

## **The Gospel of Jesus Christ Lesson 2: The Big Story.**

### **Key Points**

- Every person has a worldview and every worldview uses a version of the frame “Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration.
- The Bible has a worldview that is revealed through “The Big Story” of scripture.
- The Big Story has implications for the lives of Christians.

### **Background Anchor Scriptures. (See Long version for**

- **Exodus 33:4-6 : 12-16**
- **Genesis 2-3 Exodus 40 1 Kings 6 John 1 Mark 15 Acts 2 (Eden Tabernacle Temple Jesus Church)**
- **Hebrews 1:1-3**

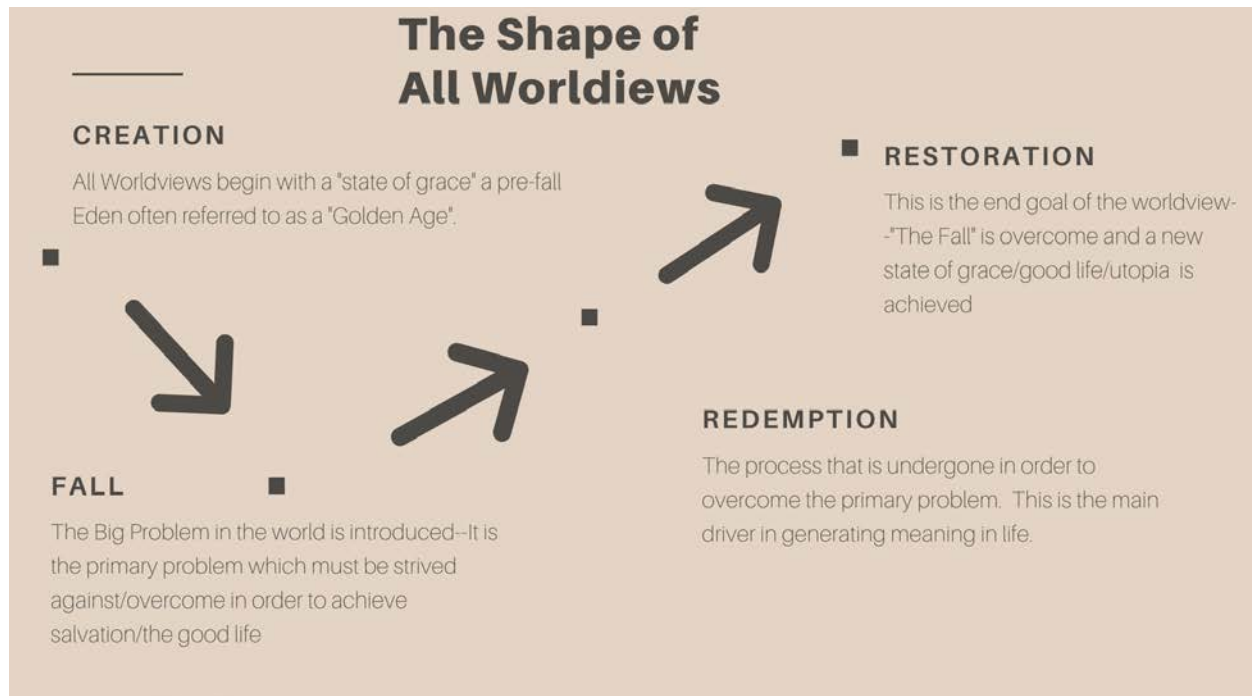
### **Instructor Notes**

The primary focus of this lesson is connecting “The Gospel” with what God has done in history revealed by the Bible. We would like to get our classes thinking about how to connect “The Gospel” with the entirety of scripture—in particular how Jesus Christ resolves the primary problem faced by humanity. Therefore—we would like for each class to discuss what people outside the church say the biggest problem the world faces and its solutions and contrast this with what the Bible says the biggest problem is and its solutions.

This lesson will help us clarify in our minds the core aspects of the Christian story and help us articulate these core convictions to our friends, enemies, and neighbors in a winsome and loving way. For your reference we have attached an adapted transcript of the sermon “The Bible in One Sermon”. Where Zach McCartney attempted to tell this story in about thirty minutes.

### **Intro: The Shape of All Worldviews**

All stories and all worldviews follow the same arc. They begin with a period of peace and tranquility. A golden age/Eden/state of grace. Then, a problem enters into the world throwing the good creation into chaos. The main plot of the story or the driver of meaning in the worldview is the fight against this “big problem”. The end of the story or the hope of the worldview comes when the main problem has been overcome and a new Eden has been achieved.

