



‘What you think or believe and how you behave are important, but underneath that are a set of assumptions about life, the world, yourself, and your family. The beliefs and behaviors which characterize you as an individual make sense only stemming from the worldview you hold. Only when you get down to those assumptions can you really understand what’s going on. Your worldview is like a pair of glasses. It’s what you look through, not what you look at. Therefore, many people’s worldviews go unexamined.’

-N.T. Wright

As we begin our True North series, we must begin by figuring out where we are when it comes to our worldview*. Our worldview is how we understand the world, God, humanity and ourselves. It’s how we answer the big questions in life.

One of the most obvious clashes of worldview in scripture occurs in the interchange between Pilate and Jesus in the book of John. Jesus holds an eternal, heavenly worldview, but Pilate is looking at the world through the lens of his position of high authority within the Roman Empire.

Read: John 18:28-40 and John 19:1-16

Which statements reveal the worldview of Jesus?

Which statements reveal Pilate’s worldview?

In which ways can you see how their differing worldviews clash?

Are there any ways in which their worldviews align?

What about the other Jews in the passage? Do they align more closely with Pilate or with Jesus?

Does your own worldview tend to align more with that of Jesus or with that of Pilate? How do you know?

Dig Deeper:

Think through your own thoughts and experiences around how you see the world:

- What has shaped how you see the world around you?
- What has shaped how you see God?
- What has shaped how you see your role and responsibilities in the kingdom of God?
- What behaviors can you identify that have stemmed from these?
- Do those things align with Jesus? With scripture?

It could be incredibly helpful to talk through and process these questions with a small group, a trusted friend, or a family member.

Prayer:

Father, thank you for Jesus. Thank you that He shows us how to look at the world and everything in it, including ourselves, with a heavenly perspective. Jesus, thank you for embodying truth among us. Holy Spirit, make clear to us where our worldview aligns with your perspective and where it doesn't. Give us the strength to be truthful in what we need to change in our lives, and give us the courage to align ourselves with your views. Amen.

*If you want a resource that gives you a quick overview of the most common worldviews held in our world today, go to www.christtherock.org/truenorth to download our "Overview of Worldviews".