

WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEEK 03

WORLDVIEW

We Will Not Be Silenced, Ch. 3-4

POLITICAL THEORY

Video: Capitalism and Socialism: Crash Course World History #33 (14:03)

The Philosophy Book

Karl Marx, pp. 198-203

Manifesto of the Communist Party, Marx & Engels

Reader Response Journal

Video: Who is Karl Marx? (5:32)

Video: Is Capitalism Moral (5:22)

CURRENT EVENTS

Take notes on what is happening in your community, state, nation, and around the world this week.

TIMELINE

Place the figures in blank timeline book.

WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED

BY ERWIN W. LUTZER

Do a brain drop in the space given. Does anything the author says resonate with you? What specific issues does he address? Do you agree or disagree? What do you see happening around you? How should the church respond? How can you respond personally? What other thoughts do you have about what the author has written?

WEEK 03

CH. 3: USE DIVERSITY TO DIVIDE AND DESTROY

Brain drop your thoughts on this chapter.

WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED

CH. 4: FREEDOM OF SPEECH FOR ME, BUT NOT FOR THEE

Brain drop your thoughts on this chapter.

VIDEO

Remember that the best way to understand philosophical ideas is to look at them in their historical context. The following video will break down the economics of the period in history when Marx lived.

CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM: CRASH COURSE WORLD HISTORY #33 (14:03)

YOUTUBE VIDEO POSTED BY CRASHCOURSE, PUBLISHED ON SEP 6, 2012

Take brief notes following the outline below.

MERCANTILE CAPITALISM

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

INDUSTRIAL CAPITALISM

BRITAIN

INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

FACTORIES

CONSUMERS

SOCIALISM

UTOPIAN

REVOLUTIONARY

AUGUSTUS BLANQUI

KARL MARX

CLASS STRUGGLE

THE PHILOSOPHY BOOK

KARL MARX, PP. 198-203

Unless you've been living under a rock lately, you're bound to have heard some voices from the radical left crying out for a socialist revolution. In THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA???? !!!!! What is driving their narrative? What are their complaints against capitalism? What do they mean by socialism? You've probably heard their agenda labeled Marxism. Who was Karl Marx, and what was his political and economic theory? This week we're going to delve into some of these topics and you'll read Marx's *Communist Manifesto* to see for yourself the theory he espoused.

1. While previous philosophers had sought only to interpret the world, what was the point of Marx and Engels' writings?
2. You read about Hegel and the dialectic in Steadfast Year Three. How does Marx differ from Hegel?
3. What are the four stages in human history that Marx describes:

POINT TO PONDER

Even as our government is being criticized today and some are calling for a radical dissolution of capitalism in favor of socialism, one amazing thing that must be appreciated is that our Constitution allows for freedom to differ in thought, ideology, and opinion with one another. That's what the First Amendment is all about. We are not one homogeneous group of people. The new socialists in our country are calling for the dismantling of the very institution that gives them the right to speak openly and call for such a radical change.

4. Is there a place for religion in a Marxist society? Why or why not?
5. Although Marx's writing has inspired several revolutions over the past century, have any of them achieved his utopian dream? Name examples of three communist countries and their leaders mentioned on p. 203 that discredit his political and historical theories.
6. Describe the three main criticisms noted against Marx's theory.

MANIFESTO OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

BY KARL MARX AND FREDERICK ENGELS

Before reading, define these terms:

Bourgeoisie:

Proletariat:

As you read the manifesto, use a highlighter or pen to highlight or underline the major points and/or ideas you think are important. As you read and/or after reading, you'll complete a reader response journal on one of the following questions:

Was the historical context of the manifesto central to the ideology it presents? Has history progressed in the way Marx predicted?

Do you agree with Marx that the history of man is the history of class struggles? Why or why not?

What is the biblical response to the ideas presented by Marx? On ideas of marriage and family? Evil and suffering? The nature of man?

Is there room for religion in Marxism? Why or why not?

Would economic equality bring about true equality? Why or why not?

On its way to becoming a communist society, a nation must undergo a revolution and a time of dictatorship first. What comes to your mind when you hear the word "revolution?" Do you agree with Marx that this type of dictator would just "wither away?"

Even though the manifesto was largely ignored at the time it was written, why do you think the manifesto has been such an influential piece of literature?

What does Marx seem to assume about the nature of man? Has his assumption been proven to be true or false? Give examples.

Would socialism in the United States produce a utopia or a nightmare?

Connect the ideas presented in the manifesto to past or present communist regimes.

Connect the ideas presented in the manifesto to current ideas you have seen, heard, or read about from the far-left socialists in the United States today.

Pause during your reading and brain drop what you are thinking about while you are reading.

POINT TO PONDER

Karl Marx attributes all of man's troubles to class struggles. He seems to suggest that eliminating classes would eliminate the troubles. Let's think back to before the Industrial Revolution. Or wait! Let's go back even further than that. Let's go back before the Dark Ages. No, let's go back even further - to nearly the beginning of time. Let's look at Adam and Eve. There was indeed a classless society. There were only TWO of them in the literal utopia of the Garden of Eden. They couldn't have had a better life! Yet, trouble seemed to creep into their perfectly created world. What happened way back then that began their troubles and our own? What is Karl Marx leaving out of his equation? Man's original sin in the garden and then man's sin nature after that accounts for all the evil and suffering in the world. The utopian universe was shattered when man sinned. No amount of governing or un-governing or classes or non-classes can ever rescue man and society from the effects of man's tendency to sin. The only rescue possible is through the saving work of Jesus on the cross.

VIDEO

WHO IS KARL MARX? (5:32)

YOUTUBE VIDEO POSTED BY PRAGERU, PUBLISHED ON SEP 24, 2018

The following video discusses about what happened to some of the countries who followed Marxism. Take notes below.

VIDEO

IS CAPITALISM MORAL (5:22)

YOUTUBE VIDEO POSTED BY PRAGERU, PUBLISHED ON SEP 14, 2015

The following video explains capitalism. This will give you a better idea of how it compares with socialism. Take notes below.

CURRENT EVENTS

Pay attention to the events around you. Do you see any mention of socialism, Marxism, or communism in the news this week? What is happening in your community, state, nation, and the world? Watch at least one news segment or read a few news articles this week, so you'll be able to discuss.

TIMELINE

PLACE THE FOLLOWING FIGURES IN BLANK TIMELINE BOOK.

Karl Marx (1818-1883)

The Communist Manifesto first published (1848)

POINT TO PONDER

Immigrants have come from all corners of the globe in search of the American Dream. What makes America the land of opportunity? Why do more than 700,000 people from other countries become American citizens annually? Is it because they see the benefit of living in a free country, where each member of society has the chance to build a better life for himself and his family? Young socialist Americans have a negative view of capitalism and America as the land of opportunity. They're calling for a redistribution of wealth. Do you think this would be a step toward freedom or oppression? Where would the wealth come from that they want to redistribute? Would this happen peacefully? Is there a difference between equality of opportunity and equality of outcome?