

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Worldview Shaping in 7th Grade Literature

Literature is a window on the world. Good literature raises big life questions. As we examine the six biblical worldview themes to answer the questions below (and many more), we will find that a biblical worldview is crucial to a proper understanding of the issues raised by the literature that students read. The answers to these questions not only make a student more confident in his Bible, but they also enable him to be more discerning about the world around him.

How do I know if love is real?

God is love, and He made humans to love Him and all the people He has made. But fallen people love the wrong things, love the right things too little, or love even good things too much.

- Do I love God and others more than self?
- How do I love the right people or things in their proper place?
- What is my motivation for showing love?

Why do we need each other?

God created people to live in communities: families, churches, and nations. But sinful people work to disrupt and break apart communities or even harness them to evil ends.

- Am I willing to sacrifice myself for others?
- How can I help heal a broken community?
- How do I deal with loneliness?

What makes people change?

Even in a perfect world, God created humans to learn and grow. In a fallen world, people know of the need to change, but too often people simply attempt to be moral; God is left out.

- How do I know when change is superficial?
- How do I make deep, lasting changes for the better?



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How do I know what is the right thing to do?

Righteousness is conformity to a standard. When people refuse to conform to the character of God or to the order He built into creation, injustice happens.

- Do I try to press beyond God's good creation order?
- What am I willing to do to press for justice?
- What is our only hope for ultimate justice?

Why should I stick with something hard?

God's command to exercise dominion over creation requires perseverance. In a fallen world, Christians need perseverance in the face of physical and emotional trials as well as in the face of opposition and persecution.

- How could I benefit others by sticking with something that is hard?
- What would give me the strength to persevere through prosecution?

What spurs me to action?

God created us with a purpose: to glorify and enjoy God by ruling well over the world He made. Sadly, many people have narrowed their source of satisfaction from delighting in God and finding joy in the happiness of others to seeking happiness in their own experiences.

- What gives meaning to life?
- Am I ever motivated by love toward others?

