’s actions. For one to say he has faith is not a demonstration of that faith; however, one’s actions are sure proof. In other words, action speaks louder than words!

In the previous nine units, you learned about the value of a biblical worldview. You have completed your assignments as well as your tests. You may have even scored very good grades on your tests; however, this does not mean you now have a biblical worldview. It does not guarantee that you have faith in the words of the Bible. True faith in God’s Word (i.e., a biblical world-

view) is expressed by actions. You will demonstrate your belief in God's Word by applying it in every situation in life. If you truly believe that the Bible is the Word of God, you will follow its directives even when you do not see tangible evidence of its truth. Your faith will provide all the evidence you need, and you will trust God and obey Him based on that faith, confidently expecting the outcome God promises.

When Jesus was resurrected from the grave, He paid a visit to His disciples. Thomas, one of the disciples, was not present when Christ first appeared to the others. John 20:24–29 tells what happened when Thomas arrived on the scene:

*But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.*

Thomas did not believe until he saw the tangible evidence. Jesus pointed out that those who have faith before they see the tangible evidence are truly blessed. Develop the habit of applying God's Word to every situation, not because you see tangible evidence first, but simply because you know the Word of God is true.

Such faith is not something we can conjure up on our own. True faith is a gift from God. Ephesians 2:8–9 says, “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and **that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:** Not of works, lest any man should boast*” (emphasis added). Biblical faith is a gift from God. If we have faith, we do not have reason to boast, for we received it by God's grace, not because of anything we have done. It takes such faith to be obedient to God's Word. If we do not have it, we must pray that God would graciously grant it to us.

Faith, as with many of God's gracious gifts, often begins with a very small portion. When we receive it, it is like a small seed. As with any other seed, it must be nourished in order to grow. Your faith will be nourished by prayer, Bible study, and putting into practice what you learn.

Similarly, the human body is made up of many muscles. All healthy babies are born with the same set of muscles. Yet we see some who grow up to be in very good shape with large muscles and able to perform great feats of strength. This is because of hard work and strenuous exercise. It is because such people have put their muscles to use, thereby building them up and making them strong. As you put your faith to use, it will also become stronger. Begin by using the faith you have to obey God's Word now. As you do this, you will see your faith grow in God and in His Word.

*“Our faith applies not only to our hope of eternity in heaven, but also our life here on earth.”*







**Answer true or false.**

- I.1 \_\_\_\_\_ We are to learn things for the purpose of storing information.
- I.2 \_\_\_\_\_ One reason we are comforted by God is so that we can comfort others.
- I.3 \_\_\_\_\_ What we learn benefits us and is to be used to benefit others.
- I.4 \_\_\_\_\_ God told Abram that he would be a blessing.
- I.5 \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical faith is mental assent.
- I.6 \_\_\_\_\_ Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
- I.7 \_\_\_\_\_ A Christian's faith is only for his hope of eternity in heaven.
- I.8 \_\_\_\_\_ The world teaches that when we are in need, we should give.
- I.9 \_\_\_\_\_ James said that faith without works is dead.
- I.10 \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas believed in the resurrected Jesus as soon as he saw Him.
- I.11 \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus said that those who have not seen, and yet believed, are blessed.
- I.12 \_\_\_\_\_ Faith is a gift from God.
- I.13 \_\_\_\_\_ If you want faith, you must work to develop it.
- I.14 \_\_\_\_\_ Faith grows as it is nourished.

## Biblical Eyes



Have you ever detected a counterfeit bill? If you were handed such a bill, do you think you would recognize it? If a counterfeit bill were well made, it would be difficult for the average person to detect, yet it would be

most foolish to attempt to pass one to a bank teller. People who work at banks are more likely to detect counterfeit bills, not because they have handled so many of them, but because they have handled so much real

money. Each work day, bank tellers handle large amounts of money. They receive bills, count them, and disburse them over and over again. Because of their experience with real money, they are experts in how it looks and feels. Any variation would be immediately detected. They know a counterfeit because of their experience with the real thing.

The same principle can be applied to religions. Even if we are not acquainted with cults or other false religions, we will be able to recognize them if we are well acquainted with true Christianity. We become acquainted with Christianity by reading, studying, listening to teaching and preaching, and applying the Word of God to our lives. The more familiar we are with the truth of God's Word, the more we are able to detect what is not true. We recognize lies because we are so familiar with the truth.

Adopting a thoroughly biblical worldview is not something we will accomplish immediately. Initially, it will be difficult to know exactly how to react biblically to each and every situation. We will sometimes be fooled when discerning right from wrong or truth from falsehoods. However, the more we study Scripture and the more we put into practice what we have learned, the more our biblical worldview will develop. We will begin to look at the world through what we may call biblical eyes.

