



Discipleship Across Cultures

Spring 2021

Pastor Sergio Lopez

Session 2: Worldview



ANLI
Bridging The Gap Leadership

Instructional Overview

Key Scripture (Matt 28:19-20)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
Amen.”

Instructional Overview

Lesson Big Ideas

- Disciple making calls believers to know and become like Christ, follow Him in radical commitment, and make disciples. Once becoming a disciple, one must make other disciples instilling in them the same basic tenets of knowing, becoming, committing, and disciple making. Fast held worldviews apart from the biblical can inhibit spiritual formation.

Essential Questions

- How do you think worldview affects external behaviors during the process of discipling?
- What do you as the one discipling need to know about a person's worldview?
- How does worldview support or not support transformation for Christian spiritual formation in discipleship?

Lesson Outcomes

- Teach the core principles of post modernity to assigned generation of mature Christians in the Ignite ministry keeping to the 40-minute time length and effective intercultural communication

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matt 28:19-20).

Review

- Briefly reflect on the meaning of Matt 28:19-20.
- Each student will pray Matt 28:19-20 for 15 seconds based on the assigned generation.

Please use the below pillars of the Servant of the Lord as your guide.

Pillars for the Servant of the Lord

Pillar One. A servant of the Lord belongs to God through covenant.

Pillar Two. A servant of the Lord submits to His commission.

Pillar Three. A servant of the Lord places the future in His hands.

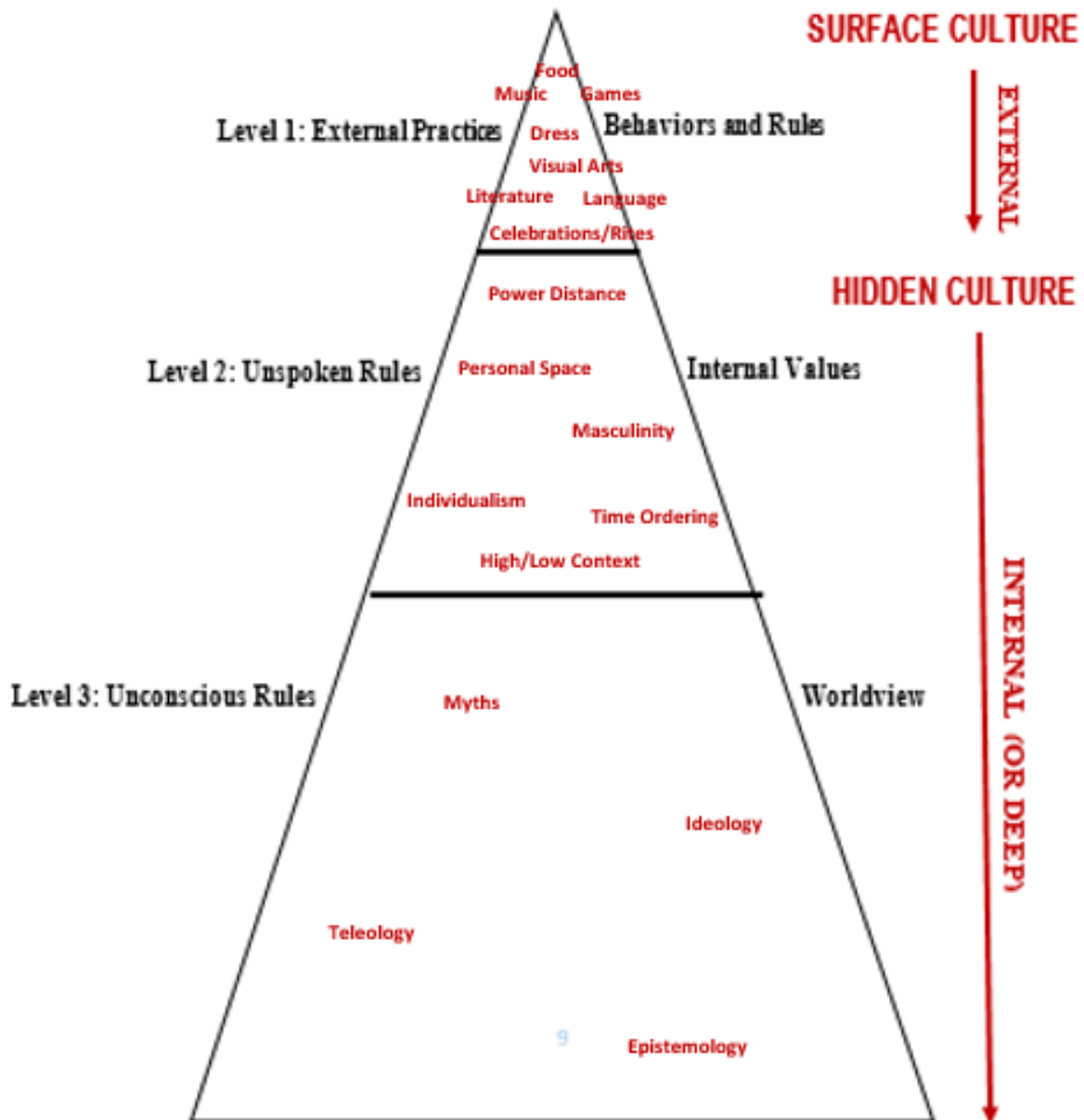
Pillar Four. A servant of the Lord follows God in faith.

Pillar Five. A servant of the Lord speaks gentle truth.

Pillar Six. A servant of the Lord trusts God.

