



HERZOG FOUNDATION  
**INSTITUTE**

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**MAKING  
THE LEAP**

**SYMPOSIUM**

# OUR GOAL

---

# OUR ASK

---



# OUR GOAL

---



LEAVE  
**EQUIPPED**



LEAVE  
**CONNECTED**



LEAVE  
**VALUED**

# OUR ASK

---





# OUR GOAL

---



LEAVE  
**EQUIPPED**



LEAVE  
**CONNECTED**



LEAVE  
**VALUED**



# OUR ASK

---



BE  
**PRESENT**

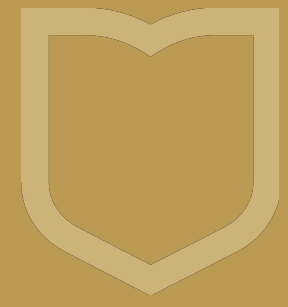


BE  
**ENGAGED**



BE  
**OPEN**

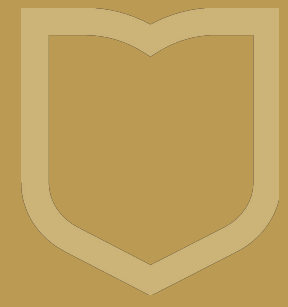




## Why It Began

**“BECAUSE GOD SAID: “All things were created by Him and for Him...and by Him all things hold together.”**

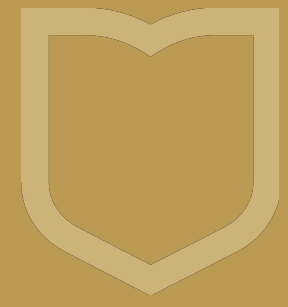
Colossians 1:16-17 (CSB)



## Why It Began

“**HOW COULD WE** have our children taught that all things evolved, that man's own wisdom could discover true knowledge, and that to serve society is the only goal higher than serving one's self?

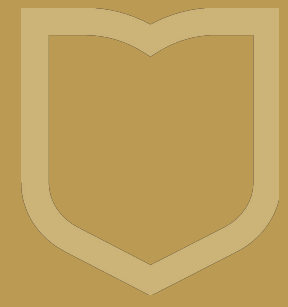




## Why It Began

**“BECAUSE GOD SAID: “The fear of the Lord - that is wisdom. And to turn from evil is understanding”**

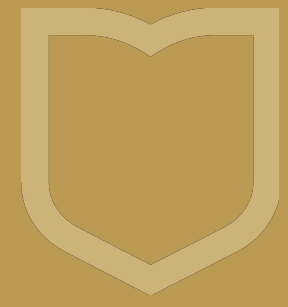
Job 28:28 (CSB)



## Why It Began

“**HOW COULD WE** consent to a training that tries to be wise without listening to God’s instruction and boldly denies the difference between good and evil?

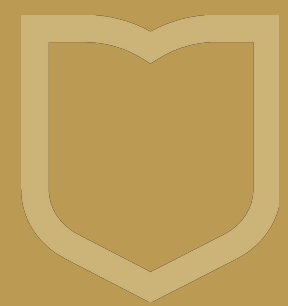




## Why It Began

**“BECAUSE GOD SAID:** “And these words which I command to you today...you shall teach them diligently to your children...when you sit ... when you walk...when you lie down...when you rise up,”

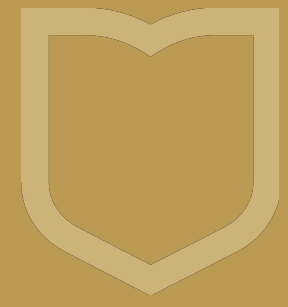
Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NKJV)



## Why It Began

“**HOW COULD WE** evade His command to parents (not the state) to teach their children “in the Lord” and instead entrust those childrens’ choicest years to a secular school which knows neither reverence for God’s name nor respect for His word

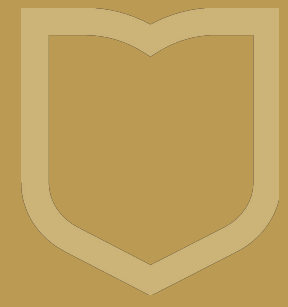




## Why It Began

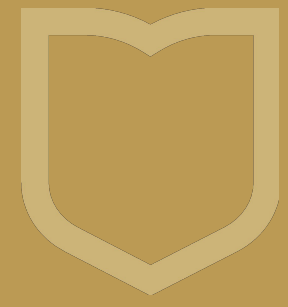
“**BECAUSE GOD SAID:** “Love the Lord your God  
with all your...mind.”

Matthew 22:37 (CSB)



## Why It Began

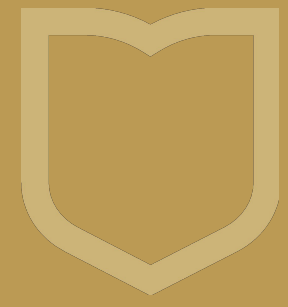
“**HOW COULD WE** take part in an education that is embarrassed by the thought that man’s mind, when most fully developed, will love and fear God supremely?



## Why It Began

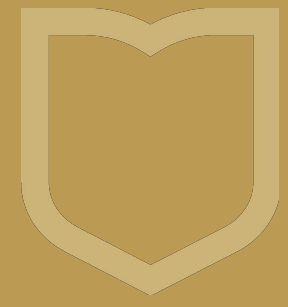
**“BECAUSE GOD WARNED: “...Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to fall away—it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck and he were drowned in the depths of the sea.”**

Matthew 18:16 (CSB)



## Why It Began

“**HOW DARE WE** invite this judgment by submitting our children to a system that would rather offend the faith of a million children than brave the doubts of a few pagan parents?”



## Why It Began

“**BECAUSE OF THESE** and many other reasons we felt compelled to start a Christian school. We did so with reluctance but with gratitude that we lived in a land that allowed us this freedom.





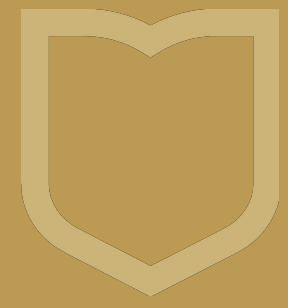
# LEGACY

“What do these  
stones mean?...  
You shall let your  
children know.”

