



WEEK 5

The Mustard Seed Revolution

AN INSIDE REVOLT

Pastor Harry Kuehl

Nov 11 & 12, 2017

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How has your perspective on the world and your place in it changed from when you were a teenager?

Not everyone has had a drastic or even noticeable change from how they viewed the world as a teenager, but most have matured in their thinking since that time. This is an opening question that everyone can answer, whereas some of the other discussion questions below have more of a philosophical bent, and will cover territory new believers may not have ever thought about before.

2. What is a worldview?

Pastor Harry said a worldview is a fundamental set of beliefs through which you see the world, and also God's will for you. It's a lens to see the world and God and us. It informs our thinking. We make decisions based on how we think.

Why is it important to know what your worldview is?

Professor and author James Anderson wrote, "Most of the time, you take the atmosphere around you for granted; you look *through* it rather than *at* it, even though you know it's always there. Much the same goes for your worldview: normally you look through it rather than directly at it. It's essential, but it usually sits in the background of your thought." "What's Your Worldview?", Crossway Books, pg. 13

It's important to know your worldview because you already HAVE one. You need to know how you think because your thoughts inform your actions. Your worldview will determine your opinions on theology, ethics, politics, your relationships and finances; everything that matters.

3. How do you think your worldview influences your role as a mustard seed revolutionary?

Because your worldview determines how you see Jesus (as the LORD and savior who saves sinners and then transforms them into His likeness), it also and therefore determines your purpose as a Jesus-follower in relating to the rest of the world. Talk about that.

4. Pastor Harry told us every worldview will address three key questions. What were they? How does the Christian worldview answer them?

1. Where did I come from? (ORIGIN)

2. Where am I going? (DESTINY)

3. Why am I here? (PURPOSE)

The Christian worldview answers them this way. 1. God is the creator of all things, so I came from God. He made me. 2. God orders the steps of every person He has created; my final destiny is heaven, where He is. 3. My purpose here is to enjoy Him forever and bring Him glory.

Romans 11:36

36 For from him and through him and for him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen

5. Read aloud Romans 12:1-21.

This is the entire chapter of Romans 12. It is a masterfully written chapter on kingdom living with a Christian worldview in the current world. You could take turns reading two verses piece, using the same translation. [www.biblegateway](http://www.biblegateway.com) or the youversion app are great ways for everyone to be reading the same translation.

How does this chapter merge God's idea of kingdom-living right now with having God's view of the world? Identify which verses talk about how we think and which address what we do.

You might want to have a paper copy of the verses to look at all at once, rather than using cell phones for this part.

Verses on how we are to think: 1-9

Verses on what we are to do: 10-21.

6. Pastor Harry said when we understand everything belongs to God, we better recognize our job then is to know God, love Him, follow Him, and bring glory to Him. Why does knowing everything is God's change what our job is?

It's a matter of perspective. Pastor Harry used moving out of the Kuehl home for 25 years as an illustration. He recognized the home was special to them for all the years they lived there. But it was always God's house. Trimming down possessions is trimming down what God has allowed you to be a caretaker of. Everything you have was and is always God's. Knowing you are a steward and not the owner frees you from the stress and sometimes slavery of ownership. When you hold all that you have – including yourself – with open hands, you are able to live in freedom from worry and doubt and fear.

What does it mean to bring glory to God?

The most basic definition of bringing glory to God is to bring weight and honor to Him, not say things to Him and about Him that will make Him feel wonderful about Himself. We don't bring glory to God because He needs to be told how amazing He is. **We need to tell ourselves how amazing He is.** We need to tell ourselves – and the world – how heavy and magnificent and powerful and wonderful He is. To bring Him glory is to remind ourselves of who He is. We tend to forget.

“In the Old Testament, the word for "glory" is the Hebrew word "kabowd" which carries the idea of heaviness and weight. In the New Testament, the Greek word is "doxa" which carries the idea of opinion, judgment, estimate, splendor, brightness, etc. It is used to speak of great honor, praise, value, wonder, and splendor.”

<https://carm.org/dictionary-glory>

7. Why is the Christian worldview the only one that operates on complete truth? Do other worldviews have validity? Partial validity?

God makes it clear from the get-go that He is God, there is no other, and that we must not fashion for ourselves a god of our own making to worship instead of Him. The Ten Commandments make that clear. He's also revealed what He wants us to know about Him and us in the whole of Scripture, and that the Word is our go-to for everything we need to know and believe. If other worldviews begin with presuppositions about God that are different than this, then it's impossible for them to be valid. $1 + 1$ is always 2. It is illogical to say it is both 2 and 3 and 4 and -1.

The idea that all religions lead to God is called pluralism. The problem with this worldview is that all the major religions make central claims that are not compatible. If pluralism is right,

all the other individual religions must be wrong, because the individual religions make claims that are exclusive.

In the end, it's hard to defend the view that there are many valid religions. The conflicting teachings of the major world religions can't be harmonized without distorting those religions beyond recognition. At least some of these religious teachings must be mistaken, which means that some religions have a better handle on the truth about the ultimate reality than others. "What's Your Worldview?," pg 88

8. What will you take away from this study on the Mustard Seed Revolution?

Spend a few minutes talking about what impacted you the most about this study.

MEMORIZE Romans 12:2 – "Do not conform 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."

MEDITATE: This week, spend some time solidifying in your mind your answers to the three questions every worldview must answer. Knowing what you hold to be true and why you believe it not only gives you tools to defend your faith, but also a basis for sharing it.