Having biblical eyes is an entirely new way of seeing things. Recently a friend received laser surgery on her eyes. It was a relatively painless procedure, and the healing process lasted only a few days. Upon her return to work after the procedure, she excitedly told everyone that it was as if a whole new world was before her. She said she had never seen so clearly before.

Developing a biblical worldview is very similar. We discover that we begin to see the world as we have never seen it before. For the first time, we see the world in the light of its creator. We see it in all its truth rather than in the foggy and distortions of **secular** thinking.

As we cultivate the habit of looking at the world in relation to what the Bible says about it, we will develop these biblical eyes. This involves obedience to God's Word in every situation, but it also goes further than that. To have biblical eyes means to perceive God's creation the way it was intended to be perceived. When we ask why God made the world the way He did, we arrive at several answers:

*“The more familiar we are with the truth of God's Word, the more we are able to detect what is not true.”*



1. God created the world for His good pleasure. He created the world in which we live simply because that is what He wanted to do. God is self-sufficient and acts totally in and of His own will.

2. God created the world for man's good.

Consider the words of King David in Psalm 8:

*O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.*

*O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!*

3. God created the world to reveal Himself.

Romans 1:19–20: *“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power*

and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”

Job 12:7–9: “But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee. Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?”

Psalms 19:1–2: “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.”

Developing a biblical worldview means cultivating biblical eyes. It means that we will see the glory of God in all His creation. Herman Bavink, a nineteenth-century theologian, in his work entitled *The Doctrine of God*, concluded:

*We do not see God as He is in Himself. We behold Him in His works. We name Him according to the manner in which He has revealed Himself in His works. To see God face to face is for us impossible, at least here on earth.*

*If, nevertheless, God wills that we should know Him, He must needs descend to the level of the creature. He must needs accommodate Himself to our limited, finite, human consciousness.*

St. Augustine of Hippo (354–430 A.D.) wrote the following:

*On earth a fountain is one thing, a light is another. When thou art athirst, thou seekest a fountain, and to get to the fountain thou seekest light; and if it is not day, thou lightest a lamp to get to the fountain. God Himself is both a fountain and a light: to the thirsting a fountain; to the blind a light.*

All of God’s creation reveals something of His attributes. You have already learned that man was created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26) and that human beings are to reflect God’s attributes. However, this principle holds true for all things God created. When we hear a piece of music or view a work of art, we see something of the character and personality of the artist. We discover something about him or about what he is attempting to communicate.

The same is true of God. As we develop biblical eyes, we begin to discover the glory of God in all His

creation and through His Word. Following are just a few of the many biblical examples of this principle:

## The Character of God Revealed in His Word

| SCRIPTURE                          | DESCRIPTION                             |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Isaiah 31:4                        | A lion                                  |
| Deuteronomy 32:11                  | An eagle                                |
| Isaiah 53:7                        | A lamb                                  |
| Matthew 23:37                      | A hen                                   |
| Psalms 84:11                       | The sun                                 |
| Revelation 22:16                   | A morning star                          |
| Psalms 27:1                        | Light                                   |
| Revelation 21:23                   | A torch                                 |
| Hebrews 12:29                      | Fire                                    |
| Psalms 36:9                        | A fountain                              |
| Jeremiah 2:13                      | A fountain of living waters             |
| Isaiah 55:1;<br>John 4:10; 6:35–55 | Food, bread, water, drink, and ointment |
| Deuteronomy 32:4                   | A rock                                  |
| Psalms 119:114                     | A hiding place                          |
| Proverbs 18:10                     | A tower                                 |
| Psalms 9:9                         | A refuge                                |
| Psalms 91:1; 121:5                 | A shadow                                |
| Psalms 84:11                       | A shield                                |
| John 14:6                          | The way, the truth, and the life        |
| Revelation 21:22                   | A temple                                |

A biblical worldview includes obedience to God's Word in and for all situations, as well as the ability to see His creation with biblical eyes. As you deal with the everyday affairs of life, you will know the counsel of Scripture, you will trust that counsel to be true and right, and you will faithfully obey it. As you look at God's creation, you will see how it tells of His glory. For exam-

ple, a rock might remind you of His stability; a fountain of His ability to cleanse and refresh; a lamb of His gentleness and the sacrifice of His Son; and a lion of His fearlessness and His royalty. With a biblical worldview, you will enjoy God's creation as never before, and you will experience the full blessings of God that come with obedience to His Word.



