

Foundation

Unit 2: What Should I Worship? | Lesson 4

Worldviews and Worship — Naturalism and New Spirituality

Essential Question

- What do other worldviews worship?

Learning Outcome

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to

- summarize what different worldviews worship.

Assessments

- Worldview maps and summary sentences





What You'll Need

Materials

- Sticky notes
- Pencils and crayons
- Student Activity sheet
- Bible
- *Pocahontas* clip "Colors of the Wind" (This video clip can be found online by typing 'Pocahontas, Colors of the Wind' in a search engine, such as Google. Students should watch the entire song.)

Files

The following resource files can be found at FoundationWorldview.com

-  sas_2-4.pdf (Student Activity sheet)
-  hc_2-4.pdf (Home Connection)
-  ppt_2-4.ppt (Class Slide Deck)
-  Lesson 4 Video

Procedures

- Open the lesson with prayer, asking the Lord to be at work in your hearts and minds today.
- Together, read the Learning Outcome. (Summarize what different worldviews worship.)
- In groups of two or three, have students brainstorm what it means to worship something. Have students share responses (worship means to bow down before something—we worship what we believe is most important).

- Remind students that during the last class we learned that we were designed to worship God.
- Give each student a sticky note. Have them write one attribute of God they learned in the previous lesson.
 - Have students place their sticky notes at the front of the room. Then read through their answers together. (Students should have remembered that God is three-in-one—He is personal; God is Creator—near His creation but not part of it; and God is spirit.)
- Remind students in our first lesson in this unit we talked about a worldview being like a map. Ask students how a worldview is like a map. (Maps help us figure out how to get from one place to another, just as a worldview helps us figure out how we are supposed to live. In that first lesson we saw that a map might give us True information and show us how things actually are or it might give us false information that doesn't show us how things really are. False maps do not change what is real. In the same way, different worldviews give us different directions for how we are to live. But not every worldview lines up with what is real.
- Explain that today students will research what different worldviews worship. Tell students that they will learn about two different worldviews today—naturalism and new spirituality.
 - Read through the directions in the Worldviews in Worship section in the Student Activity sheet. Have students complete the activity in groups of two or three.
 - Come back together and review what students learned. (Make sure that they have grasped the concepts that naturalists worship the physical [matter] and new spiritualists worship the spiritual [themselves].)
 - Note to the Teacher - It can be easy for students to confuse naturalism and new spirituality. Make sure students understand that naturalists believe only the physical world is real, while new spiritualists believe everything physical is actually something spiritual. It is also important to note that when we discuss naturalists worshiping physical things, or matter, they do not actually bow down before plants, dirt, or bodies of water. Their worship of matter is revealed through the extraordinarily high value they place on the sciences and the scientific method. Naturalists place such a high value on these processes because such processes help us discover more about the physical world.
- As we begin researching what other worldviews believe, it is crucial that we develop an attitude of humility. Scoffing at the beliefs of others does not reflect God. For students who are not sure they believe Christianity is True, this is an opportunity for them to see how Christianity explains big life questions in a way that no other worldview does. For students who have already turned from their sin and trusted in Jesus, this will help them understand why they believe what they believe. It will also prepare them to share the Truth with people from different worldviews. Each of these objectives can only be accomplished with an attitude of humility.
- Read through Romans 1:25 together. Remind students that *suppress* means to hold back

or hide.

- Ask students how this connects with what other worldviews worship. (As naturalists worship matter and new spiritualists worship themselves, they suppress the Truth that we are designed to worship God.)
- Have students turn to the *Worldview Watch* section in their Student Activity sheets. Show students the “Colors of the Wind” scene in *Pocahontas*. Tell students that in this song Pocahontas sings about what her worldview worships. Tell them to pay careful attention to what she says so that they can figure out what worldview is present. Have them write their answers in their Student Activity sheets, and then discuss.
 - The worldview present is new spirituality. This is evident when Pocahontas sings, “For I know every rock and tree and creature has a life, has a spirit, has a name,” and again when she sings, “The rainstorm and the river are my brothers. The heron and the otter are my friend. And we are all connected to each other in a circle, in a hoop that never ends.”
- Read through the Learning Outcome once again. Ask students if they have completed this Learning Outcome. Explain that now is the time for them to show that they met the goal. Have students turn to the Know It and Show It section in their Student Activity sheets.
 - Have students complete the activity and turn in the assignment to be graded.
- If this class is being taught in a school or church setting, hand out the Home Connection sheet. This is an activity that will support what was covered in this lesson.
- Close the lesson in prayer, asking God to show those who worship matter and themselves that they were designed to worship God.


Student Activity Sheets

Foundation
 Unit 2: What Should I Worship? (Lesson 4)

Learning Outcomes
 By the end of today, you should be able to
 1. summarize what different worldviews worship.

Worldview Worship
 Read the paragraph about each worldview. On the worldview map, draw pictures in the center circle to represent what that worldview worships. Then write a summary sentence explaining your picture.


Reminder: If you use the naturalist map as your worldview map, you believe that the only things that are real are physical things. Physical things are what you can see, hear, taste, smell, and touch. Scientific physical things matter. You believe that anything that is not made of matter, like God, cannot be real. Show only matter is real; matter is what is most important.



Summary Sentence

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New Spirituality: If you use the new spiritualist map as your worldview map, you believe that spiritual things are what is real. Spiritual things are not physical! You believe that everything we can see, hear, taste, smell, and touch is not real but just shows us something spiritual. You believe that everything spiritual is made up of God! That means that plants, animals, humans, and everything else in the universe is a part of God. Because everything is God, you are God, which means you must improve! Because everything else is also a part of God, you believe it is important to become one with everything. You may try to become one with everything through meditation, yoga, or caring for the earth.



Summary Sentence

Worldview Watch
 We are going to watch a media clip that shows what someone worships. After we watch this clip, write down what you believe you see in this clip, and then explain why you believe that worldview is pluralist.

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Worldview:

Reason:

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Know It and Show It
 Fill in the maps with a summary sentence to explain what each worldview worships.

Naturalist **Summary Sentence**

New Spirituality **Summary Sentence**

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