

Listening Guide

[1] What are some of the questions a worldview can help us answer?

[2] What is the starting point for each worldview?

Monotheism and Reality

[3] How do monotheistic faiths view God?

[4] What role does God's special revelation play in monotheistic faiths?

Deism and Reality

[5] In what ways is a deist's view of reality similar to and different from a monotheistic view?

Naturalism and Reality

[6] What is the only thing that's real to a naturalist?

[7] How does naturalism differ from monotheism and deism?

Existentialism and Reality

[8] What is the only way to arrive at meaning for the existentialist?

[9] Although existentialists would agree with others that an objective world exists, how do they differ from others?

Pantheism and Reality

[10] What sets a pantheist's view of reality apart from the other worldviews?

Monotheism and Identity

[11] How are Christians, Jews, and Muslims alike and different in their view of identity?

Deism and Identity

[12] In what important way is the deist's view of identity different from the monotheistic view?

Naturalism and Identity

[13] In what ways is your view of your identity like and unlike the naturalist's view?

Nihilism and Identity

[14] State and briefly explain your response to a nihilistic view of identity.

Existentialism and Identity

[15] What parts of the existentialist's view of a person's identity do you agree and/or disagree with?

[16] How would you explain your answer to a high school student?

Monotheism and Origins

[17] How do you respond to the idea that you and all other humans need to be reconciled to God?

Deism and Origins

[18] Are you more comfortable with an impersonal God or with one who is closely involved with your life—even when you would rather He was not seeing what you do?

Naturalism and Origins

[19] Can you think of any way in which a naturalist view of humans is more comforting than a monotheistic view?

Nihilism and Origins

[20] Restate the nihilist's view of origins in a way you would explain it to a child.

Existentialism and Origins

[21] What would you say to encourage an existentialist that life has more meaning than this paragraph suggests?

Pantheism and Origins

[22] Do you see any ways a monotheist and a pantheist view of origins are similar?

[23] Do you see any ways the two views differ?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

Select a worldview and take on the role of one who believes it. Then select one view that doesn't agree with that view and explain to a person holding that view why you believe "your" worldview is more believable than the one that person holds. You may choose the worldview you actually do hold, but there is valuable learning involved if you select two views you do not hold. In your discussion, include points on the following:

What is real (View of reality)

Who you are (View of identity)

Where you came from (View of origins)