Pillar Seven. A servant of the Lord prevails with His commission

Part 1: Cultural Landscape Map: Three Levels of Culture



Part 2: Worldview and Hidden Culture

Worldview

- Lies below the surface of a society comprising 90% of culture.
- The most hidden dimension of culture comprises one's worldview. Since cultural worldview remains hidden, one cannot observe it. Hidden dimensions of culture occur through implicit learning.
- Kraft (2008) defined *worldview* as “the totality of the culturally structured images and assumptions in terms of which a people both perceive and respond to reality.”¹
- Worldview structures culture's deepest level with presuppositions and mental images upon which people base their lives.
- Worldview forms unwritten, usually invisible norms for behavior that guide appropriate or inappropriate behaviors expected for that culture.
- Encompass norms for rituals, language, roles, ideologies, philosophies, values, tastes, attitudes, desires, assumptions, and myths.

Worldview's Influence on External Behavior

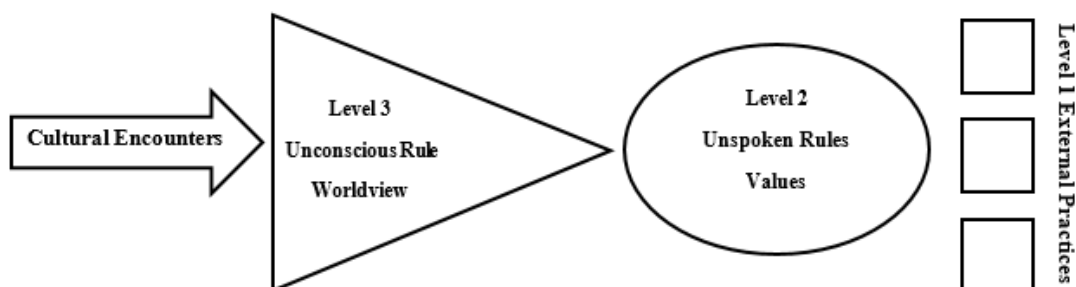


Table Talk Reflection (4 Minutes)

How do you think worldview affects external behaviors during the process of discipling?

What do you as the one discipling need to know about a person's worldview?

¹ Charles Kraft, *Anthropology for Christian Witness* (10th ed.) (Maryknoll: Orbis, 2010).

Part 3 A Closer Look at Worldviews

Four Worldviews

Ideology: This dimension deals with ideas about how things are or how they ought to be.

Example 1: Capitalism with equal opportunity, communism with distrust of established government, Marxism with humans in an idyllic world of equality, socialism with an element of state distribution of wealth, Darwinism, mercantilism, classical liberalism, kinship, definition of obscenity, attitudes toward dependents, definition of insanity, and mutual care.

Example 2: Systemic rules about generational poverty, caste systems, class, roles related to age, gender, ethnicity, concept of beauty, and notions of cleanliness and smell, etc.

Teleology: Defines a final destiny in terms of the purpose phenomena serves rather than the cause by which it arises. It seeks to answer three questions: “(1) Does the universe have a purpose?... (2) If the universe has a purpose, whose purpose is it?... (3) What is the purpose of the universe?”²

Example 1: God created the earth and everything in it by His Word and designed it for His redemptive purposes.

Example 2: Scientific big bang theory; and mythology about god/goddesses in the creation of the earth/universe.

Myths: Display the overarching narrative believed to be true based on the interpretation of history and stories of human lives and memory of a community. Myths define moral boundaries to its members.³

Example 1: The Hebrews’ exodus from Exodus forms the basis of God’s deliverance of the Israelites. It orders how people view time, sin, and redemption.⁴

² Ken Funk, K. What is worldview? (21 March 2001) Online: <http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~funkk/Personal/worldview.html>.

³ Hiebert, *Transforming worldviews*, 27

⁴ Hiebert, *Transforming worldviews*, 60

Example 2: Family immigrated from Italy to the US in the early 1900s; the mother entered through Ellis Island and father via Argentina and Mexico; they worked hard and made a good life for their family in the land of opportunity.

Epistemology: Pertains to how people distinguish justified beliefs from opinions. It relates to what you believe about knowledge and affects what you accept as valid evidence and particulars.

Example 1: Modernity (sought order and fulfillment in the world, scientific knowledge mirrors reality and gives access to the external world);

Example 2: Post modernity (sees reality as unordered and unknowable, no one truth exists rather constructs of individuals and groups); and spiritual (based on a scriptural viewpoint and one biblical truth of redemption).⁵

Example 3: Limited inerrancy of the Bible in that miracles, signs, wonders, and tongues were exclusively for the early church

Directions:

- Students will work individually and respond to the below question through the filter of the epistemological worldview and assigned generation, focusing on post modernity.
- Each person will report out the answer.

Table Talk Reflection (4 minutes)

How does the assigned worldview support or not support transformation for Christian spiritual formation in discipleship? Think about the spiritual formation of a new Christian as opposed to a maturing.

Break: 7:45-7:55pm

⁵ Hiebert, *Transforming Worldviews*, 216-17

Elder Shelly (7:55pm-8:30pm)

Elder Geraldine (8:40pm-9:20pm)

Discipleship Across Cultures: Session Two Homework

Due April 15, 2021

Readings

- Reader 1 passed out the last session of Communication Across Cultures
- Small group information from Pastor Sergio, which he'll send on Friday.
- *Getting Started as a Small Group Leader*. <https://youtu.be/FwriM7tu5CI>
- *Don't Start a Bible Study Group Without Watching This*
<https://youtu.be/wBldcRMDkbE>

MOSAIC Ministry Project for Discipleship (100 Points)

- Teaching a small-group lesson on campus about isolation (Elder Geraldine—Gen Y) or depression (Elder Shelly—Gen Z).
- You will teach to a mixed group of new and mature Christians from the Ignite ministry.

Part C. Self-reflection (20 points—About 150 to 200 words)

What did you learn about the effects of the post-modern worldview on spiritual formation of your assigned generation?