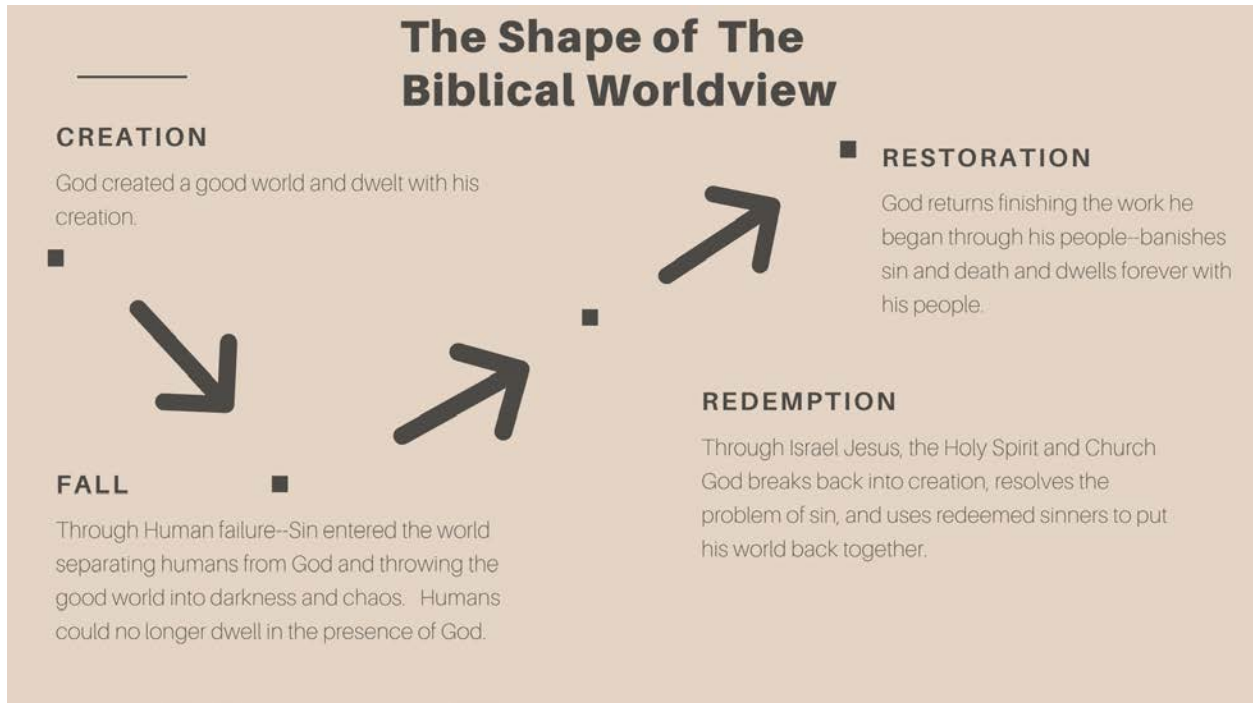


For example: *For 100 years the British colonies have lived in a state of peaceful self governance. (Eden) This peaceful self-governance has been destroyed by the Tyranny of King George III and the parliament across the sea that knows nothing about their colonial subjects or how best to govern them (Fall). Because of this—the colonies must rise up in revolt against the tyranny of the British crown (Redemption). If successful they can embark on an experiment of self governance assuring peace and prosperity unknown in all the world of tyrannical irrational monarchy (Restoration).*

While the content varies greatly every novel, religion, advertisement and political ideology follows this basic patten. It is absolutely essential that we Christians grasp the Christian story and center that story at the core of our being. This will allow us to identify idolatrous narratives of politicians, businesses, and competing religions and ensure that we are ordering our lives around the gospel story and not some counterfeit of the enemy.

### Discussion Question

- How would this framework work in advertisements?
- How would this framework work for politicians?
- How would this framework work in another religion?



### The Biblical Worldview

The Bible tells a story using this frame—or better said—all other stories mimic the Biblical framework of story. The chart above and writeup below is our summary of the biblical story—for the remainder of class we would like for your class to put the story together via class discussion—using our writeup as a framing guide.

Our writeup: God created a good world and dwelt with his creation in Eden. Through human failure sin entered the world separating humans from God and throwing the good world into darkness and chaos. Through Israel, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Church God breaks back into creation, resolves the problem of sin, and uses redeemed sinners to put his world back together. Ultimately God will return to finish the work he began through his people—banishing sin and death and forever dwelling with his people.