Joshua 4:21-24

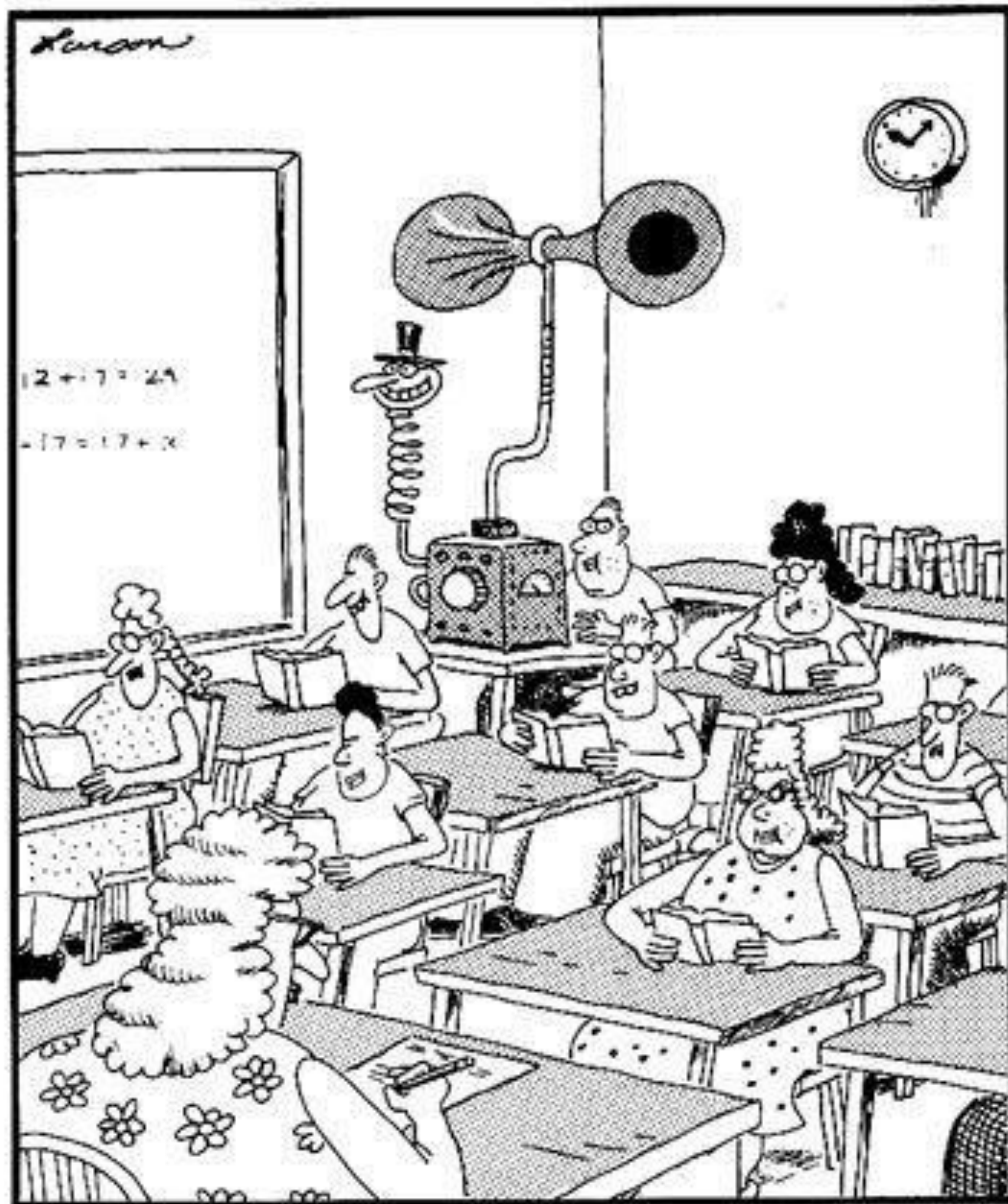
# **Finding FAITH & FREEDOM in the Classroom**





# Finding Faith and Freedom in the Classroom

- Teach freely
- Share your faith
- Establish deep relationship
- Disciple students

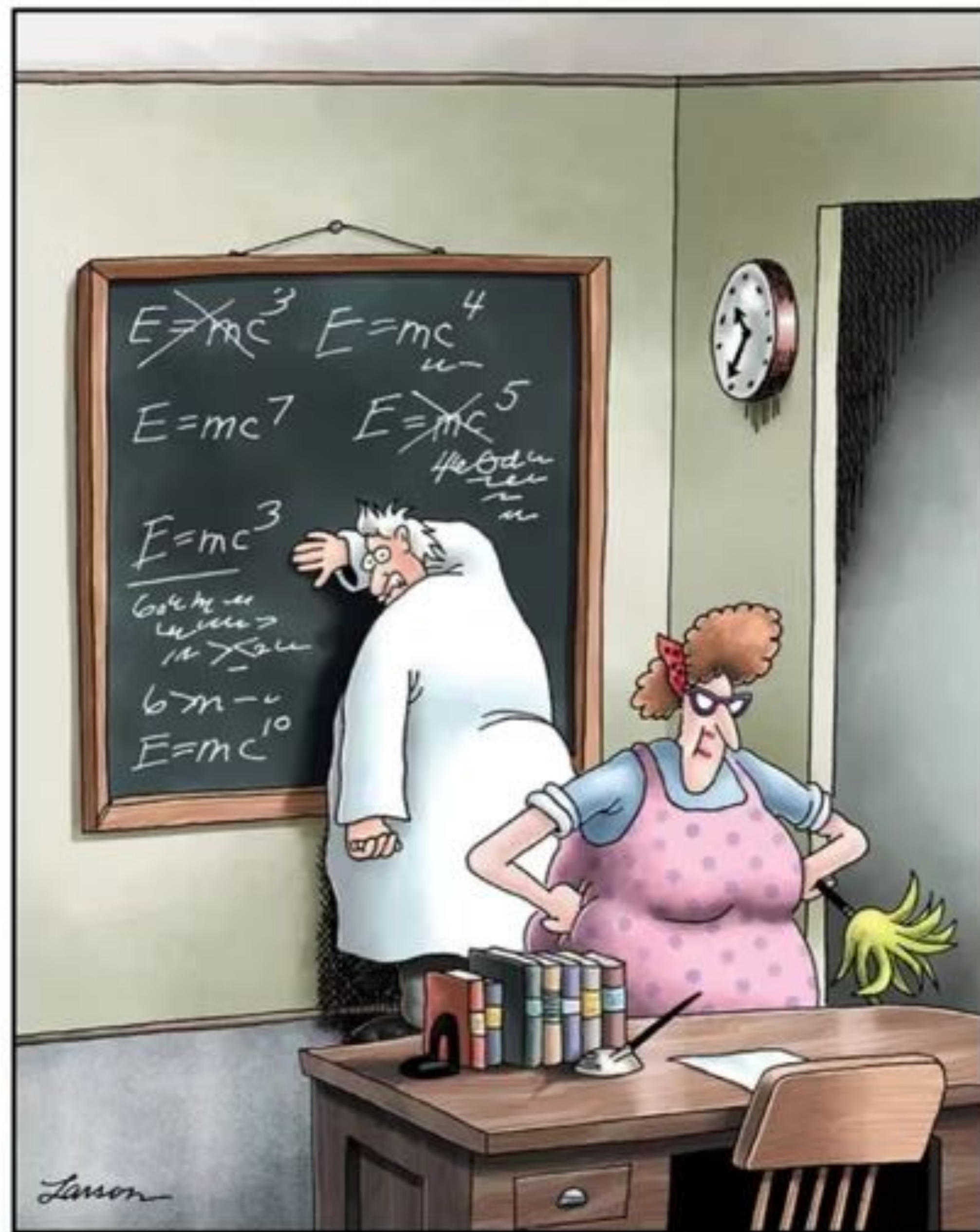


The class was quietly doing its lesson when Russell, suffering from problems at home, prepared to employ an attention-getting device.



Why science teachers  
should not be given  
playground duty.





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"Now that desk looks better. Everything's squared away, yessir, squaaaaaaared away."



