

JOURNEY

ADVOCATES

PARENT GUIDE

LESSON 2.2: NATURALISM

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 1-2

SUMMARY:

This week students are beginning to consider the consequences of different worldviews. First we look at naturalism. According to naturalism, everything that exists can be described through the five senses. But what are the consequences of seeing the world this way? Considered the wisest of Israel's kings, Solomon gives us a glimpse of what a life denying the existence of God would look like.

Without God, everything becomes meaningless. Solomon explains that even living a good life is meaningless without God (Ecclesiastes 2:12-26). The consequences of naturalism are meaninglessness and vanity. Our lives have purpose and meaning only in a universe made and sustained by God.

CORE VERSES	CORE CONCEPTS
<p><i>Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.</i></p> <p><i>Ecclesiastes 12:13-14</i></p>	<p>Naturalism is the worldview that the physical universe alone exists, with no supernatural influences.</p> <p>NATURE:</p> <p>According to naturalism, nature consists of the physical world accessible through the five senses.</p>

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Talk to me about the most interesting thing you learned from this week's lesson.
- How does a naturalistic worldview try to explain or give meaning to friendships and pain?
- How do you find meaning in friendships or pain?
- How would you explain hope to someone who lives with a naturalist worldview?
- Describe your next steps based on what you've learned. How can I help?