

**Worldly Saints
Autumn School 2016
Week 1**

1. Heaven and Earth

*Can you serve Jesus and
still enjoy your life?*

PLEASURE AND PURPOSE

Discussion QUESTIONS:

1. When have you felt the tension between serving Jesus and enjoying life?
2. What choice did you make in that situation? Did you resolve the tension in favour of Jesus, enjoyment, or both?

3. How might it improve both our lives and success of sharing the gospel if we could better answer this question?

2. FABLES

What's your story?

NATURALISM

SPIRITUALISM

Discussion Questions:

1. How have your thoughts and actions been influenced by our culture's dominant belief in naturalism?

2. How have your thoughts and actions been influenced by a fixation on an immaterial heaven?
3. Are you the most inclined to make the mistake of naturalism or spiritualism?

3. One Story

Story of Scripture is summarised:

Creation (Gen 1-2) - **Fall** (Gen 3-11) - **Redemption** (Gen 12- Rev 22)

HUMAN FLOURISHING

Flourishing - define

1. to grow luxuriantly - thrive, - (Doing what is right)
and
2. to achieve success (rewarded for it)

ONE STORY, ONE LIFE

LIBERATION AND LORDSHIP

Discussion questions:

1. How would you define human flourishing? How can you tell whether you are flourishing?
2. What areas of your life must you liberate from the overly “spiritual” expectations of yourself or others? Why is this so hard?
3. What area of your life must you still submit to the Lordship of Christ? Why is this hard?
4. **Two distinctions:**

NATURAL AND SUPERNATURAL

CREATION AND REDEMPTION

TENSION KEEPS YOU BALANCED

Two bits of advice

1. It is impossible to do only the most important things
2. Be encouraged if you feel the tension between the natural and supernatural, creation and redemption, human and Christian life

Discussion Questions:

1. How does our natural/supernatural distinction differ from Plato's division between heaven and earth and between the human soul and body?
2. Why is God's judgement the only thing that gives ultimate meaning to life?
3. Where do you experience the tension between creation and redemption? Give one example and describe how you navigate the tension.