# Rabbi Akiva

AD 50 - 130







**Who are you?**

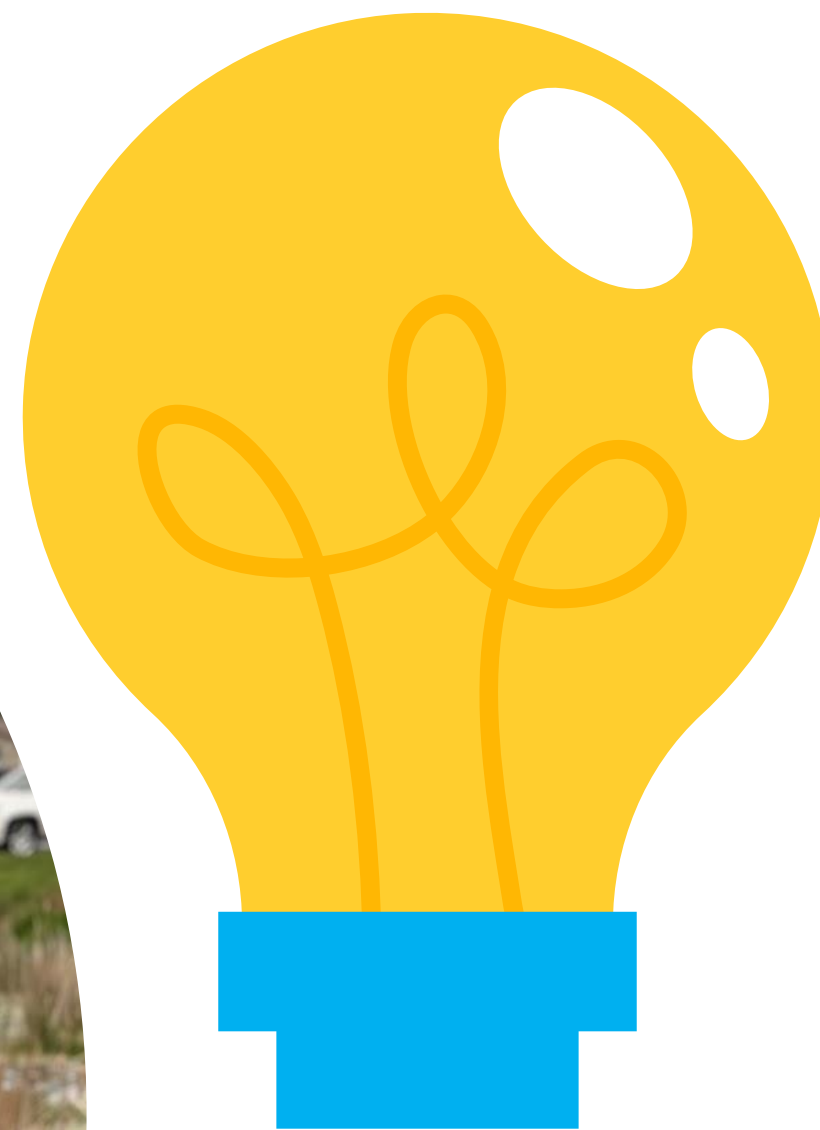
**Why are you here?**







**Joel, Mandy, Salomae,  
Brielle, Elliana, Audrey**



# Joel Nydam



## White Bear Lake

Taught 3rd - 5th grade

2002 - 2012

Teacher of the Year Finalist

## Legacy Christian Academy

Principal - PreK - 6th

Co-Head of School/Finance

2012 - Present





# Joys of Christian Education



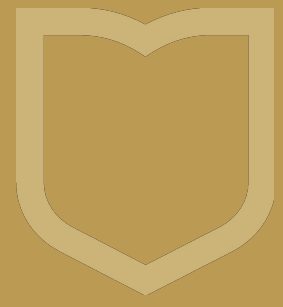
## Biblical Truth

~Who God is ~

Psalms 25:5

John 14:6

**Head**



# Biblical Truth

- Psalm 25:5

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

- John 14:6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.





