

Jordan Barfield

Schaeffer Scholarship Essay

July 2021

Thinking Like A Christian

In this workbook called Thinking Like A Christian I truly learned a lot. This workbook starts off with a very true statement quoting "This generation is faced with the greatest and most serious cultural crisis in history. And the crisis is a direct result of a radical change in the way people view what is true." This study touches on many lessons and many reasons why people do not devote themselves fully to Christianity. I also learned some very important components of being a good Christian. Some of my favorite topics in the workbook were psychology, ethics and history.

Every person constructs their thoughts through a worldview. A worldview is what we believe about the creation of life, purpose, and life after death. A worldview can be responsible for the way people think and act. The ten world views that are touched on throughout the workbook are theology, philosophy, biology, psychology, ethics, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history.

Since the beginning of time people have always tried to make sense of the world. This is where theology comes into play. People ask questions like is there a God? And if so, where is he? Though if you look anywhere it's proof of God's existence which outweighs any argument of

atheism or pantheism. God is the father and creator of all life. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the Earth." This gives all life meaning. Showing how powerful and wise God is.

Philosophy can be seen as the way you understand yourself and how you fit into the world.

Philosophy is important because it is the way you think and what you feel is right. Which means the way you think is the way you'll eventually behave.

The factor of biology is important in this workbook too. Biology is focused on whether humans evolved or did God create us. It's important to know that God created us because Psalms 8:5 states "You made him (mankind) little less than God , and crowned him with glory and honor."

Which means if you believe in evolution it's contradicting what the bible says about mankind and how important we are to God.

Learning about Psychology in this workbook was really significant because you learn as humans we are naturally sinful. As babies we are born sinful. This is why we need a savior because even if we tried our best to live a perfect life we would still fall short.

Ethics are what you believe is right and wrong. We learn at a young age by our parents or people we respect what's right and what's wrong. Around the world and in different cultures the idea of right and wrong varies. With that being said God's morals never changes. God always hates evil and loves good. His nature is absolute and unchanging. This is important because it's proven that

through time people's opinions change. So it's key that we as people stick to something that will be grounded and will never change which is God's love.

Sociology is the way that we as people interact. In the bible there are 3 ways that people live together which is family , church , and state. Christian sociology is based off of the concept that individuals as well as social order are important to God, mankind and society.

If you go anywhere you will see a representation of laws. Laws are created to keep order and prevent chaos. Biblically God's laws are made to match his character. God will use it to judge the world (Acts 17:31) in a judgment based on natural and revealed law (Romans 2:12).

Politics are very controversial today. Politics are basically siding for what you believe in. On topics like democrat or republican , pro life or pro choice , the right to or to not bear arms and etc. Often people just like to take what they want out of the bible and use it how they see fit. Instead of using it to how God really meant for us to take it. The only way to see what is truly right in politics is to read the bible and take in everything God's words are saying and not just what you want to hear.

Economics comes from the Greek language which means "house" and "law" also meaning "law of the household." A key point in biblical economics is free exchange. Which is producing goods and selling as one chooses. And using this opportunity to glorify God.

History is probably one of the most important things we can learn as people. Throughout time you can see that we have come far with technology and things like that. But some things never changed. Like emotions , ideas , and the need to find a purposeful life. We can always learn from the past and our ancestors to learn from their mistakes so hopefully we do not make the same ones.

God is kind, patient, and so graceful. He gives each person access to him on a personal level. Giving all of us an opportunity to be with him forever. There is no love greater. The amazing part is he doesn't force his love on us, he gives us free will to make any choice we want. Even after when we don't deserve his love or mercy he still forgives us. After finishing Thinking Like A Christian I can truly say I learned a lot. I learned many things I never knew or even thought about. To think like a Christian in today's world can be hard. Especially for young christians , like myself. There are so many distractions today. That take your eyes off of what really matters and that's God. You have to be disciplined to follow Jesus putting him before yourself. Just like he did when he died on the cross for my sins although I do not deserve his grace. So to continue to learn more about God after this workbook. I will dig deep into the words of the bible and continue to choose God as he still chooses me.