

Why Christian Education?

Most Christian parents are familiar with Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.” So, how exactly do we train up our children? The decision on what educational route we choose for our children should be well researched and prayerfully considered. I cannot disagree that there are successful students and strong Christians graduating from public institutions. They have persevered *despite* their circumstances. But how much stronger would they be if they didn’t have to persevere in a secular environment? A Christian education sets your student up for success not only academically, but in their faith and life skills as well. Yes, it takes sacrifice and determination; however it is a choice you will not regret.

Replacement or Partnership?

Working in Christian education for several years, I have heard many stories from parents about how they were not welcome on the public school campus of their child’s school. While this is not true for all public schools, it is true for many. 90% of all students in America are educated through the public school system, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, 2010. Public institutions have a large student population and rigid requirements are in place for the benefit of the majority, but not necessarily for the benefit of your student and family personally. On the contrary, most Christian schools welcome parents on campus and encourage them to be involved in the school. Opportunities range from reading to students, chaperoning field trips, and helping to serve lunch. With a Christian school, you have a partner that is keenly interested in meeting the needs of you and your child/ren.

Higher Academic Standards & Results

As Christians, we are called to excellence.

“His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 1:3-8

How do Christian schools – typically with much smaller budgets than their public school counterparts – succeed in pursuing excellence in education?

- Small Class Sizes – As mentioned above, only 10% of students in the U.S. are educated in independent institutions. Therefore, our schools have a much smaller student to teacher ratio. This results in more individual attention and the development of personal relationships between teachers and students.
- Higher expectations of student performance – Christian schools understand the Bible’s call to excellence. With a more personal relationship in a smaller class setting, these teachers can communicate more easily their expectations. And their expectations can be quite high. According to the 2010 NCES study, private schools employ a greater work load, have a more challenging academic curriculum, and have more rigorous requirements for graduation.

Statistics show that 67% of independent school graduates attend college compared to 40% of public school graduates, and independent school students score better on college entrance exams (NCES, 2012.)

Biblical Worldview

Psalm 86:11 is a plea to God: “Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.” If we are to teach our children God’s truth, and encourage them to fear His name, then our children must learn that God has His hand in every aspect of life. God created order and this can be studied in mathematics. He created the earth and everything in it – an integral fact when studying biology and chemistry. God is faithful to His people – a study combining history and the Bible attests to this. A Christian school can teach these truths, while a public school cannot. It’s important that our children do not “un-learn” at school what we teach them at home and church. “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.” Psalm 111:10

A Christian Community

Is a Christian school a “bubble”? Will your child be unprepared for real life because he or she attended a Christian school? Christian schools are full of sinners. Our teachers and administrators are sinners, our students are sinners, and our parents are sinners. So our schools share some of the same root problems as public schools – drugs, discipline issues, etc. These are definitely not the norm at Christian schools, but these issues do arise on occasion. The difference is in how we handle the issues and the standards of our community.

- Discipline - Our teachers and administrators admonish students with love, showing them Scripture to reveal that we are called to be Christ-like. And our schools partner with parents when tackling tough situations.
- Christian Examples – Our teachers are mentors, living out their walk with Christ in front of their students. Do they make mistakes? Yes. These are real people with real struggles and triumphs. But their reliance on Christ is the heart of their testimony.
- Families & School Culture -- Our families share a common value system. They are parents like you – who are dedicated to their child’s education and upbringing. Our schools are full of great kids and families. We play together, work hard together, we work through tough issues together, and we encourage one another. Looking for some Christian friendships for you and your children? Your search ends here.

To find a Christian school near you, check out the map on the [home page](#).

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Jean has worked in Christian schools for over six years assisting with admissions, marketing, fundraising, and finance. She has over 25 years of experience in the business sector with marketing, sales, training, communication, and business administration.