We believe in  
***JESUS CHRIST***

*in whom are hidden all the treasures  
of wisdom and knowledge.*

*- Colossians 2:3*





# Joys of Christian Education



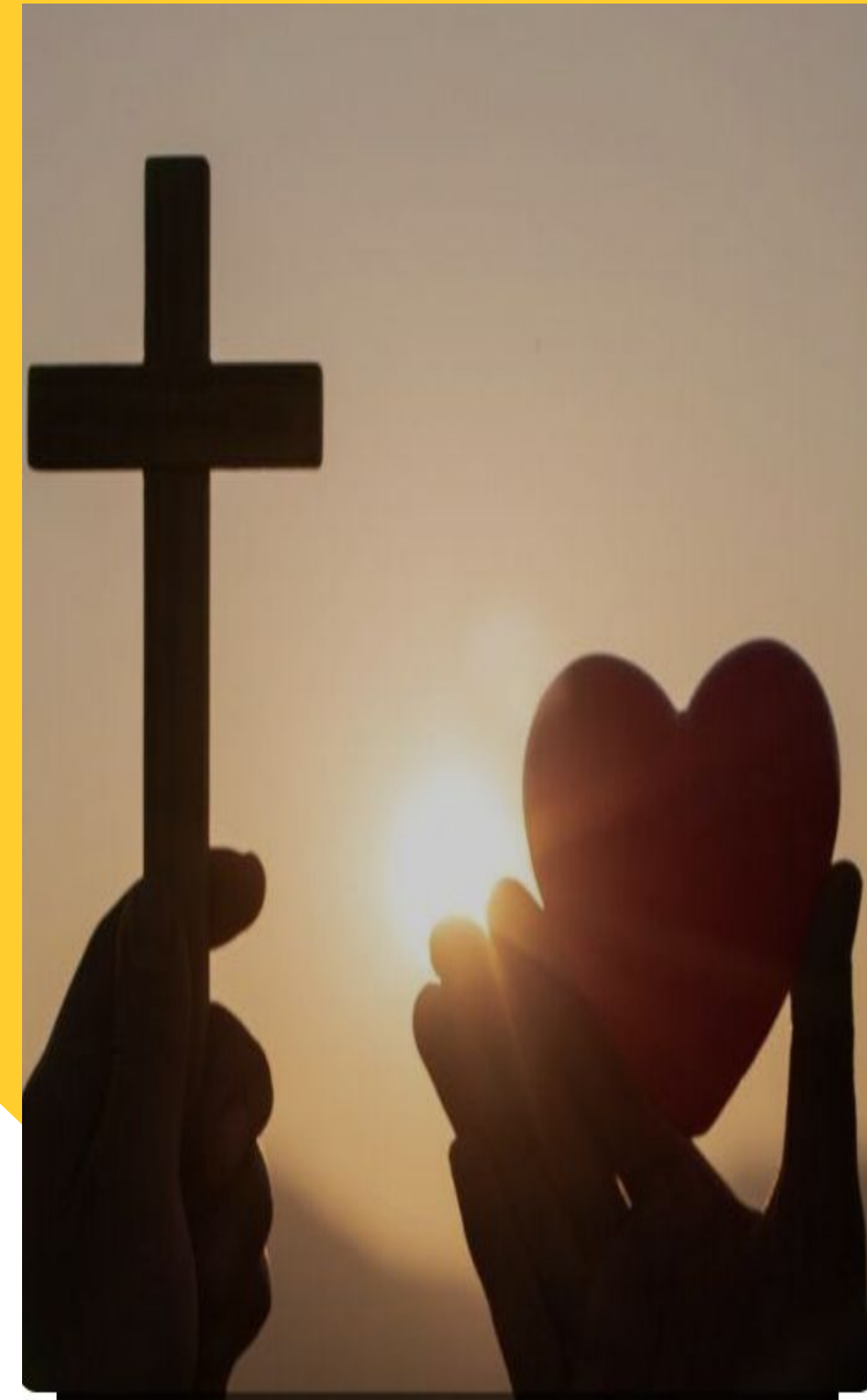
## Biblical Truth

~Who God is ~

Psalms 25:5

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**Head**



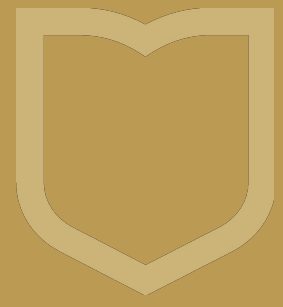
## Disciple Hearts

~ Who others are ~

Hebrews 10:24-25

1 Corinthians 11:1

**Heart**



# Disciple Hearts

- Hebrews 10:24-25

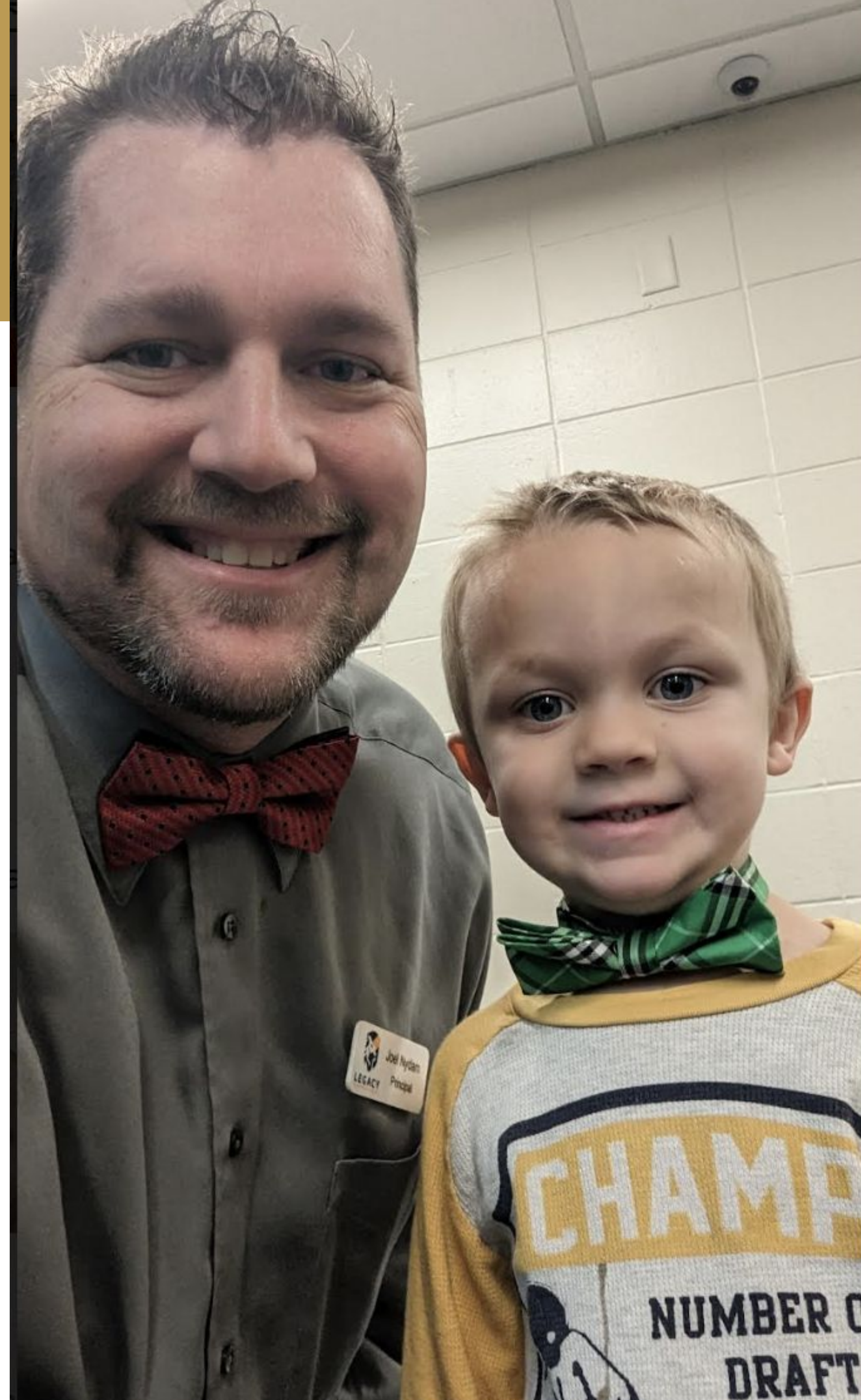
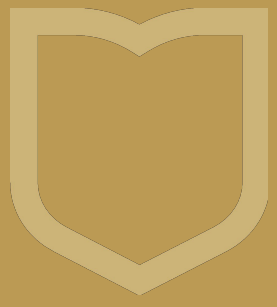
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- 1 Corinthians 11:1

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.











