

At the beginning of this study, I was very content with my relationship with God. I went into this thinking it would be a good refresher on the little things that play a role in being a Christian but are not always on the forefront when speaking about God. However, this study ended up teaching me much more than I had thought it would. My leader even decided to use the story of the lost royal boy to teach a lesson in Young Life one week. By the end, I took many pieces of information from each week, but there were two topics that stuck out to me and made me practically shift my mindset completely. The topics I learned the most from were biology and sociology.

The first lesson that stood out to me was biology. My whole life, no matter how hard I would try, little thoughts of doubt would creep in and I would be longing for an explanation on every little thing. The topic of creation or evolution is, in my opinion, the most controversial subject in modern society. This is one of the reasons why week four stood out to me. The key points that were highlighted did such an amazing job to prove that evolution is highly impossible. There are several quotes throughout this lesson that really reinstalled the idea that there is no other explanation as to why we are here, other than God creating us. One of those quotes that caught my attention was when comparing science and evolution, the quote was that science says, "Life comes from life" and evolution says, "Life comes from non-life" As soon as I had read the lines above, I wrote out to the side, "dirt will not turn into a bird or a rock become a fish". I was thinking of the most random non-living things that would supposedly turn into life, and no matter what immanent object you choose there is no way that object can become life without an external source acting on it. That statement, if we reflect back to day two goes hand and hand with Issac Newton's first law of motion, "...an object at rest will stay at rest, unless acted on by an external force". Worded a little differently, that can be said about creation, a non-living object will stay non-living unless acted on by an external force. Overall, this lesson stood out to me, due to the fact that at one point I was planning on majoring in biology and it seemed that no matter where I went there would always be someone to tell me that religion and science do not mix. I now know that if I were to be put in a situation similar to that now, I wholeheartedly know the facts and would be able to respond accordingly. If a building has a builder, a painting has a painter, then why wouldn't creation have a creator.

The next week that drew my attention was sociology, people are affected by others around them on a daily basis. The past few years there has been a movement to normalize things that shouldn't be normalized. Whether that be not waiting till marriage, lying, drugs and alcohol, or even as far as turning your back completely on God. Many people have the attitude of how bad can it really be. As my leader and I talked over this topic she mentioned 2 Peter 2:21, "It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.". Which then led to us focusing on "half Christians", which sadly is not rare to come by in today's society. Way to many people will do whatever they please on the weekdays then go to church and assume all is forgiven and that following God on Sundays is good enough. One thing that this study has taught me is that there is no such thing as good enough, there is always something more that we can do. This idea incorporates ethics, sociology, and law, these "half Christian" know what they are doing is wrong, they know it's selfish and can cause harm to others, and therefore goes against God's laws. On the note of sociology, I learned that we as individuals have the power to help others change. God created us to be social beings, we crave

relationships whether that is a friend or a significant other. Not only do we have the ability to push others to change but church is a big factor. On day 5 the book went over how when church attendance was up crime rates went down and vice versa. This example taught me that many people use church as the moral compass. Sociology is a huge factor in the Christian worldview due to the fact that we as humans can affect each other so much.

At the end of this study I learned to never be content in my relationship with God, there is always something more to do to build a stronger and healthier relationship with him. I had a mental block for a while trying to move forward in my faith, I have always had the attitude to give my all and be the best I can be in other aspects of my life. Whereas now I know to give God not the same but even more attention as the other things that I care about. We are all unique in our own way and we have the Lord to thank for that, which is why I see why it is so important to share his word with anybody and everybody. Especially if that somebody has not accepted God into their life yet. Whether you are old or young this study would be great to participate in. The workbook has impacted my life for the better and I was able to become informed on topics I never had thought about before. I may have only covered two of the weeks that impacted me the most but in reality to understand the Christian worldview it is important to know all ten of the subjects. There is not one topic that is more important than the others, they all work together in harmony to form what it means to live as a Christian.