**Underline the correct word or phrase in the following sentences.**

- 1.15 One recognizes counterfeits because of his/her experience with (**counterfeits, variety, the real thing**).
- 1.16 We are able to recognize cults and false religions if we are well acquainted with true (**Islam, Christianity, cults**).
- 1.17 As we cultivate the habit of looking at the world in relation to what the (**Bible, newspaper, television**) says about it, we will develop biblical eyes.
- 1.18 God created the world for (**man's, the nations', His**) good pleasure.
- 1.19 God also created the world for (**His, man's, government's**) good.
- 1.20 Job 12:7: "But ask now the (**people, beasts, ministers**) and they shall teach thee."
- 1.21 Psalm 19:1: "The (**Bible, people, heavens**) declare the glory of God."
- 1.22 All of God's (**people, creation, nation**) reveals something of His attributes.
- 1.23 A rock may remind you of God's (**love, stability, gentleness**).
- 1.24 A lamb may remind you of Christ's (**sacrifice, anger, weakness**).



### God's plan for the world should direct our plans for daily living

Though you can begin applying a biblical worldview immediately, you must also be prepared for a long-term approach. In some matters you will begin to realize immediate benefits; in others the benefits may take time to realize. To illustrate this point, consider someone who has accumulated large amounts of debt. Such a person may have several credit card debts, an enormous mortgage, a huge car payment, and several other outstanding debts. Because this person has not used biblical principles concerning finances, he or she eventually becomes aware of serious debt problems. This person may seek professional counsel for help with such a financial crisis. The counselor may give this person a plan for eliminating debt. Just because such counsel has been provided does not mean that person will be

immediately debt-free. It took several years to accumulate the debt, and it is likely that it will take several years to eliminate it.

Christians with a biblical worldview are able to see many of the problems that face us today. We are faced with several crises including terrorism, high abortion rates, pornography, climbing crime rates, and a host of others. As biblical Christians, we want to do something about such problems, but we may not be able to correct them immediately. Such situations did not come about in one day. Over a period of years as people gradually began to drift further and further away from a godly way of thinking, we ended up with some very terrible problems. In order to make an impact in these areas, we must realize that it may take a long time. Just as a person who is attempting to eliminate excessive debt, we also must be willing to continue to work at correcting serious problems. We must have a biblical strategy.

In Matthew 28:18–20, Jesus gave His disciples what is today referred to as the Great Commission:

*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

What a huge assignment! They were to make disciples of “all the nations.” Here we had a small band of men given the task of evangelizing the entire world. Surely they must have considered the enormity of the task.

In Acts 1:4–8, a crowd of about five hundred gathered to witness Jesus’ ascension. Here again we read of Jesus telling them of an enormous assignment:

*And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him,*

saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Here Jesus tells His followers that they will be witnesses “unto the uttermost part of the earth.” In the Great Commission they were told to make disciples of all nations, and in Acts 1 they were told they would be witnesses to the uttermost part of the earth. Consider the immensity of such tasks. These people did not have the means of travel and communications available to us today. How could they be expected to fulfill such a responsibility?

The answer is twofold. First, we see the source of power needed to fulfill their assignment in both of these references. In Matthew 28:20, we read that Jesus would always be with them; and in Acts 1:8, we read that their power would come from the Holy Spirit. Next, we read that they were to use a strategy—they were to work at their task little by little, beginning within their immediate realm of influence.

Notice the words of Acts 1:8. They were to be witnesses first in Jerusalem, then in Judea and Samaria, and then to the end of the earth. In other words, they were

to begin at home and branch out from there. Beginning in Acts 2, we see that this is indeed the strategy that was used.

Notice how the strategy of Acts 1 was implemented when the Holy Spirit descended upon them. The Holy Spirit came upon the people on the day of Pentecost in the city of Jerusalem.

This is where Jesus said they would begin to be His witnesses. In verse 41 we read, “and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.” Already we see God’s strategy begin to take shape. There also happened to be people there from all over that part of the world. When these people returned home, filled with the Holy Spirit, they would be witnesses in their part of the world.

It was at this time that the gospel began to spread. As we read further in the book of Acts, we find that the apostle Paul began to evangelize Europe. Since the day of Pentecost, the gospel has continued to spread all over the world. God had a plan, a strategy, which began at home and spread to the furthest reaches of the world.

We are also to use biblical strategies. We begin with our own lives, reading and obeying the Word of God. In our relationships with others—our families, our fellow students, those with whom we work—we also apply God’s Word by the power of the Holy Spirit and with an awareness that Christ is with us wherever we go.



