



# THE EAGLE

January 4, 2010

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## What Makes Christian Education Unique?

(An article by Dr. Tedd Tripp, author of *Shepherding a Child's Heart*)

It is hard to make a single, comprehensive statement about what distinguishes Christian education from its secular, private or public counter parts. There are so many differences. We serve children whose parents value education highly and are willing to make sacrifices to provide their children with Christian education. Our teachers are dedicated to the mission of Christian education. (And they don't go on strike.) The standards for classroom deportment are biblically derived and therefore not as swayed by the consensus morality that has won the day in modern America. These and many other observations would have to be included in a comprehensive statement of what makes Christian education unique.

Perhaps, however, the most profound expression of difference between Christian education and all other educational systems is that Christian education has a single point of integration for all the departments of knowledge. Colossians 2:2 puts it like this: *My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

The philosophical perspective of Christian education is that the various departments of education all have their reference point in Christ. None can be truly understood without understanding who Christ is and how he relates to the particular arena of thought or discourse. For example, it is one thing to know that the Great Barrier Reef has made the northeast corner of the Australian continent unsuitable for harbor. But that knowledge is not really integrated knowledge until we also understand that God is the one who formed the

boundaries for man's habitation and that he did so that men might know Him. (Acts 17:6)  $1+1=2$  on anyone's calculator, but the "fact" is true because God is a God of order who has built structure into His creation.

Why is all of this so important? Colossians 2:4 tells us, *I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine sounding arguments.* As a result of deceptive and high sounding arguments, our culture accepts immorality as normal, we make entertainment of things that are coarse and vulgar, we have students who are taught high self-esteem even when their performance is sub-standard, and we are told that things have always been like this.

The distinguishing mark of Christian education is that it sees Christ as the point of integration in all teaching and learning. This is important because in Christ are hidden all treasure of wisdom and knowledge. Let's pray that God would enable our children to understand the world through the grid of the greatness and glory of God in Christ.

## Calendar Updates

Mon., Jan. 4 – Back to School

Wed., Jan. 6 – Chapel, 8:45  
Pastor Greg Davis, Southwest Baptist

Fri., Jan. 8 – Chess Club, 3:15

Sat., Jan. 9 – Ski Club Begins

Mon., Jan. 11 – American Heritage Girls Mtg., 3:30

Tues., Jan. 12 – WCA B-ball, Away game,  
Medina Christian, 4:30

Wed., Jan. 13 – Chapel, 8:45  
Pastor Glenn Dunn, Cornerstone

Thurs., Jan. 14 – WCA B-ball, Away game,  
Bethel Christian, 4:30

Fri., Jan. 15 - End of Second Quarter  
Chess Club, 3:15

Mon., Jan. 18 – No School

Tues., Jan. 19 – WCA B-ball, Away game,  
Valley Christian, 4:30

Wed., Jan. 20 – Chapel, 8:45  
Pastor Steve Strong, Grace Baptist

Thurs., Jan 21 – WCA B-ball, Away game,  
First Baptist Elyria, 4:30

Fri., Jan. 22 – Report cards issued

Mon., Jan. 25 – American Heritage Girls Mtg., 3:30

Tues., Jan. 26 – WCA B-ball, Away game,  
Christian Community School, 4:30

Wed., Jan. 27 – Chapel, 8:45  
Mrs. Foldesy/Mr. Hindall's 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade class

Thurs., Jan. 28 – Annual Mtg, 7:00 pm  
Grace Baptist Sanctuary

### **Important Announcements**

Please be careful as you drive in the school parking lot at all times but especially during bad weather. If you are dropping off a b-ball player at door C in the morning please pull pass the door into a parking space so that cars do not have to form a line behind you.

Please review the WCA School Closing Information that was sent home in November. We realize that if the school remains open the weather in your area may be more treacherous than in Westlake. Your safety is most important to us. Please call the school if you will be late and take your time driving to school. Students will be excused if they are late due to weather. You must still park your car and sign the students in when they are late.

***Ski Club starts Saturday, Jan. 9.  
Please arrive by 4:45 p.m. so that  
members can be ready to go by 5:00  
p.m. for lesson.***

We would like to welcome Tom and Linda Uveges to the WCA family and their daughter Emma who is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Congratulations to the Pattee family on the birth of Faith Margaret Pattee on 12/27/09. She was 8 lb. 5 oz. and 19.5 inches long. Her big brother Michael is in Kindergarten.**

**The WCA Annual Meeting will be held on Thurs., Jan. 28 at 7 pm in the Grace Baptist Sanctuary as noted on the school calendar. This is the only required parent meeting. We ask that at least one parent be in attendance. The Board of Trustees will be presenting an update on the state of the school and sharing tuition information for 2010-2011 school year.**

**Did you know that you can use GoodSearch instead of Google and money will be donated to WCA. Go to GoodSearch designate WCA in Westlake as your charity and search away!!**

**WCA is collecting empty ink cartridges. We get \$3 for each HP, Dell, Lexmark, Brother, Epson, Samsung, Kodak, Sharp or Canon ink or toner cartridges. Check expiration date on cartridge. Bring cartridges to box in office.**

### **Prayer Requests**

Pray for the following:

1. We would glorify God in all that we do.
2. God would continue to bring new families to WCA. Enrollment would continue to grow for this current school year.
3. Please pray that God would provide for each of the WCA families.
4. God would give the staff wisdom to deal with every situation. We as parents and staff would partner together well and extend each other grace.
5. Safety throughout every part of the school day.
6. God would bless our fundraising efforts this year so we can continue to keep tuition affordable and help families in need.
7. The WCA Basketball team would bring God glory in their conduct and play. God would keep them injury free during the season.
8. Be The One Campaign would be extremely successful and we would raise \$105,000 by May 1.