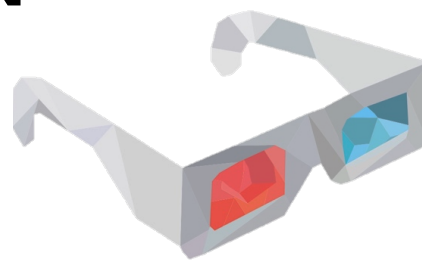


#8

CHRISTIAN REFLECTION

A mature Christian reflects on their world with insight and discernment. They seek wisdom from God, cultivate spiritual alertness, and study and meditate on the doctrines of scripture. They thoughtfully reflect on the patterns of culture, they know the reasons for Christian belief, and they graciously engage with the worldviews of others.



CHARACTER TO CULTIVATE

AFFECTIONS



Q1 *In what ways are you experiencing...*

- LOVE FOR BIBLE STUDY, seeking deeper understanding.
- PREFERRING GOD'S WAYS to worldliness and ungodliness.

Q2 *What false idols might be getting in the way?*

THOUGHTS



Q3 *How is God helping you to develop...*

- THEOLOGICAL DEPTH, appreciating sound doctrine.
- OPEN-MINDEDNESS, able to listen and learn from others.

Q4 *What unhelpful thinking is tripping you up?*

PRAYERS



Q5 *Do you experience...*

- SCRIPTURE-RICH PRAYER, praying bible truths back to God.
- SEEKING WISDOM, wrestling deep questions before God.

Q6 *What makes it hard for you to pray this way?*

BEHAVIOURS



Q7 *Are you seeing growth in these marks of godliness...*

- CONTEMPLATION, giving time to thoughtfully reflect on life.
- DISCERNMENT, alert and aware of what is right and helpful.

Q8 *In what contexts is this hardest for you?*

TRAINING EXPERIENCES

8.1

READ & DISCUSS

Work through a recommended Bible study or book, planning accountability & action steps.

8.2

JUSTIFICATION

Follow [MTS Exercise 2.04, "Design a Teaching Program on Justification by Faith"](#)

8.3

PREDESTINATION

Follow [MTS Exercise 2.03, Design a Teaching Program on Predestination"](#)

8.4

ONLINE RESOURCING

Research 3 or 4 helpful websites that resource Christians to respond graciously to challenges to biblical faith.



See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.







COLOSSIANS 2:8

CONVICTIONS TO DEVELOP







1. GOD	Trinity & Person of God	Divine Attributes	Evidence for God	Answering the Problem of Evil		
	Created Order & Goodness	Providence & Common Grace	Christianity & Science	Christianity & Conservation	Christianity & the Arts	Christianity & Industry
2. CREATION	Image of God	Gender and Sexuality	Work & Worship	Sin, Curse & Depravity	Christianity & Psychology	Christianity & Technology
3. HUMANITY	Holiness & Divine Wrath	Satan & Demonic Power	Hell & Eternal Judgment	The Fate of the Lost	Powerlessness of Religion	
4. JUDGMENT	Necessity of Revelation	Bible as God's Word	Interpretation via Gospel	OT Fulfilment in Christ	Bible Reliability	Power of the Gospel
5. SCRIPTURE	Eternal Sonship	Full Humanity & Full Divinity	Perfect Obedience	Substitutionary Atonement	Implications of Resurrection	Historicity of Jesus
6. CHRIST	Reign & 2nd Coming	Heaven & Restoration	Kingdom of God	Tension of Now-Not-Yet	Ethics & Decision-making	
7. NEW CREATION	Spirit of the Son	Indwelling of Believers	Gifting for Ministry	Error of Experientialism		
8. HOLY SPIRIT	Knowing the Gospel	Predestination & New Birth	Repentance & Faith	Justification & Assurance	Sanctification & Ongoing Sin	Trials & Perseverance
9. SALVATION	Body of Christ & Household	Baptism & Membership	Communion & Unity	Ministry & Service	Local & Global Mission	
10. CHURCH						

RESOURCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

BIBLE STUDIES

-  **Bible Books to Read and Carefully Meditate on**
GENESIS -11, DEUTERONOMY, HEBREWS, JOHN 13-21.
-  **The Whole Truth About God** (Doctrine, IX Marks)
Shows why Biblical Theology is important and how sound doctrine shapes love, holiness, worship and witness.
-  **The Blueprint** (Doctrine, Matthias Media)
Explores core Christian doctrine, showing the implications of these truths and showing where false thinking comes in.
-  **Beyond Eden** (Gen 1-11, Matthias Media)
Shows how the first 11 chapters of the Bible answer the deep questions of life and reality.
-  **Full of Promise** (OT Overview, Matthias Media)
Provides an overview of the Old Testament, helping participants see the big picture pointing to Jesus.
-  **The One and Only** (Deuteronomy Matthias Media)
The book of Deuteronomy unlocks the Old Testament, and reveals the foundational truths of Christian worldview.

BOOKS & ARTICLES

-  **The Cross of Christ** (John Stott)
Unpacks the rich significance of the crucifixion of Jesus and compellingly applies it to the mind of the believer.
-  **The Everlasting God** (Knox)
A classic work that expounds the deep truths of election and grace, exalting the goodness and justice of God.
-  **The Reason for God** (Tim Keller)
A cohesive and current defence of the reasonableness of Christian belief in the face of atheism and secularism.
-  **Issues Facing Christians Today** (John Stott)
Resourcing a thoughtful Christian response to such challenges as global terror, same-sex marriage, bioethics.
-  **The Universe Next Door** (James Sire)
A grid for understanding worldview and engaging with the perspectives of others.
-  **According to Plan** (Graeme Goldsworthy)
A brilliant lens revealing how all of scripture work together to form one unfolding story of God's grace.