

REQUIREMENTS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The educational process can be described as adhering to one of two basic philosophies. All education is either “theistic” or “humanistic,” either God’s way or man’s way. According to Romans 8:29, Ephesians 4:12-13, and II Timothy 3:17, education is “conforming people to the image of Jesus Christ.” Proverbs states that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge” and “of wisdom” (1:7; 9:10). The psalmist adds, “except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it” (Psalm 127:1). Having a Godly foundation and the teamwork of home, church, and schools is essential in this educational process. There are, however, some Bilabial ingredients that are required if the church and school are to effectively assist the home.

The first essential ingredient is a Godly philosophy that has as its focus to glorify God in every aspect of the ministry. Paul reminds us in I Corinthians 10:31 that we are to “do all to the glory of God,” The term *all* is an encompassing and inclusive word. Everything a Christian does, including education, must be to the glory of God. An overriding philosophy that keeps His glory at the forefront will be a major safeguard for any ministry.

The second ingredient is a Godly purpose that focuses on exalting the Savior, equipping the saints, and evangelizing the sinner. In directing every aspect of ministry, the question must be asked, “Will it exalt, equip, and evangelize?” Within the educational process, the major focus is on equipping; there must be a constant effort to develop Christ-likeness in these young disciples.

A third key ingredient in the process is Godly people--families and faculty that agree in philosophy and purpose. People must be committed to growing in their own Christ-likeness and pointing others in the same direction. Care must also be taken in the acceptance of the right students.

God-honoring programs are the fourth ingredient. The academic, fine arts, Bible, and athletic programs must be designed to glorify God. They should be designed to prepare young people to serve the Lord. Everything should be done in an excellent manner because God desires and deserves our best. When developing the programs for our ministries, consideration should be given to the physical, spiritual, mental, and social needs of all the involved parties (Luke 2:40).

A fifth requirement in the process of Christian education is a God-glorifying plant. External extravagance is not necessary, but cleanliness and neatness are a must! A study of God’s design of the temple will show that nothing was done in a second rate manner.

Biblical responsibility, reasons, and requirements will bring Biblical results.