



Questions and Answers for True and Good: Living the Biblical Worldview

Question: What should I expect to learn from this course?

Answer: True and Good will help you go deep in your understanding of the Biblical worldview. We will also help you understand other worldviews (belief systems) and give you the training you need to be able to help non-Christians understand why the Biblical Worldview is both true and good.

Question: What is the focus of this course?

Answer: Training you to understand the Biblical worldview, share it with non-Christians and apply it to the cultural issues we see all around us so you can be a more effective disciple that makes disciples.

Question: How do I know if I am ready for this course?

Answer: You should consider yourself a born-again Christian (if not take the Alpha class). You should have a good understanding of the Bible (if not, take the Story of the Bible class first). You should understand the essentials of the faith (if not, take the Essentials class first). If you meet each of these three criteria and you are willing to commit the time required, you are ready for this course!

Question: How did you pick the books and the topics for the course?

Answer: Kip Thomson, the course leader, lead a Biblical worldview program in Houston for 7 years. During that time, he learned which Biblical worldview ideas are most important and which books (or other resources) are most effective in helping students understand these ideas. We picked the key concepts that we wanted to cover and then the books that are most effective. Other books, while also very informative, will be offered as part of an optional group.

Question: How much are the books and where can I buy the books?

Answer: Cost for the 8 books that are required is about \$130. You can buy at Amazon (here is a link to a list): https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/39AJ8PA1DXG0K?ref=wl_share or any other bookseller.

Question: Why not just read the books?

Answer: Being part of a group will help you better understand the concepts. We also have additional training at each session and an exercise that provides an opportunity to apply the learning. This results in a much greater understanding and retention of the key ideas.

Question: How did you come up with your time estimate of 1 book, 1 meeting and 1 hour per week?

Answer: The time estimate is one book (time will vary based on how fast you read) and one meeting (2.5 hours) per month. The weekly calculation is based on 60 to 90 minutes of video per month, plus one devotional per week at 20 minutes and plus 4 minutes each day reading or listening to Breakpoint.

Question: Why is this course taught over 10 months versus 10 weeks?

Answer: A large part of the content is reading books and we want the students to have the time to read the book carefully as well as to complete the other work for the month. This results in much less work each week and this allows people that have a busy schedule to participate in the course.

Question: What do the monthly meetings involve?

Answer: The purpose of the monthly meeting is for you to process the ideas with the leaders and like-minded Christians in order to help you fully understand. The meeting will start with a review of the last meeting. After this comes the book discussion, which is the largest chunk of time in the meeting. You will break into groups of 5 or 6 for this discussion for 45 minutes. Then we will have a lecture on a related topic with some time for discussion at your table. The next component will be a working session where, in most cases, you will apply the learning and/or tackle a real-world issue (example: Which is more aligned with the Biblical worldview—Socialism or Capitalism?). Finally, we will wrap up the meeting by reviewing the key takeaways and the work for the next month. The total time is 2.5 hours.

Question: When and where are the meetings?

Answer: They are on the first Saturday of each month from September to June from 8:30 to 11 in the Vista, which is on the second floor of the ministry building at Grace Fellowship on Mason Rd. The ministry building is the big white building at the end of the drive. You can park on either side and come in through the front door and then take the steps or the elevator to the second floor.

Question: What do I need to bring to the meetings?

Answer: There will be a one page document that you will fill out for each book to help you prepare for the group discussion. You will probably also want to bring the book and some way to take notes.

Question: What if I can't complete reading the book before the meeting?

Answer: We encourage you to still participate in the meeting so that you can learn from the other students as well as from the lecture and working session for that month.

Question: Why are the meetings on Saturday morning?

Answer: This is the most available time of the week. There may be some conflicts with kid's sporting events but you can miss your kids' events once a month—they will be ok and you will be helping them understand that you prioritize studying the Bible and its teachings.

Question: What if I can't come to meetings on Saturday morning?

Answer: You should not sign up for the class. While we expect that you might miss one or two meetings due to conflicts you can't avoid (vacations, weddings, etc.) we ask that you block the first Saturday of each month from September to June now to minimize the meetings that you miss. The meetings are critical and so you must attend these.

Question: What if I want to go deeper into a subject?

Answer: We will offer additional optional books and videos. You can go deeper every month or just for the topics that are of greatest interest to you. This will all be explained in detail at the first meeting.

Question: Can some or all of our small group take this course together?

Answer: That is a great idea. We will reserve you a table together and you can use some of your small group meetings during the month to further discuss the content and learnings.

Question: I am really interested in attending this course, but I have a hard time staying focused while reading. Is it OK to use audio books?

Answer: Listening to audio books is a great way for some people to absorb the content. Many students that use audio books also buy a hard copy for highlighting key sections and to help with the meeting discussions.

Question: Will there be childcare?

Answer: This is an option, as long as we have 5 children that are registered for childcare. Details are still being worked out. When you sign up please let us know that you are interested.

Question: Will there be food and drinks at the meetings?

Answer: We will provide a light breakfast and drinks for each meeting.

Question: Are there any other costs besides the books and the \$100 registration fee?

Answer: No.

Question: Are there scholarships available?

Answer: Yes. We do not want anyone to not participate because of cost. Please email kipthomson@gmail.com and explain your situation after you register as you can sign up and not pay upfront.

Question: What if I decide this course is not right for me?

Answer: You can drop out any time before November 1 and receive a full refund. This will allow you to investigate the course without any financial risk.

Question: What if my question is not answered here?

Answer: Email kipthomson@gmail.com and he will help you with your question.