

CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

This Christian philosophy of education is based on the primary convictions that are contained in the “Statement of Faith.” The following statements identify the principles that apply to the educational process when viewed through the perspective of faith.

1. Education is focused on truth, of which God is the ultimate source. He reveals himself to us in nature; in His Son; and in the Bible, the only inerrant, authoritative, and sufficient rule for faith and practice (Psalm 8:2-4; Hebrews 1:1-3; II Timothy 3:16, 17).
2. The Lordship of Christ and the sovereignty of God are all-inclusive; therefore, all areas of life and learning are regarded as sacred (Romans 11:36).
3. Christian education is the result of all knowledge being tested against, and integrated with, a biblically based view of God and the world (Colossians 1:16, 17; John 1:3).
4. The primary responsibility for the education of children rests with parents (Deuteronomy 6:7, 8; Genesis 17:7; Proverbs 22:6). However, the Christian school and the church provide complementary roles in educating students for lives of fellowship with God and service to others (Deuteronomy 11:18; Psalm 78:4, 5).
5. The Christian teacher, empowered by the Holy Spirit, guides and nurtures students through instruction, admonition and personal example. The Christian teacher seeks to encourage the spiritual development of students since this is the foundation for their academic, social and personal growth (Colossians 1:28; Proverbs 1:7).
6. Christian education occurs as the Holy Spirit works effectively in the hearts and minds of the students. Through general revelation students learn of God and His world (Acts 14:17; Romans 1:18-20). Special revelation and regeneration are regarded as essential components of Christian education because a personal relationship with Jesus Christ provides students with the ability to view life from a biblical perspective (I Corinthians 2:14).
7. God has created all students with unique talents as well as particular developmental growth patterns. Therefore, the learning process is enhanced as teachers utilize varied teaching strategies and instructional environments (Psalm 139:13-15; Romans 12:4-8).
8. Service to others inside and outside the classroom contributes to the development of each student’s talents and abilities (I Corinthians 12).
9. Excellence in the quality of education offered to children brings glory to God and provides a compelling witness to our neighbors (Philippians 1:9-11).
10. The goal of Christian education is to develop students who will serve God and impact their community and the world by thinking and acting biblically in all areas of life (Romans 12:2).