# Joys of Christian Education



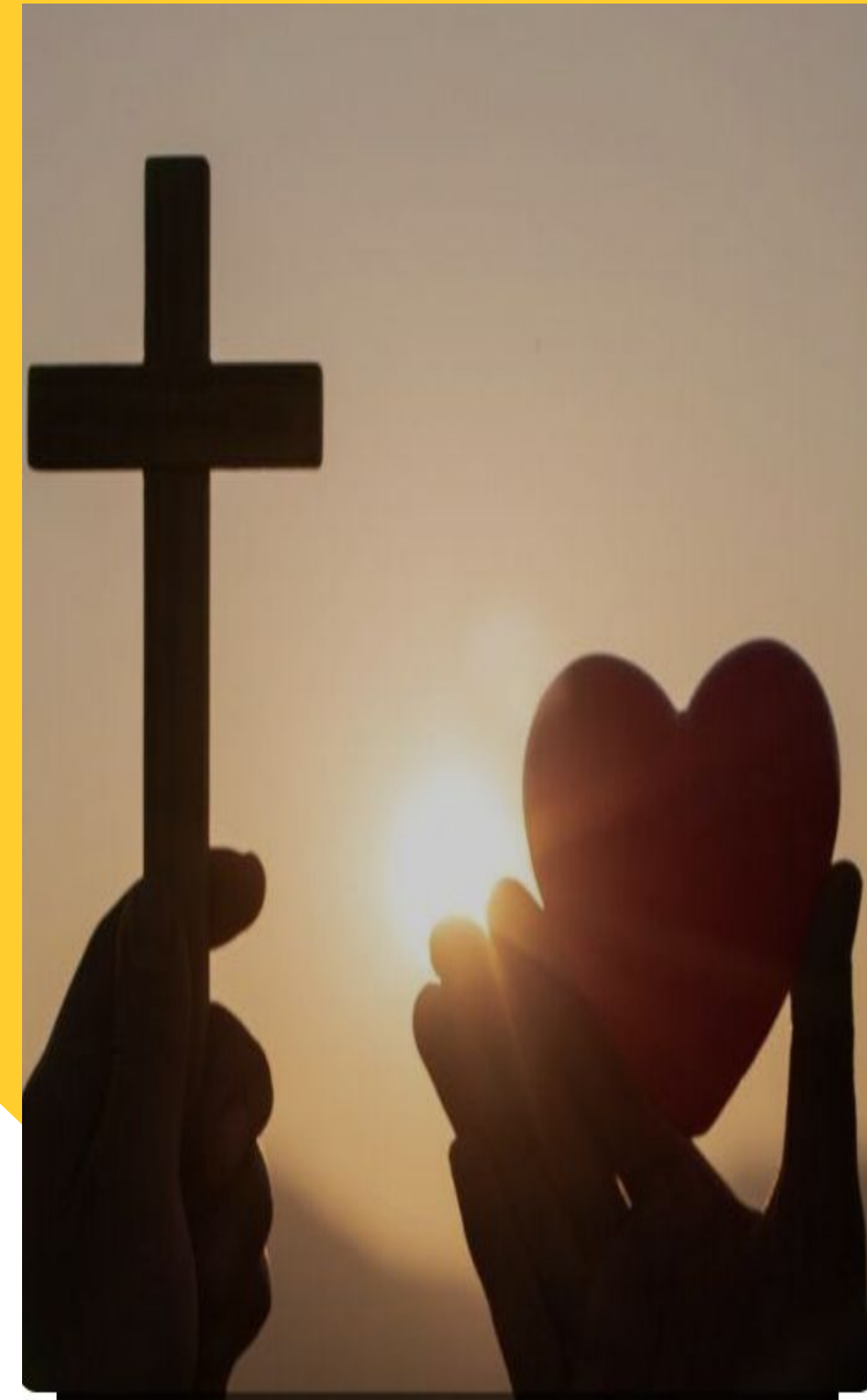
## Biblical Truth

~Who God is ~

Psalms 25:5

John 14:6

### Head



## Disciple Hearts

~ Who others are ~

Hebrews 10:24-25

1 Corinthians 11:1

### Heart



## 100% of You

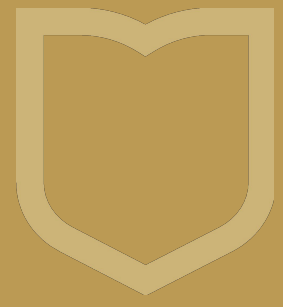
~ Who I am ~

1 Thessalonians 2:8-12

Titus 2:7-8

### Habits





# 100% of You

- 1 Thessalonians 2:8-12

So we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

- Titus 2:7-8

Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.



a formal summary of the aims and values  
of a company, organization, or individual.

# Mission

**Let's look at a couple of mission statements:**



- To bring inspiration and innovation to every athlete\* in the world. \*If you have a body, you are an athlete.



- to entertain, inform and inspire people around the globe through the power of unparalleled storytelling



- To inspire and nurture the human spirit – one person and one cup at a time.



# Mission

## Attempt to write out your school's mission



- educates under-resourced students to live life well: following Jesus, thriving academically, and transforming their communities.
- Rivertree Academy, TX



- is to provide a whole-person Christian education that immerses our students in a transformative Biblical worldview.
- Rejoice Christian School, OK



- passionately pursues three primary purposes: To provide a Biblical foundation, to prepare each student for life, and to emphasize the parent's role.
- Grace Preparatory School, VA

# Mission continued



- Ensure that every school guarantees students reach their full potential through rigorous and joyful learning experiences provided in a nurturing environment.
- District of Columbia Public Schools, DC



- Preparing ALL students for success in college, career, and community leadership.
- Fort Worth, TX



- To provide a safe environment that equips, educates, and empowers students on their journey toward outstanding character and success.
- Owasso, OK



# Commonalities and Differences

**Christian**

**Public**





# 60 Second Timer

*Relaxation Music*



# Commonalities and Differences

**Christian**

**Public**





**St.  
Matthew's  
House**



**THERE ARE  
PEOPLE  
YOU'LL GET TO  
MEET IN HEAVEN  
BECAUSE OF WHAT  
YOU ARE DOING  
*Today***



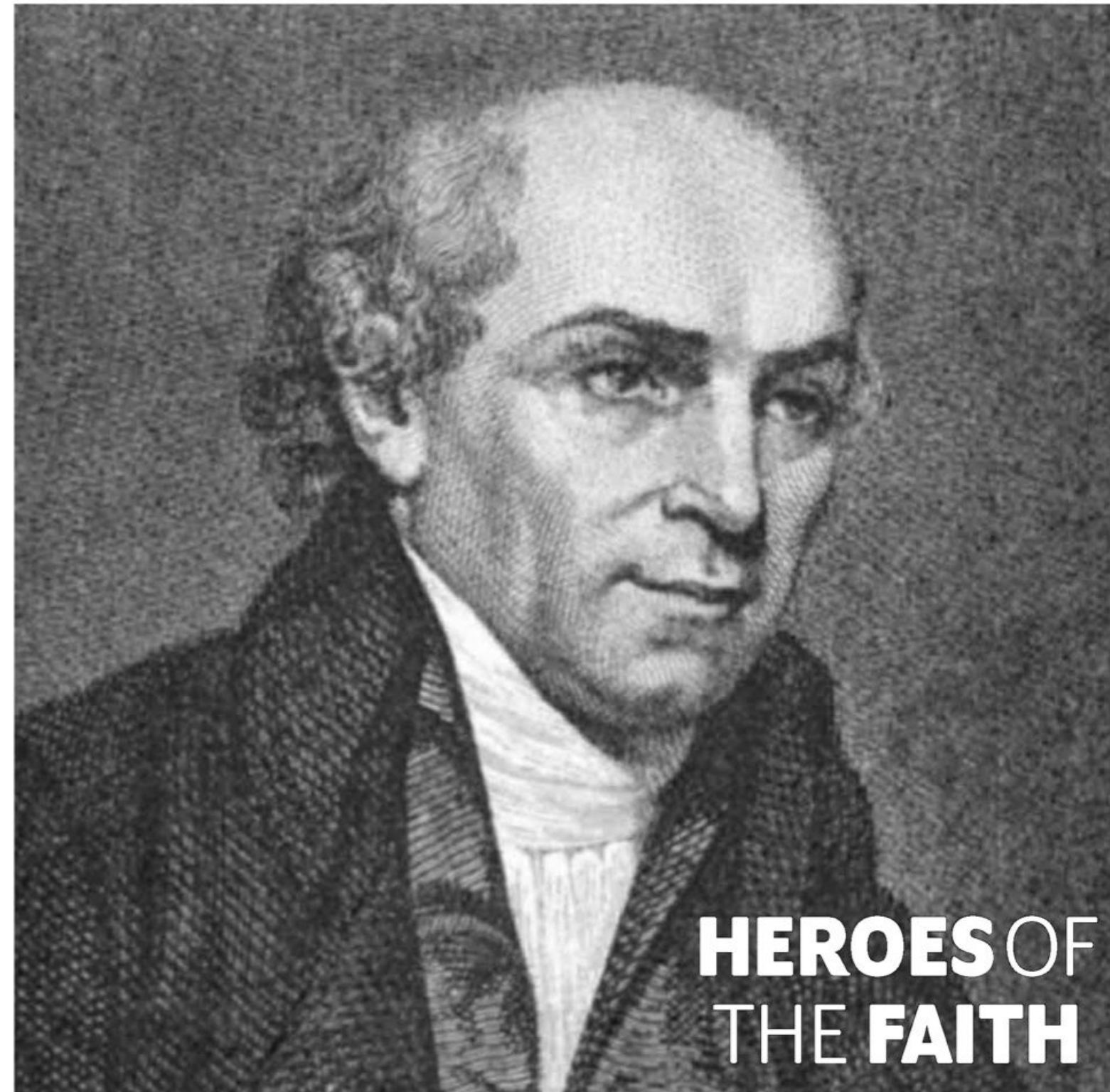
**HEADS**



**TAILS?**

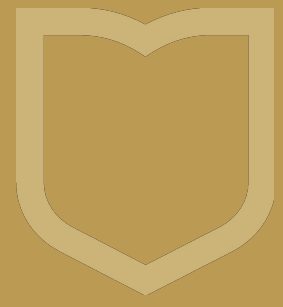


Expect great  
things from God;  
attempt great  
things for God.



