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Schaffer Scholarship

### My New World View

For the past eleven weeks, I was put to the task of diving head-first into Christianity. Throughout my life, I have never been too involved in religion. However, I have believed in God my entire life. The Schaffer Scholarship has given me the opportunity to learn more about my religion. It has given me more than enough knowledge to stay on the right path that Jesus has intended for me, even if someone says otherwise I have enough knowledge on the subject to prove them wrong. Though I have learned a lot, I would love to further my knowledge in the upcoming semesters.

Through the eleven weeks I learned a lot but the first week was the most informative as well my favorite. The main concept of this week was the ten worldview categories. Each of the ten categories have their own description to explain what they mean. One of the important things discussed during this week is the role that Jesus plays in our life. He is everything, our foundation, the head of the church, son of God, and should be everyone's priority. This was something I knew but never really thought deeply about. After doing the first week of my study, I was shown that every worldview is supported within the Bible. Each of the ten disciplines are made into a reality when reading scripture. This particular week also taught me more about revolving my life around Jesus, as he is the strongest foundation. The following weeks break down each of the ten world views into more detail. For example, the second week of my study was focused on theology. Theology is the study of religion. It explains how God shows himself

in many different ways. God often communicates to His children through the natural world. This is known as general revelation. The second week also covered God's characteristics. Our God is the ruler, He is righteous, and He is relational. This means that He is a personable God. He is also the all-righteous example that we should try our best to follow. The following week, I took a dive into the philosophy world-view. During this week, I learned that staying on the path Jesus had intended for me is more important than I originally thought. If someone were to stray, evil will take hold of them. Making it vital to stay on track. More importantly, this week talked about knowing God is real and being able to prove it. With this being said, the Bible is the ultimate proof that Jesus is real. The first three weeks were definitely very interesting and immediately started taking a toll on how I think about life.

Week four, five, and six focus on the biological, psychological, and ethical world-view. Throughout week four, it contrasts evolution and the actual creation of humans. It discards evolution, and gives yet another reason to believe in The Lord. What is created must have a creator, that creator being God. This combats the scientific view that "disproves" His existence. If anything, it gave multiple examples of renowned scientists that fully believe in God and base their work off of their faith. After spending week five studying the psychological Christian world-view, I realized that if you don't find your self-worth in Jesus then you will not find it anywhere. Just like Kathy, people will do whatever it takes to be liked by their peers and to feel good about themselves. My takeaway from this was that even if following Jesus is not what is "socially accepted", it is what must be done in order to lead a life in God. During the 'Ethics' week, I found it very interesting that it went into detail about man distorting the true meaning of the Bible. Many people will claim to be religious yet have been reading the Bible incorrectly. It also asked the question, 'Should we help other people even if they are non-believers?'. To this I

would answer: yes, I would want to do anything to prevent another human from experiencing eternal hell.

The final weeks zoned in on sociology, law, politics, economics, and finally, history. Week seven discussed how we were made to be sociable. This is proved through the fact that when God created the world, He created two beings. When He created us, He also gave us the ability to have families and relationships with other people, making us social creatures. This specific week put an emphasis on societal problems in our world. People in our society do not care about what is right or wrong, they care about pleasure. This leads us to next week's topic; law. This week discussed how we should not rely on men's thoughts to create the law. We should follow the laws that God Himself has made for us. Following these laws will lead us down a path of righteousness. In the politics week study, it goes into depth about what the function of our government should be. According to the study, the government should be the organization that enforces God's law. Originally, America was founded on Christian beliefs. The founding fathers fully intended on basing America around God. However, recently, the government has been quite the opposite. They are straying from their role in God's plan. The next worldview is economics. Throughout this week, the most important takeaway was that it is our God given right to work. With this being said, it is shameful to not be at work if you are still fully capable of it. Nothing should be handed to you for free. Since God wants me to work, it gives me more motivation to go work. There is no value in something if you have not worked for it. The final world view is history. In the final week it talks about knowing our faith is real. The Bible is a historical text with eye-witness accounts, proving our faith is not based on a lie. This whole week was focused on forming a historical basis for the entire Christian faith. After reading about these different

categories of worldviews, not only have I learned so much about my religion, but I have also been given so much motivation to get closer to God.

Over the past few weeks I have learned so much, but I think the important thing is that I am able to teach other people. I now have the ability to further my religious education and help people in need. I have the opportunity to persuade people who don't believe and this may be the thing that saves them from an eternal life in hell.