

It's all about Perspective

Intro.: Perspective (def.) - immediate or intuitive recognition or appreciation, as of moral, psychological, or aesthetic qualities; insight; intuition; discernment.

1. World view – broad, all encompassing
 - a. Learned – assimilated morality (sense of right and wrong), often based on family values we're raised with, modified by secular education and the media; liberal vs. conservative, etc.
 - b. Biblical – foundation for establishing right and wrong, standard to measure truth vs. a lie, contains the principles for Christian life. [2 Timothy 3:16]
2. Environmental view – physical
 - a. Senses – see, hear, smell, taste, and feel
 - b. Biblical examples of extreme environments:
 - i. Jesus calms the storm. [Luke 8:22-25]
 1. Jesus to the Disciples: "Where is your faith?"
 - ii. Jesus walks on water. [Matthew 14:22-33]
 1. Jesus to Peter: "You have so little faith. Why did you doubt me?"
 - c. There's a theme here in both instances – faith is a critical component of our environmental perspective and the bridge between the seen and the unseen world. [Hebrews 11:1]
3. Eternal view – divine perception
 - a. God wants to write eternity on our hearts. [Ecclesiastes 3:11]
 - b. We must fix our eyes on the unseen. [2 Corinthians 4:16-18]
 - i. Present trouble is small compared to the glory that's produced in us which will last forever.
 - ii. The things we cannot see last forever.
 - c. Earthly things don't matter so much anymore.
 - i. Treasures = just stuff.
 - ii. Pleasures don't satisfy.
 - iii. Social status isn't important.
 - iv. Power and control aren't a big deal.
 - d. Turn your eyes upon Jesus!
 - e. Jesus also wants us to see things from His perspective, through the eyes of love.
 - f. Will you agree in prayer with me? God I need You! Without You, I can do nothing. You are my all in all. I am Yours and You are mine. We will truly be together forever. God, write eternity on my heart.
 - i. Anoint my senses to perceive beyond the physical.
 1. May the eyes and ears of my heart (spirit) be open – enlightened to know truth vs. deception. My eyes are on You Jesus!
 2. I want to feel Your presence with me.
 3. I want to taste and see that You God are good.
 4. I want to be a sweet aroma to You.
 - ii. Light a fire in me. Burn away anything that hinders love. Break my heart for what breaks yours.
 - iii. Work in me Holy Spirit. Give me the desire and the power to please You God. [Philippians 2:13] Your grace is sufficient for me, for Your power is made perfect in my weakness. [2 Corinthians 12:9] I want to reflect Your glory Lord. [2 Corinthians 3:18]