

re:View Worldview Study **Topic 02 – Ultimate Questions**

(To teach this session you will need: “02_Sign_UltimateQuestions” DVD, television or projector, DVD player, student handouts, this leader’s guide, and some popular culture examples for the “Illustration Idea.” You may also wish to use “review_02_VerseSlides.ppt” for the verses.)

*NOTE: If you’re teaching the abbreviated 7-session series, this is Session 2.
If you’re teaching the extended 13-session series, this is Session 2.*

Suggested Session Layout

Watch “Sign” Film [4:15]
Film Discussion [5:00]
Watch “Ultimate Questions” Teaching Segment [8:04]
Teaching Segment Discussion [5:00]
Illustration Idea [10:00]
Recap and Challenge [5:00]
Total session time [35-40 mins.]

Watch “Sign” Film [4:15]

Brief Synopsis: Taking tests – no one enjoys it. But what if you didn't know what the test was about or why you were there? What if you couldn't leave or find a way out? Sitting in a high school gymnasium with endless rows of desks, Nick discovers that there are some questions that everyone has to answer. *(For further insight, be sure to watch the directorial comments before viewing the film with your students. You may also choose to show the directorial comments as part of the discussion time.)*

Film Discussion [5:00]

Where did the student try to go? Did he succeed? Why or why not?

He tried to leave. He didn’t succeed. He hadn’t finished the test, etc.

What were the four questions on the test?

1. *How did you get here?*
2. *Why are you here?*
3. *How do you choose?*
4. *What happens next?*

Why didn't the other students help him answer the questions?

He had to answer them for himself.

Why was it important that he come back and sign his name on the test booklet?

He had to take ownership of his answers.

What are some of the big questions we ask in life?

You will get various answers, all of which will fall into the above four questions.

(Feel free to use optional handout “reView_02_SignFilmQuestions.pdf”)

Watch “Ultimate Questions” Teaching Segment [8:04]

Synopsis and Outline: Everybody answers the ultimate questions from the test of life. While the questions do not always occupy our minds, they are inescapable. How you answer them determines the foundation for your life.

- I. The Test of Life
- II. What Makes the Ultimate Questions “Ultimate?”
- III. A Closer Look at the Ultimate Questions
 - a. Origins: From Where Did Everything Come?
 - b. Meaning: Why Are We Here?
 - c. Morality: How Are We To Live?
 - d. Destiny: What Happens After We Die?
- IV. Summary

(For your reference, a teaching outline of Dr. Brown’s teaching segment can be found under “reView_02_TeachingSegmentOutline.pdf.”)

Teaching Segment Discussion [5:00]

What are the four ultimate questions?

Origins: Where did everything come from?

Meaning: What is the meaning of life?

Morality: What is right and wrong, and who determines it?

Destiny: What happens when we die?

What makes these questions “ultimate?”

They are ultimate because everybody must answer them. In fact, not to answer them is to answer them. They are ultimate also because they affect the way a person lives as well as how a nation governs. They are inescapable.

Why is it wrong to think it doesn’t matter what the answers to the ultimate questions are?

Because it does matter! It matters ultimately if there is a God who created everything. It matters ultimately whether or not we go to heaven or hell when we die. If someone says, “I don’t care what happens when I die,” then they are being deceived. They will care – if not later in life, then when they die.

Illustration Idea [10:00]

Take a moment and model how to discern popular culture.

1. Show some examples of how pop culture actually answers each of the four ultimate questions. Either use examples from your student’s pre-study survey, something from your own experience, or browse the reviews on the re-films.com website.
2. Ask “How does this song/media clip answer the question of origins? Question of meaning, etc.?” You can use one song for more than one ultimate question or have a song for each question depending on your time and student engagement.

Challenge [5:00]

Have your students open their Bibles to Ecclesiastes 3:11. Read that God has “set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.” Explain that this passage highlights the eternal perspective that is in the heart of every person. Ask them to think about how this makes us different from the animals. We live in a world that is finite and yet we have eternity in our hearts. This drives us to find meaning, and a connection with ultimate truth.

Challenge (cont.)

Have them turn to Romans 2:15. Read and then point out that God has written the law on human hearts. Note this is in every heart, not just Christians or believers in God. This moral law is what drives us to do the right thing, have a conscience, or feel guilt. The reality of this law in our hearts drives us to know that a Lawgiver exists.

Assign your students the challenge of finding examples of how popular culture (movies, TV shows, music, advertisements, etc.) answers the four ultimate questions. Each student should be required to find one example for each of the questions, totalling four examples. Students should bring the actual example or a short description of it and be ready to share.

You may use “reView_02_Handout_PopularCultureExamples.pdf” that asks students to find examples of how pop culture answers to the four ultimate questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Because students may not do their homework, you will need to make sure that four or five leaders (students or adults) will do the assignment and bring it with them next week. You might want to contact these people on Thursday or Friday so that you can come prepared with video clips or song clips to play as illustrations. If you are teaching the 7-session study, you will briefly recap this before beginning Topic 03 next week. If you are teaching the 13-session study, the next two weeks will be Extended Sessions.

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