

Why Christian Education?

What is a Christian School?

All people in all places have basic ideas that they use to order their lives. These ideas are used like filters to understand and interpret the world and to guide decision making and behavior. Taken together, these ideas are called a worldview. Everyone has a worldview whether they consciously created one or accepted one or just absorbed one from the society, religion, or philosophy that is around them.

SLOCS defines "Christian School" as a school that is informed by and reflects a Christian worldview, a school built on the premise that all eternal truth comes from the God of the Bible. Since He is the sovereign creator of our world, then inquiries about our world are beneficial for our instruction since they reflect one or more truths about God.

For example, the following Biblical truths are central to how a Christian School interprets what should be learned by our students:

TOPIC	BIBLICAL TRUTHS	IMPLICATIONS FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
1. Creation	God is sovereign and holy. God is creator. Man was made in God's image and the original creation was "good;"	Man has an innate desire to know. There are universal (non-relative) and unchangeable truths.
2. The Fall	Disobedience to God is called sin. All people sin and that has significant effects eventually leading to death. Humanity constantly struggles with God.	Study of history is valuable showing the results of sinful mankind and the interventions of God.
3. Redemption	God has provided a way to reconcile his creation with Him. God's dealings with the Israelites anticipates the incarnation of God as Jesus Christ and that leads to the only way of salvation from the effects of the fall.	Mankind and individual human beings have innate worth given by God. Education is valuable when it glorifies God's achievements, not mankind's. Ethics is derived from God's holiness, not relative utilitarianism.
4. Future Hope	There is an eternity that is different from the temporal world we see today. There will be a Second Coming of Christ that marks the transition between the two worlds.	Our present life is a preparation for an eternal one. Skills (i.e. character) beyond those needed for an occupation are important.

It is through these and other similar Biblical truths that we at SLOCS look at art, history, science, literature -- all subject areas.

SLOCS Approach:

The Christian worldview requires that we be courageous in our approach to academia, meaning that no subject is beyond our scope of inquiry.

SLOCS Methodology/Attitude:

Our methods should reflect patience with the student, humility before the vastness of the world and its maker, honesty within our community and objectivity in our scholarly assessments.

SLOCS Goal:

The end product is discernment. Our goal is to teach students to be able to determine the true from the untrue, the ethical from the unethical. We want students to discern the meanings inherent to a given subject or topic as it relates to the Christian truth, as it gives us insight into God's creation, as it provides wisdom about how to relate to the fallen world in which we must witness.

**Childhood is Premature to Experience
and be Can be Influenced by Secular Values:**

The public school system has become an instrument of a secular state. It has slowly moved from being based on Christian values two hundred years ago to tolerant of those values one-hundred years ago to overt opposition to all things Christian today in most public school systems. One of several driving forces of these changes is the rise of secular-humanism (a worldview). It influences court decisions, legislation, school policies and even teachers who have great autonomy behind classroom doors.

Christian parents have a duty to make sure their children thoroughly learn and master a Christian worldview before they allow their impressionable children to face other worldviews offered in the public setting. *One of the most effective solutions is Christian Education.*

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