

Education under the Lordship of Christ – Session Three

Coromandel Baptist Church July 2015



Sessions one and two?

**REVIEW**

Any comments with regard to the Review Paper?

Learn to....

Learn to....

Addition

An additional thought...

Mourning the absence of Shalom

Compassionate crying (2 Cor 1:3-5) – not sentimentality

“Teaching for Tears”

Grace leads us to: <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you...<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:14-15

What about us....?

The Journey...

1. Education - What is it and why is it important?
2. Education - Where should it take us?
3. Education - Who can help us on the journey?

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3. **Education** - Who can help us on the journey?

## Narrative...

- All education is driven by a narrative – every approach to education arises from, and engages us in a "Big Story" – we need to know the Big Story of God and how we live in that story and live out that story. We need to identify the "alternative stories"

## Every Big Story involves faith...

- Every person operates from faith in something or someone:
  - Self
  - Family
  - Money
  - God
  - Humanity
  - Political ideology
  - ??

## Universal Questions

### Reality

- Who, or what is my God?
- Who am I?
- Where did I come from? Where am I going?
- Why am I here?
- How then shall I live?

## Universal Questions

### Identity

- Who, or what is my God?
- Who am I?
- Where did I come from? Where am I going?
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## Universal Questions

### Origin and destiny

- Who, or what is my God?
- Who am I?
- Where did I come from? Where am I going?
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## Universal Questions

### purpose

- Who, or what is my God?
- Who am I?
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## Universal Questions

### morality

- Who, or what is my God?
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## Faith Informs...

- Reality
- Identity
- Origin and Destiny
- Purpose
- Morality

## Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth...

## Psalm 24

<sup>1</sup> The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it...

## Psalm 78

<sup>4</sup>We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.

## Psalm 145

<sup>4</sup> One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts...

## Proclaiming the Preeminence of Christ

He is preeminent in Creation - not just that He spoke it into being but that He maintains everything and holds everything together. He is preeminent in the Cross; He is preeminent in the Gospel; He is preeminent in His people, the church; He is Lord of the universe. Thus He is preeminent in each of our lives and all of our work and relationships... and education...

## This?



## Or This?



**"...take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible."** Karl Barth Time magazine article published on Friday, May 31, 1963

## Colossians 2

<sup>2</sup> ...that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, <sup>3</sup> in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

### Meaning...

- Without the big Story that this is God's world; that He creates, He redeems, he sustains and He is bringing us to rest in Him... we can only educate behaviourally..
- The WHY (meaning) question is critical to life and thus to education..

Aspects of Education may LOOK similar

### Performing Arts or Ministering Arts?

Aspects of Education may LOOK similar

### Service or Servanthood?

### Theology and servanthood

The Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit exist in perfect **love**; they **delight** in one another  
 Jesus Christ, the Son **serves** the Father out of utter **love**; It is the **delight** of the Son to be obedient

### Theology and servanthood

The Holy Spirit is sent into the world and He comes in obedient **love** and **delight** to witness truth to us  
 Each of the persons of the Trinity, **love and serve** one another...

### Theology and servanthood

**Love and service** are inseparable!  
 If I don't **serve** my wife; I do not **love** my wife....  
 I **delight** in **loving and serving** her...

### Theology and servanthood

*We bear the imprint of the*

*Tri-Une God!*

*WWJD*

*Or*

*ITLOWJHDHSLW*

How did I come to faith? (the factors of influence)

How do we/did we choose which church we engage with?

How do we/did we choose who would help us in the education of our children?

To what degree can we view our children as God's covenant people?

## Essential Reading!

## "Christian Parents and Their Children" Grant Thorpe

## Major Thesis...

Our task as parents is: to observe, enjoy and submit to God's Fatherhood and to represent that to the children God gives to us (e.g. Deuteronomy 6:20-25; Ephesians 3:14-15).



## Extract/summary..

Children are significant in God's covenants. So we see that the new covenant 'is for you and your children' (Acts 2:39). This reflects the expression of covenant in Deuteronomy 6:7-9: 'Impress them upon your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road.. Tie them as symbols on your hands...

## Extract/summary..

...that is, being a part of the covenant meant that there was the understanding it included their children, and also that the only appropriate response could be to speak constantly to their children of this covenant, telling them that God has included them in this covenant, and that they need simply to live in the joy of God.

## Extract/summary..

"If they (Israelites) knew that God was their God and that they were His people, to whom did their children belong? Hardly to idols! And for Jews, as for us, there can be no neutral territory or this-worldly limbo in which they roam without a point of reference."

## Questions to Ask

- Of a school..
- Of a curriculum..
- Of Ourselves...

## Questions to Ask

- What's the Big Story?
- What are your intentions?
- How do I influence and engage?
- ??

**Martin Luther**

I am much afraid that schools will prove to be the great gates of hell unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the scriptures do not reign paramount

### William Carey

"Pay the utmost attention to the schools. I consider schools as one of the most effectual means of spreading the light of the gospel around the world."

William Carey's advice to his son Jabez, as he began his work in a new city in India

### Lesslie Newbigin

"Christ is not just the Lord of Christians; He is Lord of all, absolutely and without qualification. Therefore the entire Church in their secular occupations are called to be signs of His lordship in every area of life."