**HEROES OF  
THE FAITH**

- William Carey



# The Teacher

- Research tells us that the teacher is the single biggest school influence on a child's success. (Hattie, 2023)
- Experience tells us that great teachers lead to great students.
- Jesus reminds us that he called His disciples to be like Him.

**SO...**

We must have teachers who their students want to emulate, to follow, to be like.



COME  
FOLLOW  
ME



TRUTH



DESIRE

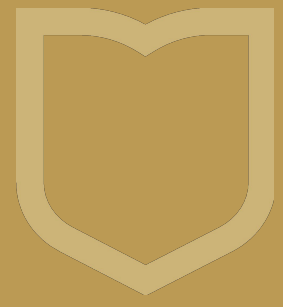


HABITS



JESUS' SPIRITUAL FORMATION METHODS

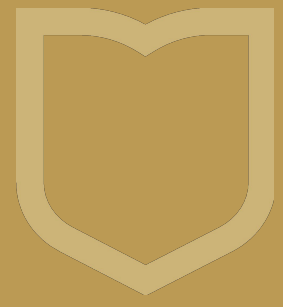




# TALMID

- Talmid (add -im for plural): we translate the word to DISCIPLE, but it is much more than that.
- A talmid is someone who wants to BE what the teacher IS.





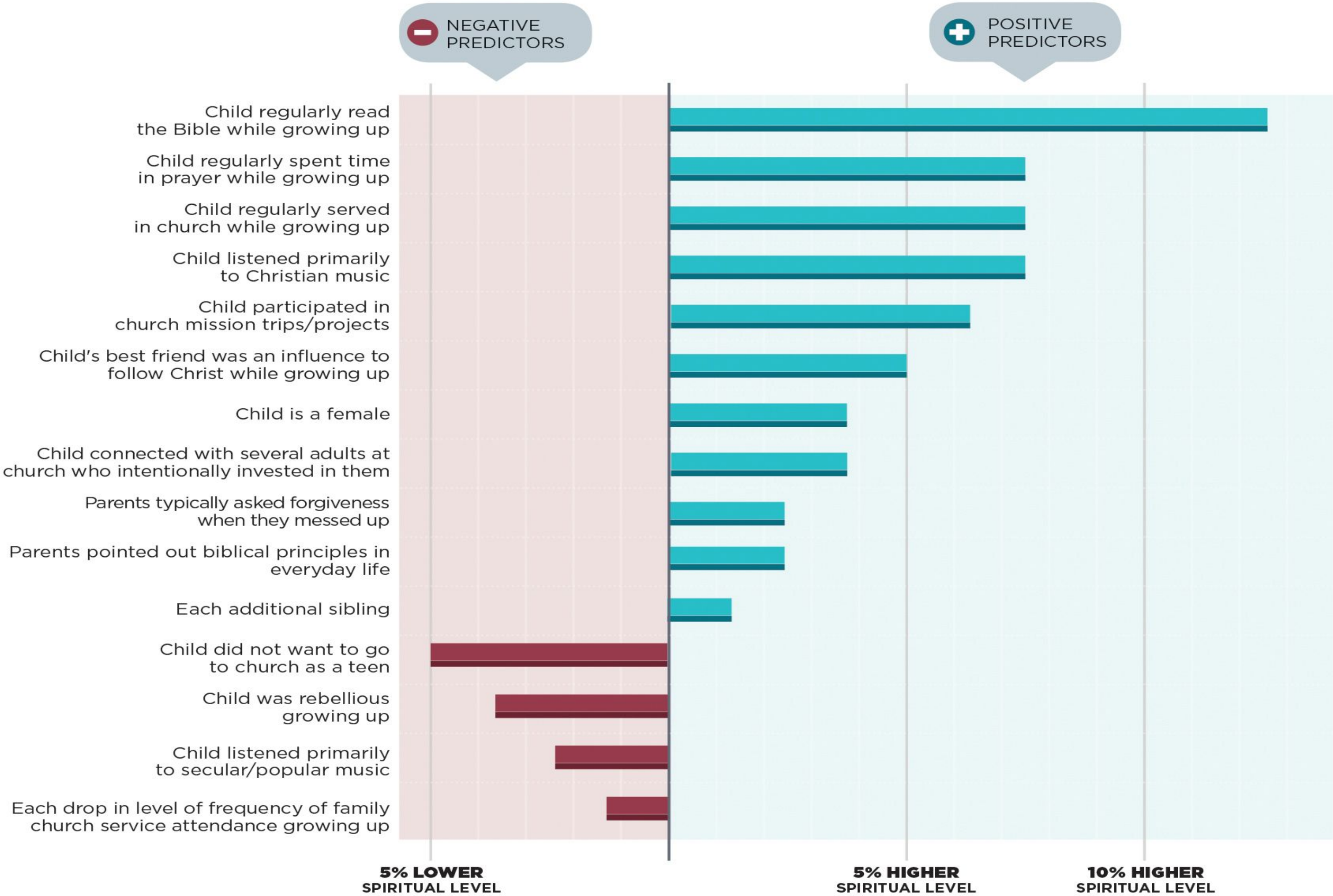
# TALMID

If you come to God wanting to know what God knows, you are a student.

If you come saying, “I want more than anything else in the world to be just like Jesus,” now you have become a disciple.



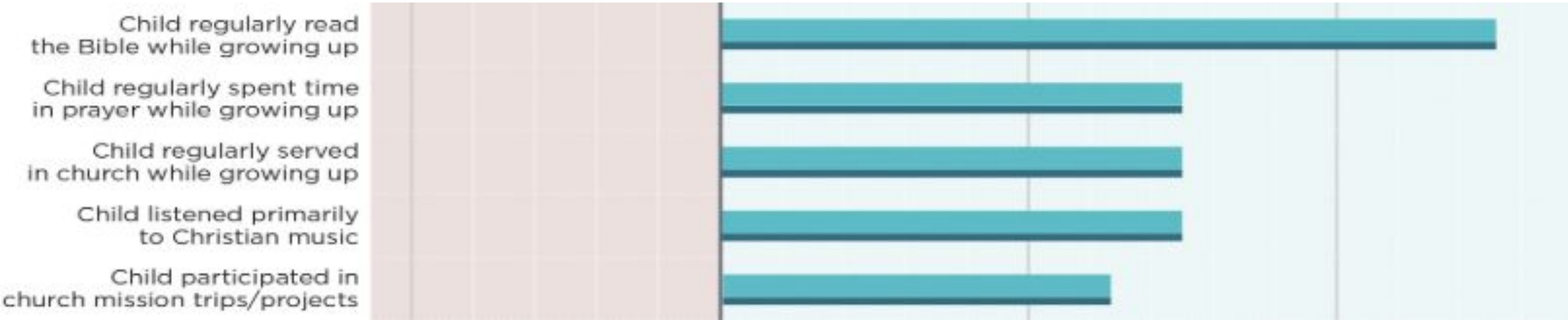
# Best predictors of spiritual health among young adults



