

GROUND-BREAKING
RESEARCH THAT REDEFINES
WHAT IT MEANS TO...

Includes 7
QUESTIONS
That Will Change
Your Life!

Think Like JESUS

MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION
EVERY TIME



GEORGE BARNNA

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

THINK LIKE JESUS

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One

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

The Benefits of Thinking Like Jesus

Physical Benefits	Attitudinal/ Emotional Benefits	Decision- making Benefits	Relational Benefits	Spiritual Benefits	Lifestyle Benefits
protection	joy	wisdom	human acceptance	God's approval	success
long life	fulfillment	good plans	honor	heavenly rewards	wealth
vitality	happiness	direction	good reputation	forgiveness	blessings
sound sleep	no fear	discretion	respect	mercy	abundant life
	self-control	insight	justice		

Two

THE AMERICAN STATE OF MIND

Abbreviation: *BWV* stands for *Biblical Worldview*

Key: “*Born-again Christian, with BWV*” includes people who believe in absolute moral truth; make their moral choices by following a set of specific principles or standards based on the Bible; trust Christ for their salvation; and reflect a biblical perspective on six key faith issues (salvation, trust in the Bible, personal responsibility to evangelize, Satan’s existence, Jesus’ sinless life, and the nature of God).

“*Born-again Christian, without BWV*” includes people who have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is important in their life and believe they will go to Heaven because they have confessed their sins and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, but they do not believe in absolute moral truth, or make their moral choices by following a set of specific principles or standards based on the Bible, or do not possess a biblical stand on the six belief statements regarding salvation, trust in the Bible, personal responsibility to evangelize, Satan’s existence, Jesus’ sinless life, and the nature of God.

“*Not a born-again Christian*” includes all adults who have not made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is important in their life and or who do not believe they will go to Heaven solely because they have confessed their sins and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior.

	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN		NOT A
<i>Behavior, last seven days</i>	<i>with BWV</i>	<i>without BWV</i>	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN
Intentionally did not buy a product or brand because of boycotting the company producing it.	28%	7%	11%
Volunteered more than an hour of time to assist an organization in serving needy people.	49	29	22
Smoked a cigarette or cigar.	7	22	37
Chose <i>not</i> to watch a particular movie or video only because the rating indicated it contained objectionable material.	50	27	14
Viewed adult-only graphics or visual content on the Internet.	•	9	9
Prayed for the President.	90	82	73
<i>Religious activity, past seven days</i>			
Read from the Bible, not including during a visit to a church or synagogue.	93%	54%	24%

<i>Religious Activity, past seven days (cont'd)</i>	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN		NOT A
	<i>with BWW</i>	<i>without BWW</i>	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN
Attended a church service, not including a special event such as a wedding or funeral	79	60	29
Volunteered free time to help a church.	51	33	11
Prayed to God.	100	93	69
Attended a Sunday school class at church.	51	33	11
Participated in a small group that meets regularly for Bible study, prayer, or Christian fellowship, not including a Sunday school or 12-step group.	23	27	12
<i>Religious beliefs</i>			
God is the all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect Creator of the universe who rules the world today.	100%	87%	52%
The Bible is totally accurate in all of its teachings.	100	59	25
You have a personal responsibility to tell other people your religious beliefs.	100	51	21
Your religious faith is very important in your life.	100	84	54
The devil/Satan is a living being, not just a symbol of evil.	100	22	13
A person who is generally good, or does enough good things for others during his or her life, cannot earn a place in Heaven.	100	39	16
While on earth, Jesus Christ did not commit sins.	100	51	27
The Bible can be correctly interpreted by people who have not had years of intense training in theology.	89	58	50

<i>Religious beliefs, cont'd</i>	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN		NOT A
	<i>with</i> <i>BWV</i>	<i>without</i> <i>BWV</i>	BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN
Praying to deceased saints does not affect your life.	76	29	20
When people are born, they are neither good nor evil; they make a choice between the two as they mature (disagree).	56	14	10
God is one being in three separate and equal persons—God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.	100	84	55
Every person has a soul that will live forever, either in God's presence or absence.	93	75	52
The Bible, the Koran, and the Book of Mormon are not just different expressions of the same spiritual truths.	85	30	13
Truth can be discovered only through logic, human reasoning, and personal experience (disagree).	71	25	18
The Bible specifically condemns homosexuality.	92	47	27
It is not possible to communicate with people after they die.	78	43	30
A human being can be under the control of the influence of spiritual forces such as demons.	88	37	17
You have intentionally identified specific values that you work hard to try to consistently follow in your life.	97	75	67

Three



BRIDGING FAITH AND LIFESTYLE

Reminder
Refers to

Core Question

B *Being*
E *Essence*

Does God exist?
What is the essence, or character, of God?

