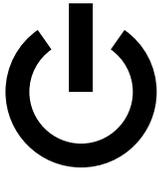


Title: Fear, Guilt, or Shame: Why My Friends Look at the World Differently

Speaker: John Harrison

Key Verses: John 8:1-11; 9:1-41; Galatians 3:26-29

Summary: To engage our friends with the gospel, we must know their worldview.



Power Up: Take a moment to prepare

John describes his life in various global settings. Our exposure to others, in fact, shapes our view of the world. Where has God allowed you to go?



Replay: Take some time to watch

Note John's three main worldview lenses: **1)** Guilt/Innocence (common among Western Christians); **2)** Honor/Shame (common among Muslims); **3)** Fear/Power (common among Eastern Hindus and Buddhists).



Comment: Take some time to talk

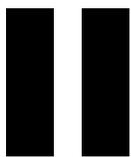
John says, "Jesus is the ultimate answer, but what is the question." **How does worldview get at "the question"?** **What is a worldview?** **What happens when we fail to address the underlying worldview?**

John showed several examples of Islamic head coverings. **What is the purpose of the head coverings?** **What other honor symbols are there?**

What is the bindi? What is its intended purpose? How does Jesus address questions of fear and power?

John discusses several rituals common to the Fear/Power worldview. **What do their rituals tell us about their understanding of the unseen world?** **What rituals do Western Christians practice and why?**

Read Colossians 2:13-15. **What worldview does this text address?** **What makes Christianity so adept at addressing all worldviews?**



Pause: Take a moment to pray

Thank God for offering Jesus as the Way, Truth, and Life to all peoples. Ask God for wisdom to discern our friends' worldviews. Ask Him for an opportunity to show Jesus answers their ultimate questions.



Take Action: Take a step forward

Read through the Gospel of Mark one story at a time. Ask yourself which of the three major worldviews—Guilt/Innocence, Honor/Shame, Fear/Power—the story speaks to. Keep a written record handy, so you are prepared to answer anyone from any worldview who asks about your hope in Jesus.

Bonus Features | Additional Notes and Quotes from John Harrison

Power Track Summary: Have you ever been excited about your favorite band, movie, or food only to find that other people weren't interested? Why does something that is so impactful to you seem to be such a miss with others? Culture and worldview play a big role in what speaks to us. This Power Track explores some of the questions that other cultures ask, providing a better understanding of why our witness to friends from other cultures seems to miss, and how we can modify our message without changing the answer to life's biggest questions.

About the Speaker: John Harrison is a husband, father, and former church-planter in South Korea. He serves with Encompass World Partners, 228 people groups in 34 countries globally.

"Worldviews are the lenses through which we see the world... [They] work to answer the ultimate question in life.

Guilt/Innocence:

- Most Westerners; individualistic; Christianity
- Focused on justice and laws
- **Ultimate question:** How do I get rid of the guilt I feel for the wrong I've done?
- **Ultimate answer:** We need a judge to declare us innocent. Jesus doesn't declare us innocent but gives us his innocence.
- **Biblical example:** Woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11)

Honor/Shame:

- Middle east; collective cultures; Islam
- Focused on how you interact with people around you, especially family
- Dress reflects on your family's honor. Wrongdoing affects whole family, not just culprit
- **Ultimate question:** How do I preserve my honor and protect my family from shame?
- **Ultimate answer:** Jesus heals those who are broken, cast out, and considered cursed
- **Biblical example:** Boy born blind (John 9:1-41); Prodigal son restored (Luke 15:20-24)

Fear/Power:

- Eastern cultures; Hinduism and Buddhism
- Focused on gaining power over the evil spirits and curses of others
- Bindi, spirit houses, religious texts, and shamans used in power rituals
- **Ultimate question:** How can I gain power over evil spirits?
- **Ultimate answer:** Jesus triumphs over the powers.
- **Biblical examples:** Jesus casts out Legion (Mark 5:1-20)

"God is in charge of everything. He is the biggest. There is no one bigger than He is."

"All religions use rules and rituals; they even use good things like memorizing scripture, praying, leading a Bible study, trying to restore honor, alleviate fear, and take away guilt."

"The only thing that can take away guilt, restore honor, or give us power over fear is Jesus."