

## **SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY**

Since man was created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27), we are divine image bearers. As divine image bearers, we were created to glorify God, and to know Him. It is imperative that Christian education's loftiest goal is to educate its students in the knowledge of that God whose image they bear, and to make it the highest science that engages the student's mind.

The knowledge of God is the best and highest form of knowledge that has its beginning in the fear of God (Proverbs 1:7). A proper fear of God leads man to wonder and marvel at the mystery of the Godhead; to pursue and understand the complex nature of His creation; to develop abilities to think carefully and critically about the issues of life and death; to understand how the knowledge of God leads to scientific discoveries as every aspect of creation is investigated.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10). The knowledge of the Holy One is the fertile ground in which wisdom grows, therefore it is essential that the Christian education of children include the Holy Scriptures, which are the bone and marrow of our knowledge of God, and are able to make children "wise for salvation" (2 Timothy 4:15). "The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Proverbs 18:15).

There can be no knowledge or wisdom apart from truth, thus Christian education must exhaust every means to discover and know the truth. Truth finds its Alpha and Omega, its beginning and its end in Jesus Christ, whose very name is Truth (John 14:6; Revelation 19:11). As Jesus is the one true God, who "is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8), and "with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17); therefore truth, all truth, is absolute and not relative and rests on the unchanging standards of the word of God.

Therefore, education should first and foremost be the pursuit of knowing God our creator. We seek to educate all students from the basis of God's revealed truth in the Bible. The primary place for this education is the home. The church also plays an essential role in the pursuit of true knowledge and wisdom. The school comes alongside the home and the church and supports and aids in the education process. The school can not take the place of home and church, and should never promote or teach ideas contrary to, or challenging the truth of God being taught in the home and in the church.

The purpose of Christian education, then, is to discover the sublime realities of God as He has revealed Himself in the Scripture and in nature. It must be the goal of Christian education to instruct our children about the true nature of the Triune God, and how that knowledge affects and instructs all the sciences and the rigors of academic pursuits.