**A strong Christian worldview requires godly believing, thinking, seeing, and doing**



**Answer true or false.**

- I.25 \_\_\_\_\_ Christians should be prepared for a long-term approach in developing and implementing a totally biblical worldview.
- I.26 \_\_\_\_\_ Once a person discovers how to become debt-free, he/she should be able to get out of debt quickly.
- I.27 \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus told His followers they were to make disciples of all the nations.
- I.28 \_\_\_\_\_ In Acts I, about three thousand people witnessed Jesus' ascension.
- I.29 \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus told His followers that they would be witnesses to the end of the earth.
- I.30 \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus told His disciples that He would always be with them.
- I.31 \_\_\_\_\_ Acts I tells of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.
- I.32 \_\_\_\_\_ People from many parts of the world were present during Pentecost.
- I.33 \_\_\_\_\_ The Holy Spirit first descended in Samaria.
- I.34 \_\_\_\_\_ About 500 souls were added to the number of disciples on the day of Pentecost.
- I.35 \_\_\_\_\_ Acts tells of Paul beginning to evangelize Europe.
- I.36 \_\_\_\_\_ When we apply Scripture to every part of our life, we do so in the power of the Holy Spirit, and with the awareness that Christ is always with us.
-



### Personal Bible study plays a vital part in developing a Christian worldview

In order to develop the habit of applying Scripture to every situation, two approaches are necessary, both of which include reading Scripture. Remember, you will not be able to apply God's Word to your situation unless you are certain what His Word says. It is true that the Holy Spirit will direct you and prompt you from within. However, you cannot be certain of every sensation you experience, so you must know God's written Word. Once you gain such familiarity, you will be able to better determine which of your feelings are trustworthy.

First, you must develop the habit of reading Scripture every day. Your goal is to read all of God's Word so that you will know what He says about everything. If you are not in the habit of reading, this may seem like a difficult task.

Remember how difficult the task of evangelizing the entire world must have seemed to those first disciples. Remember also their need for a strategy. In order to fulfill your goal of reading the entire Bible, begin on a small

scale. For example, you might make a commitment to read just five minutes each morning when you awake and each night before going to sleep. You will be amazed how much God can reveal to you in just those few minutes. You will also find that in a short time, Scripture reading will become easier. Once you have established this habit, you will find it easy to increase your reading time.

What begins as a discipline will soon turn into a joy. Most people who enjoy running for exercise or as a sport did not always enjoy it. They may have begun out of a need for exercise or a desire to run competitively. As a discipline, they began to run just a few minutes each day. Once they developed that habit, they discovered how much they enjoyed running. They increased their running time and distance, not because they had to, but because of the joy of running. This is what will happen to you once you develop the habit of reading your Bible each day.

As you read, you will discover passages that can be applied to your personal life. You will learn how to love and serve God as well as others. You will be amazed as you find portions of Scripture that are relevant to situations you, your family, and your friends are facing. You will discover how to apply those passages to your own life and how to help others in their particular situations.

Secondly, as you are faced with day-to-day situations, you must try to find passages that will help you. For example, if you happen to have financial problems, look up passages having to do with finances. If you have conflicts with friends, search the Scriptures to find what God says about friendship or resolving conflicts. Some of these will be easier to find than others, but as you grow familiar with the Bible, you will discover that God gives us instruction for every situation.

There are some excellent tools that are designed to give help in the study of specific words as well as topics. A concordance is a great tool for this type of Bible study. A concordance is an alphabetical index of words or topics of the Bible, given in their exact context. Many Bibles include a concordance in the back. Such a concordance is not very complete, but will give you an idea of how this tool works. We suggest that you acquire a *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* or a *Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible*. Both of these are relatively inexpensive, easy to use, and contain virtually



every word used in the Bible. With the use of a concordance, you will be able to look up any word in Scripture that may apply to your particular situation. For example, if you are faced with financial problems and would like to discover what the Bible says about finances, you could look up money, giving, tithe, poor, prosperity, and several other words that relate to this topic.

Chain reference Bibles and topical Bibles are also helpful tools. A chain reference Bible is one that includes column notes directing the reader to other portions of Scripture dealing with the same subject. For example, if you are reading about a certain person in the Bible, the reference notes in the column bordering your text will tell you other places in Scripture where you may read about that person. The most common of these Bibles is the *Thompson Chain Reference Bible*, published by Zondervan Bible Publishers.

A topical Bible is just what the name implies. It is not arranged according to the order of the books of the Bible, but is organized alphabetically in cyclopedic form with familiar headings. With a topical Bible, you will be able to look up many subjects. The most familiar topical

Bible is *Nave's Topical Bible*, published by MacDonald Publishing Company.