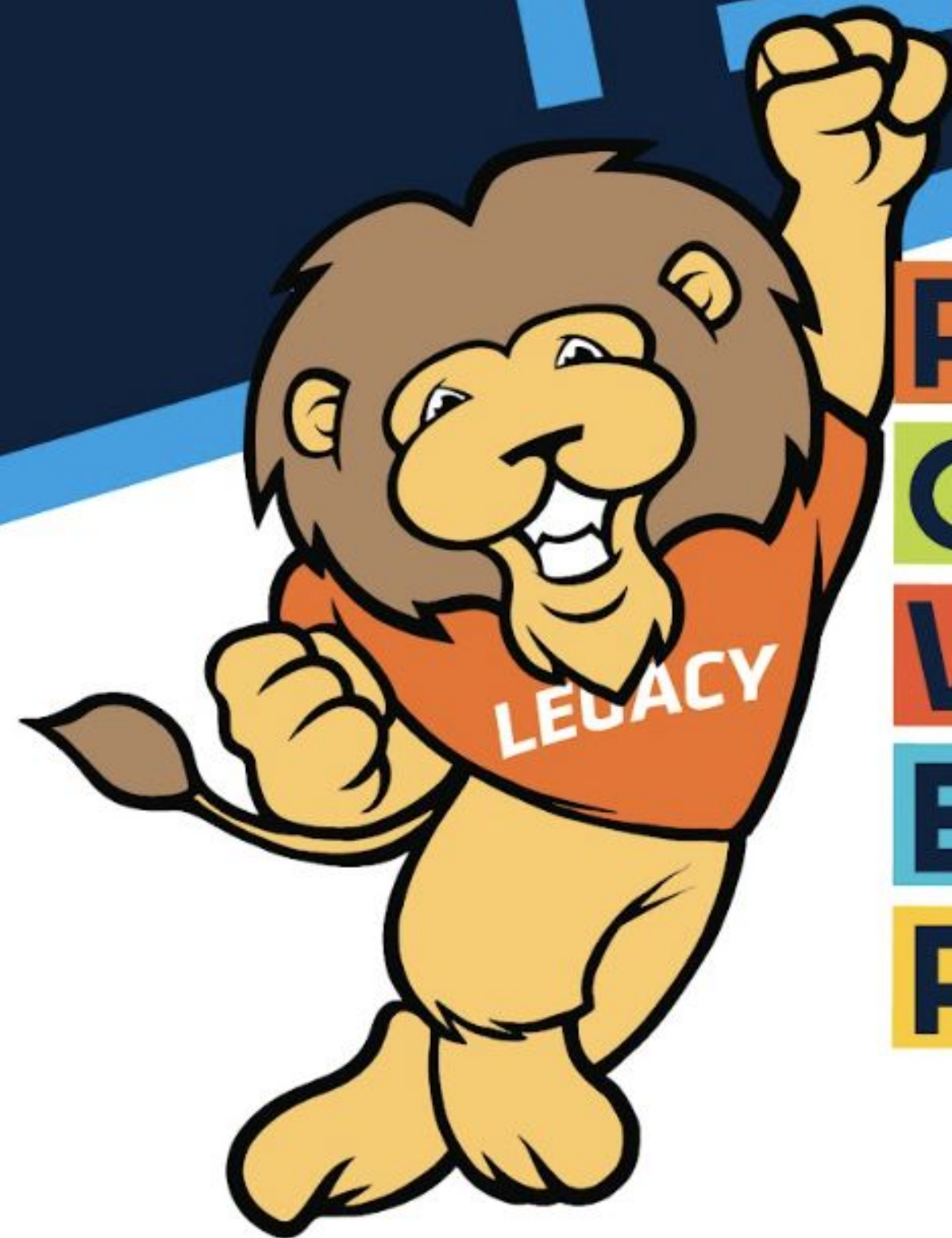
FROM NOTHING LESS BY JANA MAGRUDER

NOTE: LifeWay Research asked Protestant churchgoing parents to describe the upbringing and current spiritual health of their young adult children. These 15 factors were the most predictive of spiritual health in young adulthood. These factors have a cumulative effect.