A *Authority*
W *World*
A *Audience*
R *Redemption*
E *Ethics*

What spiritual forces have specific power and authority?
How did the world come about?
What is the nature and purpose of humanity?
What happens after we die on earth?
How do we know moral truth—i.e., ethics?

Reminder
Refers to

Core Question

E *Existence*
A *Attributes*
R *Reality*
T *Truth*
H *Humanity*
S *Spirits*
Redemption
Salvation


Does God exist?
What are the attributes, or characteristics, of God?
How did the universe—i.e., known reality—come about?
How do we know moral truth—i.e., right from wrong?
What is the nature and purpose of humanity?
What spiritual forces have specific power and authority?
What happens after we die on earth?

Reminder
Refers to

Core Question

E *Existence*
C *Character*
C *Creation*
L *Life*
E *Essentials*
S *Spirits*
I *Integrity*
A *Afterlife*

Does God exist?
What is the character, or nature, of God?
How did the universe—i.e., creation—happen?
What are life's nature and purpose—i.e., its essentials?
What spiritual forces have specific power and authority?
What is the basis of right and wrong—i.e., integrity?
What happens after life on earth is over?

Appendix I
——
RESOURCES THAT
WILL HELP

DURING THE COURSE OF MY JOURNEY I have encountered a variety of resources and organizations that have proven to be helpful. You may wish to consider some of these as you hone your ability to think like Jesus.

ON WORLDVIEWS

- Blamires, Harry. *The Christian Mind*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Servant, 1963.
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- _____. *Understanding the Times*. Eugene, Ore.: Harvest House, 1991.
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- Sire, James. *The Universe Next Door*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1997.
- White, James Emery. *What Is Truth?* Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994.

ON THEOLOGY

- Bilezekian, Gilbert. *Christianity 101*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1993.
- Bloesch, Donald. *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*. Vols. 1–2. Peabody, Mass.: Prince Press, 1998.
- Erickson, Millard. *Introducing Christian Doctrine*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 2001.
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- Grider, J. Kenneth. *A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1994.
- Oden, Thomas. *The Word of Life*. Peabody, Mass.: Prince Press, 1998.

ON APOLOGETICS

- Geisler, Norman. *Christian Apologetics*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1976.
- Grenz, Stanley. *What Christians Really Believe and Why*. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox, 1998.
- Johnson, Alan, and Robert Webber. *What Christians Believe*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1993.

- Kreeft, Peter, and Ronald Tacelli. *Handbook of Christian Apologetics*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1994.
- McDowell, Josh. *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1999.
- Sproul, R.C. *Essential Truths of the Christian Faith*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale, 1998.

OTHER PUBLISHED RESOURCES

- Book of Catechisms, Ref. ed.* Louisville, Ky.: Geneva, 2001.
- Archer, Gleason. *Encyclopedia of Biblical Difficulties*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1982.
- Comfort, Philip, ed. *The Origin of the Bible*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale, 1992.
- Howard Center for Christian Studies. *Kingdom Living*. Dallas: Park Cities Baptist Church, 2002.
- Niebuhr, H. Richard. *Christ and Culture*. New York: Harper and Row, 1951.
- The Noah Plan*. San Francisco: Foundation for Christian Education, 1997.
- Oden, Thomas. *John Wesley's Scriptural Christianity*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1994.
- Outler, Albert (editor). *John Wesley*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1964.
- Schanzenbach, Donald. *Advancing the Kingdom*. Minneapolis: River City, 2001.
- Stott, John. *Understanding the Bible*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1976.
- Thorsen, Donald. *The Wesleyan Quadrilateral*. Napanee, Ind.: Francis Asbury, 1997.

TRAINING PROGRAMS AND EXPERIENCES

Nehemiah Institute, Chicago, Ill.; 800-948-3101.

Focus on the Family Institute, Colorado Springs, Colo.; 719-548-4560.

Summit Ministries, Manitou Springs, Colo.; 719-685-9103.

Worldview Academy, New Braunfels, Texas; 830-620-5203.

Principle Approach International, Chesapeake, Va.; 757-686-0088.

Appendix 2

SURVEY QUESTIONS REGARDING
BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

WHAT FOLLOWS are survey questions used by Barna Research to gather data regarding people's worldviews. The survey is divided into three different parts, each designed to determine the answer to a specific part of one's worldview.

QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO DETERMINE
WHETHER ONE IS A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN

Have you ever made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is still important in your life today?

1. Yes. GO TO NEXT QUESTION
2. No. SKIP NEXT QUESTION
3. Don't know. SKIP NEXT QUESTION

The following statements are about what will happen to you after you die. Please indicate which ONE of these statements best describes your own belief about what will happen to you after you die. Which comes closest to what you believe?

1. When I die I will go to Heaven because I have tried to obey the Ten Commandments.
2. When I die I will go to Heaven because I am basically a good person.
3. When I die I will go to Heaven because I have confessed my sins and

have accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior.

4. When I die I will go to Heaven because God loves all people and will not let them perish.
5. When I die I will not go to Heaven.
6. I do not know what will happen after I die.
7. Other (explain):
8. Don't know.

NOTE: A respondent is categorized as "born again" if they say "yes" to the first question and choose response option 3 above in response to the second question. All other response patterns classify the individual as a non-born-again Christian.

QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO DETERMINE
VIEWS ON ABSOLUTE MORAL TRUTH AND ITS IMPACT
ON PERSONAL DECISIONS

Changing topics for a moment, think about the choices you make every day. People make their decisions in different ways. When you are faced with a moral or ethical choice, which ONE of the following statements best describes how you decide what to do? In other words, which one statement best describes how you usually make your moral or ethical decisions?

1. I do whatever will make the most people happy or create the least conflict.
2. I do whatever I think my family or friends would expect me to do.
3. I follow a set of specific principles or standards I believe in that serve as guidelines for my behavior.
4. I do what I believe most other people would do in that situation.
5. I do whatever feels right or comfortable in that situation.
6. I do whatever will produce the most positive outcome for me personally.

7. Other (explain):
8. Don't know.

**** IF THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST QUESTION ON PAGE 203 WAS "Don't Know," CONTINUE; OTHERWISE SKIP THE NEXT QUESTION. ****

What is the basis or source of those principles and standards that you take into consideration? In other words, where do those standards and principles come from? What would you turn to in order to discover the appropriate principles? IF THEY SAY "God" ASK: Do you mean that you would expect God to speak directly to you or do you mean something else?

1. the law
2. the Bible
3. values taught by your parents
4. Golden Rule
5. God—speaking directly
6. God—other: _____
7. personal feelings
8. lessons learned from past experience
9. Other (explain):
10. Don't know

Some people believe there are moral truths that are absolute, meaning that those moral truths or principles do not change according to the circumstances. Other people believe that moral truth always depends upon the situation, meaning their moral and ethical decisions depend upon the circumstances. How about you? Do you believe there are moral absolutes that are unchanging, or do you believe moral truth is relative to the circumstances? Or is this something you have never really thought about? If so, is that because you have thought about this matter and have

not arrived at a conclusion, or because you have not really thought about this matter? Which statement below best describes your view?

1. Moral truth is absolute.
2. Moral truth is relative to circumstances.
3. Thought about it, have no conclusion.
4. Never thought about it.
5. Don't know.

QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO DETERMINE
ADOPTION OF FUNDAMENTAL BIBLICAL TRUTHS

These questions pertain to people's beliefs. There are no right or wrong answers, so please indicate if you, personally, agree or disagree strongly with each statement, agree or disagree somewhat with the statement, or you don't know

1. The Bible is totally accurate in all of its teachings.

<i>Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Don't</i>
<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Know</i>

2. I, personally, have a responsibility to tell other people my religious beliefs.

<i>Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Don't</i>
<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Know</i>

3. When He lived on earth, Jesus Christ committed sins, like other people.

<i>Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Don't</i>
<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Know</i>

4. The devil, or Satan, is not a living being but is a symbol of evil.

<i>Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Don't</i>
<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Know</i>

5. If people are generally good or do enough good things for others during their lives, they will earn a place in Heaven.

<i>Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Don't</i>
<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Know</i>

NOTE: A person with a biblical worldview would be expected to strongly agree with items a and b; strongly disagree with items c, d, and e; and to choose response option 2 for the next question regarding the nature of God.

There are many different beliefs about God or a higher power. Please indicate which ONE of the following descriptions comes closest to what you, personally, believe about God.

1. Everyone is god.
2. God is the all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect Creator of the universe who rules the world today.
3. God refers to the total realization of personal, human potential.
4. There are many gods, each with different power and authority.
5. God represents a state of higher consciousness that a person may reach.
6. There is no such thing as God.
7. Don't know.