What makes you who you are? Throughout David Noebel’s book “*Thinking Like a Christian*” the reader is challenged to ask this question. Which that question could mean many of things along the lines of what kind of history makes you who you are? Politics, ethics, biology, and due to this much more different questions could be asked through out this book. But also through out this book Christianity is taught and how they think through out their religion. First, this book explains each of the worldly views that people either have questions about or what we do day to day. Which is theology, philosophy, biology, psychology, ethics, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history.

People with not the same mind frame as a Christian would look at these worldly views would have unanswered questions and would come up with worldly answers. Christians would look at these worldly views and would know that each of these disciplines is a part of God’s creative and redemptive order. John H. Newman said “ All branches of knowledge are connected together, because the subject matter of knowledge is intimately united in itself, as being the acts and the work of the creator.”. Which shows how god made the world, made man’s place in it, and can be justified. My thoughts on the matter as a Christian is a excellent way to explain what we think of every trial from God that he has a plan to teach everyone his ways and doesn’t come up with our on answers. Proverbs 3:5-6 says “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in you all you do, and he will show you the path to take.”*

This book shown me things about Christians, answered some questions I’ve had, and showed me many ways I could spread the word of god. In chapter two named Theology which talked about Christ’s teachings and actions in the Bible provided the key of special revelation and Christian theism. The one thing that stood out to me in this book was special revelation and general revelation. Special revelation is when God reveals himself to mankind through the Bible and in the person of Jesus Christ. So God’s actions and teachings through out the Bible is making himself known. When God shows us his actions/teachings in the Bible its for us the have divine inspiration. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says “*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives, It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.”*

General revelation is God reveals himself to mankind through the physical universe and the moral order. William Paley makes a argument using a watch and the watchmaker which means by the watch being here and coming into existence someone has to take the time to make these complex parts to fit together, have a purpose, and that it had not come together by chance. So our world, universe, and even uses his people with every complex part has a purpose in this world and that was made by a grand designer; God. Romans 1:20 says, “*Forever since the world was created people have seen the earth and the sky though everything God made they can clearly see invisible qualities His eternal power and divine nature so they have no excuse for not knowing God.”* God has revealed himself through a created world to leave out his destiny for it.

Some questions I’ve had over the years of being a Christian is, how can you tell a person actually has a mental illness or going through personal problems/sin. In chapter 5 Psychology under mental illness it explains it all. There is a large portion of our society that claims to have mental illness. Mental illness contains of having brain damage, tumors, gene inheritance, glandular or chemical disorders. More and more people today going through sin or unsolved personal problems that causes stressful time start looking into some kind of medication to relax them. But what they are really going through is the fallen human nature away from God. Lawrence Crabb, Jr says, “An appreciation of the reality of sin is a critically necessary beginning point for understanding of the Christian views of anything. A psychology worthy of the adjective Christian must not set the problem of sin in parallel line with other problems or redefine it into a neurosis or psychological kink.”

When spreading the word of the gospel its sometimes it is hard to approach somebody about their sin and guilt. While reading through chapter five Psychology and paragraph about “the realistic approach to sin and guilt” it really opened my eyes to really connect with people with their spiritual walk with God. Us as Christians talking to a troubled person about sin or personal problems we give them solutions. The particular reason of the circumstances is that us as human we can not go off our on understanding because of the sin nature that is inside of us (Romans 1:20). When seeing your sin or personal problems they should start confession of their sin, forgiveness of sin through christ, and reconciliation with God. Along the lines of James 5:15 it says, “*Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The intense prayer of the righteous is very powerful*.”

This book has impacted my life through showing me each and every worldly view we have to go through. It has helped me open my eyes as a Christian to follow God through everything this world has to throw at me during college, life, and to the people around me. When I go out and share the gospel, I can give people the right information to follow God in the right path. It was a great blessing to be able to read this book and make me a stronger Christian in our Society.

Sources :

“Thinking like a Christian, understanding and living a biblical worldview” By David Nobele