**PLANTING**

**OUR FATHER'S**

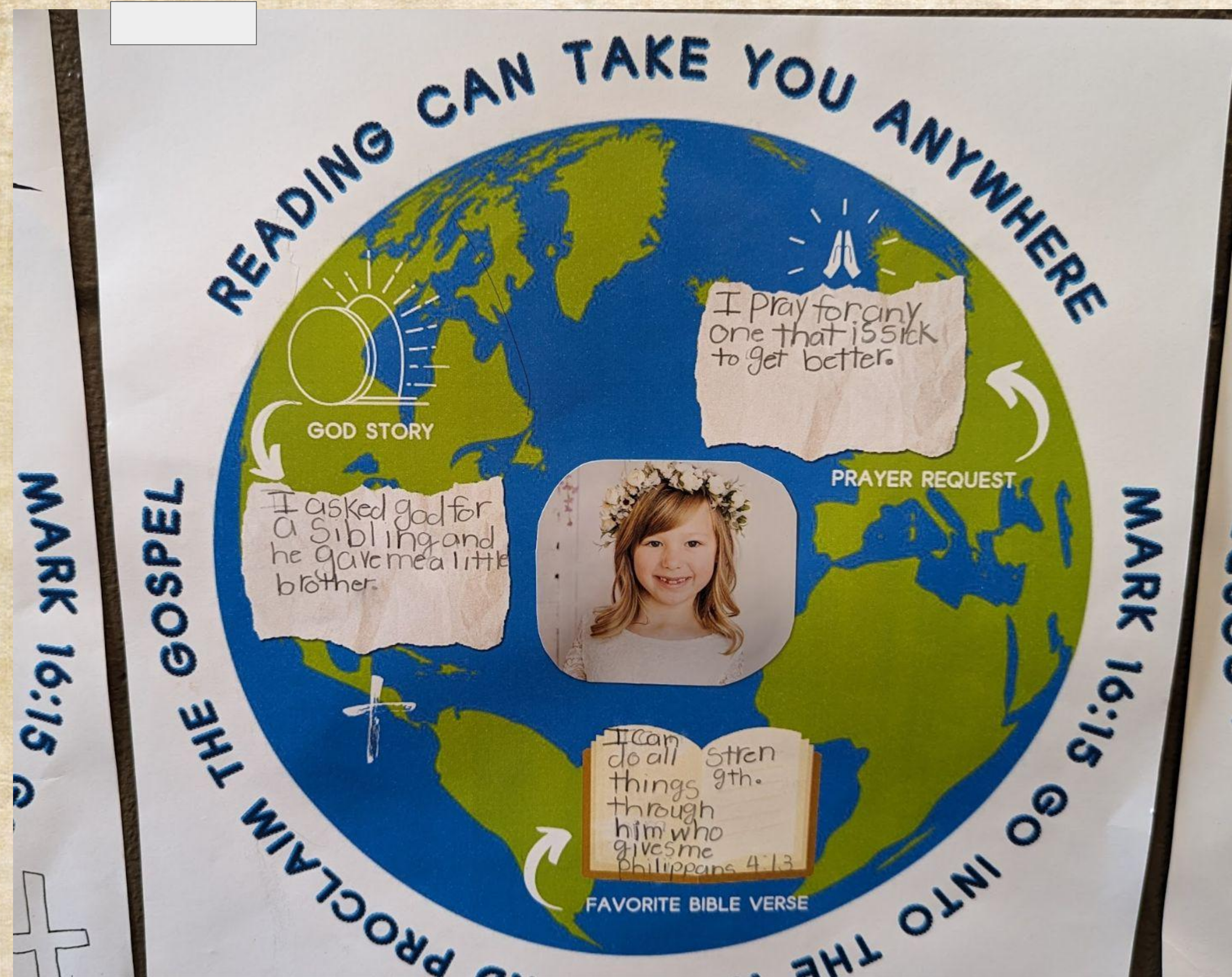
**WORD**

**EVERY DAY THROUGH**

**READING**



# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BIBLICAL PRACTITIONERS



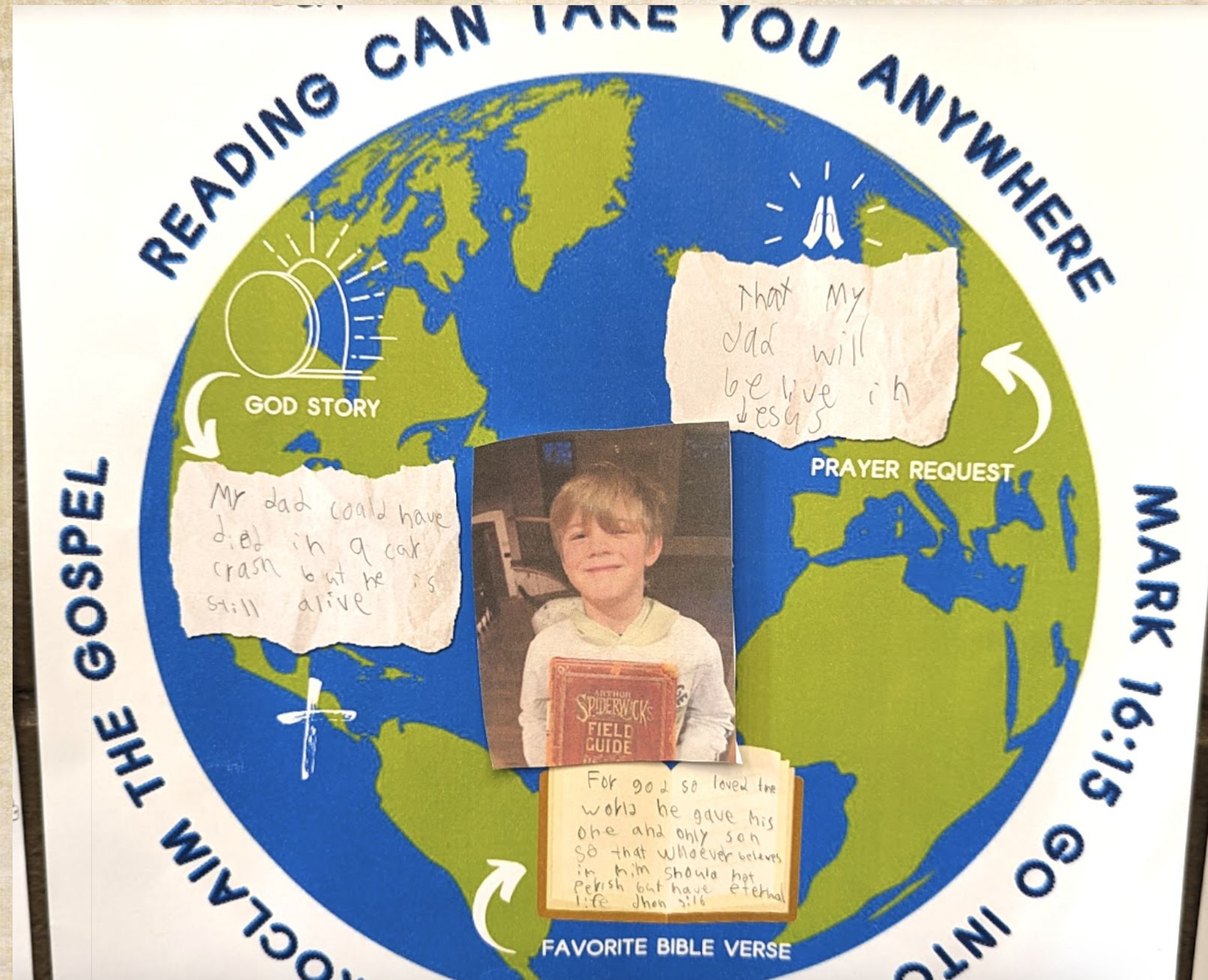


# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BIBLICAL PRACTITIONERS





# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BIBLICAL PRACTITIONERS









# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BIBLICAL PRACTITIONERS





# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BIBLICAL PRACTITIONERS



We believe in  
**JESUS CHRIST** | in whom are hidden all the treasures  
of wisdom and knowledge.  
- Colossians 2:3





# CREATE PATHWAYS FOR DISCIPLE MAKERS





# TO BE EDUCATED

*By Carolyn Caines*

If I learn my ABC's, can read 600 words per minute,  
and can write with perfect penmanship,  
but have not been shown how to communicate  
with the Designer of all language,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can deliver an eloquent speech and persuade  
you with my stunning logic,  
but have not been instructed in God's wisdom,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I have read Shakespeare and John Locke and can  
discuss their writings with keen insight,  
but have not read the greatest of all books –  
the Bible – and have no knowledge  
of its personal importance.

*I have not been educated.*



If I have memorized addition facts, multiplication  
tables, and chemical formulas,  
but have never been disciplined to hide  
God's Word in my heart,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can explain the law of gravity and Einstein's theory of  
relativity, but have never been instructed in the  
unchangeable laws of the One Who  
orders our universe,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can classify animals by their family, genus, and species, and can write a lengthy scientific paper that wins an award, but have not been introduced to the Maker's purpose for all creation,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can recite the Gettysburg Address and the Preamble  
to the Constitution, but have not  
been informed of the hand of God in the  
history of our country,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can play the piano, the violin, six other instruments, and can write music that moves men to tears, but have not been taught to listen to the Director of the universe and worship Him,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can run cross-country races, star in basketball and do  
100 push-ups without stopping, but have not been shown  
how to bend my spirit to do God's will,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I can identify a Picasso, describe the style of Da Vinci,  
and even paint a portrait that earns an A+,  
but have not learned that all harmony and beauty comes  
from a relationship with God,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I graduate with a perfect 4.0 and am accepted  
at the best university with a full scholarship,  
but have not been guided into a career of  
God's choosing for me,  
*I have not been educated.*



If I become a good citizen, voting at each election and  
fighting for what is moral and right,  
but have not been told of the sinfulness of man  
and his hopelessness without Christ,  
*I have not been educated.*



However, if one day I see the world as God  
sees it, and come to know Him,  
Whom to know is life eternal, and glorify God  
by fulfilling His purpose for me,  
*then I have been educated!*





# Thank you

Joel Nydam

Legacy Christian Academy, MN

- [jnydam@lcamn.org](mailto:jnydam@lcamn.org):

**612-554-3101**







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**INSTITUTE**

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