



## LifeGroups Message Study Guide

### **"A Christian Worldview"**

April 15/16, 2006

Dr. Chris Leland

Senior Fellow for Christian Worldview Studies

Focus on the Family Institute

Helping more people, more often, say "Yes!" to God.

### **INTRODUCTION**

What is a worldview? Here are a couple definitions:

A worldview is the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world. "[It's] any ideology, philosophy, theology, movement or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding God, the world and man's relations to God and the world." (David Noebel, *Understanding the Times*)

"...a person's worldview is...the sum total of our beliefs about the world, the 'big picture' that directs our daily decisions and actions." (Charles Colson and Nancy Pearcey, *How Now Shall We Live?*)

A "biblical" worldview is based on the infallible Word of God. When you believe the Bible is entirely true, then you allow it to be the foundation of everything you say and do. Someone with a biblical worldview believes his primary reason for existence is to love and serve God.

### **CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."*  
Romans 12:2

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS\***

1. Nationwide surveys completed by the Barna Research Group determined that only 4 percent of Americans have a "biblical" worldview; results for "born-again" believers weren't much higher at 9 percent. Discuss these findings. Does it surprise you? Why does a biblical worldview matter?

2. Answer the following questions that Barna used in his survey:

- a. Do absolute moral truths exist?
- b. Is absolute truth defined by the Bible?
- c. Did Jesus Christ live a sinless life?
- d. Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today?
- e. Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned?
- f. Is Satan real?
- g. Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?
- h. Is the Bible accurate in all of its teachings?

Did you answer yes to these? What's more important than your yes to these questions is whether your life shows it. Discuss the following statement: "We are all sinners and fall short, but most of our gut reactions will reflect what we deep-down, honest-to-goodness believe to be real and true."

3. Nonbiblical worldview ideas don't just sit in a book waiting for people to examine them. We are bombarded constantly from TV, movies, newspapers, magazines, books, the Internet and academia. Talk about specific examples that you have encountered lately.

4. Identify something (anything—music, movie, politics, etc.) in the culture that is counter to a biblical worldview. Then counter this "lie" with "truth" from God's Word.

### **SAYING "YES!" TO GOD!**

Discuss the main points from Dr. Chris Leland's message this weekend. What stood out to you? What did you learn? What will you do with what you learned or were convicted about?

\*Parts adapted from an article by Del Tackett in Focus on the Family magazine.