The tools mentioned above may be easily acquired through most Christian bookstores and book catalog companies. They are tools you will want to use throughout the rest of your life.

We are very fortunate to live in a society where the Bible is readily available. Sadly, we often take that fact for granted. We encourage you to begin your daily Bible readings right away if you have not already. Remember, you cannot develop a biblical worldview without being familiar with the contents of the Bible.

Remember also that we do not read the Bible simply in order to grow intellectually. We read the Bible so that we will discover what God says about Himself, about us, and about the world around us. We also read the Bible so that we can glorify Him by obeying what He reveals to us. As you read, pray that the Holy Spirit will help you understand what God is saying. Ask God to give you the grace to be obedient to all you read.



**Answer the following questions.**

- I.37 Why do you need to be familiar with the Bible in order to apply God's Word to every situation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I.38 How often should you read the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I.39 If you are not accustomed to reading the Bible, what would be a good way to begin? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I.40 What should you do to discover how to deal with everyday situations? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I.41 What are some additional tools that can help you find what the Bible says about words or subjects? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I.42 Whose help do you need in order to understand the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Review the material in this section to prepare for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your understanding of this section. Any items you miss on this test will show you what areas you need to restudy.

# SELF TEST 1

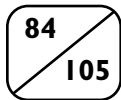
**Answer true or false for the following statements** (each answer, 3 points).

- I.01 \_\_\_\_\_ God gives us gifts to use for ourselves and to share with others.
- I.02 \_\_\_\_\_ God will bless those who curse Abram, and curse those who bless him.
- I.03 \_\_\_\_\_ This worldview course is especially designed for high school students.
- I.04 \_\_\_\_\_ According to Hebrews 11:1, biblical faith is simply mental assent.
- I.05 \_\_\_\_\_ According to James 2:19, even demons believe.
- I.06 \_\_\_\_\_ James said that, "faith without works is dead."
- I.07 \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas doubted the resurrected Jesus until he touched His wounds.
- I.08 \_\_\_\_\_ If we do not have faith, we must evoke it from within ourselves.
- I.09 \_\_\_\_\_ Faith put into action will grow.
- I.010 \_\_\_\_\_ All of God's creation speaks of His glory.
- I.011 \_\_\_\_\_ God created the world because it was the will of man.
- I.012 \_\_\_\_\_ The heavens declare the glory of God.
- I.013 \_\_\_\_\_ We can see God as He is in His creation and His Word.
- I.014 \_\_\_\_\_ St. Augustine said that God is both a fountain and a light.
- I.015 \_\_\_\_\_ Many blessings come with obedience to God's Word.
- I.016 \_\_\_\_\_ Christ commissioned His followers to make disciples of all the nations.
- I.017 \_\_\_\_\_ The Holy Spirit gives Jesus' followers the power to be witnesses.
- I.018 \_\_\_\_\_ Once a solution is discovered, a problem can be resolved overnight.
- I.019 \_\_\_\_\_ According to Acts, Peter evangelized Europe.
- I.020 \_\_\_\_\_ When establishing the habit of daily Bible reading, set a goal to read the entire Bible in at least three months.

**Underline the correct word or phrase in each of the following sentences** (each answer, 3 points).

- I.021 In 2 Corinthians, (Paul, Peter, James) tells his readers that God comforts them so they will be able to comfort others.
- I.022 The Lord told Abram He would make him a great (**man, nation, Christian**).
- I.023 "Now faith is the substance of things (**hoped, wished, believed**) for, the evidence of things not seen."
- I.024 Hope is a (**confident, wishful, ludicrous**) expectation.
- I.025 "For by grace are ye saved through (**faith, works, prayer**)."

- I.026 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the (**clouds, sea, firmament**) sheweth His handywork.”
- I.027 To see God face-to-face is (**rare, impossible, glorious**) for us.
- I.028 “Go ye therefore and teach all nations” was a command to make (**believers, thinkers, disciples**).
- I.029 “But ye shall receive (**power, knowledge, boldness**), after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.”
- I.030 The first Christians were to be witnesses in (**Bethlehem, Mt. Sinai, Jerusalem**), in Judea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth.
- I.031 The Holy Spirit descended on the day of (**Atonement, Christmas, Pentecost**).
- I.032 Your goal is to read (**all, parts, most**) of God’s Word.
- I.033 What begins as a (**sport, discipline, habit**) will soon turn into pleasure.
- I.034 A (**dictionary, concordance, topical Bible**) is an alphabetical index of words or topics of the Bible, in their exact context.
- I.035 With the use of a/an (**English, Greek, topical**) Bible, you will be able to look up many subjects listed alphabetically.



Adult Check

Score

Initial

Date