

Philosophy of Christian Education

Believing that all educational experience is religious in nature simply because that experience must deal with the ultimate values and beliefs of the culture in which it exists and the controlling body under which it operates, the following values and beliefs are set forth as the basis for building the educational program of Central Christian Academy:

God ultimately owns everything, including all children (Romans 14:7-8; Ezekiel 18:4, 20). Since God owns all children, He has first claim upon each life. That claim of God upon children should be reflected in the nature of the education program provided. This means that God=s prescription for education, as given in His Word, should prevail as educational programs are shaped and formed. This makes paramount the issues of authority and discipline as children are moved toward adulthood.

God is also holy (Lev. 11:44). He desires that those created ones should also be holy. To enable that to occur, He has provided an eternal sacrifice by the giving of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, in death. That death, when received by the unsaved, enables the removal of sin. The resurrection of Jesus Christ out of that state of death enables the acquisition of a *new nature* according to II Peter 1:4. That new nature reflects the holiness of God and enables the believer to live a *holy* life even in this present world. Holiness should be a goal for all believers and it should be a goal for Christian education programs.

This sovereign and holy God has primarily given the task of educating children to the parent (Psalm 127). However, that task may be delegated to others, though the responsibility for that task may not be delegated. Christian schools should operate in this way: working with and through parents to carry out the task of education for which the parent will be held responsible. A teaching function has also been given to the local church which may assist in education as parents desire and accept that assistance.

The Bible, being the Word of God, is the final authority in all matters of life and living. Psalm 19:7 says *The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.* The psalmist is saying that the *law* of God, His revealed Word, is a condition for life, as desired by God, to exist. Thus, the Word of God is a condition of life and must become a critical aspect of education for children.

Christian education must have at its very heart the edification of children of God. The primary purpose is not evangelism, though evangelism may occur, particularly on a *one_to_one* basis between teachers and students or between one student and another student.

Because of the primacy of the Bible, instruction in the Bible must be the key to a Christian school. Biblical truth must be interwoven into all phases of the curriculum, even the purely academic subjects. For example, history must be viewed as a sovereign God working in the lives of men as opposed to social studies, the emphasis of which has traditionally been on a study of man=s own accomplishments. God, as Creator, must be the foundational truth for all science. Language must be viewed as a tool for knowing God first of all. All curriculum materials, including textbooks, must then be selected with this priority of God=s Word in the forefront.

Mission Statement of Central Christian Academy

The mission of Central Christian Academy is to assist parents in developing godly character in the lives of their children that will challenge them to reach their fullest spiritual, academic, and physical potential and thus transform them into good citizens to impact our community for today, tomorrow, and eternity.

General Goals of Central Christian Academy

To teach every student enrolled an understanding of God, the priority that should be accorded His Word, and the responsibility that every person has to Him as Creator and Redeemer.

To enable each student enrolled to develop both natural and spiritual gifts and talents with the understanding that the highest goal of mankind is to use these gifts and talents to worship and to glorify God.

To develop within each child a level of basic skills achievement that will support successful functioning as a citizen of the Kingdom of God and successful functioning as a citizen of this nation.

To provide both curricular and instructional systems that will enable any student to achieve at levels that will prepare him/her to enter the next level of education chosen, whatever the academic rigor demanded.

To leave each student enrolled with a strong sense of right and wrong, to make them aware of the spiritual blessing that comes from doing right, and to warn each student of the many wrongs that now characterize our culture and the negative consequences to be borne by those who choose those wrongs.

Statement of Faith of Central Baptist Church

We believe the Bible, both the Old and the New Testaments, is verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writing and is God's final word to humanity for faith and practice.

We believe in one eternal and holy God who exists as three persons -- God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe in the creation of the world by God in six literal days by the word of His mouth.

We believe that man was created in the image of God. However, because man disobeyed God, all men are born with a sinful nature which alienates them from God and condemns them to eternal death.

We believe God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be born of a virgin, to live a sinless life, to die a cruel death as a sacrifice for the sins of all mankind, and to have victory over death, and that He now lives in Heaven interceding for believers.

We believe that all who place their trust in Christ are justified in the eyes of God by the blood of Jesus as the only payment for their sins. Acceptance of His gift of salvation is the only basis for a personal relationship with God and salvation from eternal death.

We believe God sends His Holy Spirit at salvation to live within each who accepts Christ as his Savior, to convict of sin and to guide him in accordance with His Word.

We believe in the imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust -- the just to eternal blessing with the Lord and the unjust to everlasting punishment.