Some Reminders from last week:

Books that we will navigate through (not required reading)
- *Worldviews in Conflict: Choosing Christianity in a World of Ideas* by Ronald Nash
- *The Battle for Truth: Defending the Christian Worldview in the Marketplace of Ideas* by David Noebel
- *Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from its Cultural Captivity* by Nancy Pearcey
- *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog* by James Sire

The reality of a worldview and how many people don’t hold a biblical worldview
- Arizona Christian University American Worldview Inventory 2020 with George Barna
  - 21% of people who attending evangelical protestant churches hold a biblical worldview. Which means 79% of people who attend evangelical protestant churches don’t hold to a biblical worldview.
  - “The largest segment of people who describe themselves as Christian is Notional Christians- Those who self-identify as Christian and who do not embrace eternal salvation through a personal confession of sin and accepting Jesus Christ as their personal savior.”¹ The problem is that as they self-identify as Christians they distort the cultural perception of who a Christian is and what being a Christian means. (consider Joe Biden’s inaugural speech this afternoon, St Augustine, a saint in “my church”- meanwhile retired arch-bishop of Pennsylvania contends that Joe Biden should be barred from taking communion.)
  - Age plays a factor in whether or not a person holds a biblical worldview. 9% of Americans 50 and older hold a biblical worldview, 5% in their 30s and 40s, and only 2 % between the ages of 18-29.

A few promises
- I will always try to explain any term that seems to be overly philosophical or technical.
- I will always try to keep the conversation tied to our everyday lives. I have no desire for this to become a theoretical class on subjects that don’t impact our lives as believers.

Acts 17: 16-34
- The gospel shared through the preconceptions of the audience
- Paul uses the poetry and the artifacts of the audience at hand

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¹ In the video I reference a statistic in the same paragraph but a later sentence. The missing sentence is as follows “Notional Christians constitute 54% of U.S. adults who describe themselves as Christian. Very few Notional Christians –only one-tenth of one percent- have a biblical worldview.” (American Worldview Inventory 2020- Initial Report)
Starting off with the foundation of a definition

- What is a worldview
  - Barna: “A worldview is the intellectual, moral, emotional, and spiritual filter through which a person sees and responds to the world. Because your worldview affects every decision you make, worldview also affects every area of influence in American culture such as education, the family, religion and faith, government and politics, arts and entertainment, news and information media, and business and commerce.”
  - Noebel: As believers, we need to consider how our commitment to Christ and his Word affects not only our political and ethical convictions, but also the way we think about science, theology, philosophy, economics, and host of other areas of contemporary thought. This collection of convictions is what we call a worldview.” (Noebel, pg. vii)
  - Nash: “In its simplest terms, a worldview is a set of beliefs about the most important issues of life.” (Nash, pg. 16)
  - Sire: “A Worldview is a commitment, a fundamental orientation of the heart, that can be expressed as a story or in a set of presuppositions (assumptions which may be true, partially true, or entirely false) that we hold (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) about the basic constitution of reality, and that provides the foundation on which we live and move and have our being.”

- Worldview exercise: President Joe Biden’s presidential inaugural address
- Week 1 Homework: Dallas Willard: Being a Christian in a Pluralistic Society
  - https://dwillard.org/articles/being-a-christian-in-a-pluralistic-society