

LORD
of
in **all**
over
through

OUR CURRICULUM

The truth that God is sovereign and Jesus Christ is Lord over all things serves as the key teaching, the core curriculum in every TCS classroom.



The goal of Christian education

“is not just a certain way of *thinking*
but a certain way of *being* in the world,” James K.A Smith

WHAT WE BELIEVE...

- We believe God gives every child gifts and talents to be used in His service
- We believe the foundation for our school is a deep understanding of who we are as Christians in relation to God (our Worldview).
- We believe we must educate our students by addressing the HEAD, HEART and HANDS as a response to our holistic view of the child.
- We believe the subjects we study in school are GOD-CREATED and GOD-OWNED. Because everything in the world clearly belongs to HIM, teachers at Trinity Christian School seek to reveal God’s fingerprints in all things, in all subjects, in all classes

...AFFECTS HOW WE TEACH

TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION:

- What is it? A curriculum development model that provides a framework for authentic Christian learning experiences. This curriculum:
 - Begins with standards for education derived from scripture
 - Sees and cites evidences of God’s sovereign purposes
 - Calls students, as redeemed image bearers, to acts of restoration
 - Challenges students to put their faith in action and to accept Christ’s invitation to be transformers of this world.

*Every unit must be seen as being sacred
– a divine opportunity for the student
to enter into a deeper relationship
with their God.*

Teaching for TRANSFORMATION

How it works? A Christian Worldview as the basis:

Faith and learning are integral to one another. If we confess that God is Lord of all, we as educators unwrap our subjects to display God's ownership and fingerprints in all things.

This truth, that God is LORD OF ALL THINGS is viewed through a worldview that has 4 parts:

Why we teach this way:

Christianity, in its true form, tells us that there is an Author and that he is good, the essence of all that is good and beautiful and true, for he is the source of all these things. It tells us that he has set our hearts' longings within us, for he has made us to live in an Epic.... It calls us up into a Story that is truer and deeper than any other and assures us that there we will find the meaning of our lives.

(Eldridge 14-15)

This is truth – and it is really good news.

We have been called up into God's story. Teaching for Transformation challenges us as teachers to focus on the larger story and to participate in telling it. Through this intentional teaching, students should see and understand what characteristics they will need to truly be Kingdom Builders and take up their place in His grand narrative.

Furthermore, we agree with Smith as he states "Education is not primarily a heady project concerned with providing information, rather, *education most fundamentally is a matter of formation, a task of shaping and creating a certain kind of people.*

*These people are distinct because of what they love and desire
– the kingdom of God" (26)*

This type of distinctive learning emerges from learning experiences that are rich in the Biblical story, filled with sights and sounds of the kingdom language, and offers opportunity for student to engage at both a heart and hand level. This is our aim with our curriculum at Trinity Christian School.

This is TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION.

1) Creation:

God created ALL things and they were good.

2) Fall:

All things have fallen from their original goodness as a result of sin.

3) Redemption:

Christ, who has redeemed ALL things has begun the work of restoration.

4) Restoration:

We aid in the work of Christ's restoration by seeking to make ALL things new.



THROUGHLINES/DISCIPLESHIP ATTRIBUTES

Truly *transformational* curriculum asks something of our students, it demands a response.

We seek to educate Trinity Christian School's students to transform God's kingdom and impact this world for His glory. These attributes we seek to instill are called throughlines and are viewed as the "end product" of each Tft unit. Teachers ask "What "faith in action" characteristic do I hope our students will gain at the conclusion of our study in this subject?"

God-worshippers:	Students will understand that worshipping God is about celebrating who God is, what God has done and is doing, and what God has created. It is literally about standing in awe and wonder of God and His promises. Students will see this worship as a way of life.
Idolatry-discerners:	Students need to learn to "read" a worldview by asking questions about what is being portrayed in regard to culture, values, and belief systems. Through curriculum students will be challenged to identify, understand, and lay bare the idols of our time (and times past). But this is not the end. Students will test these ideas against the Transformational worldview and be modern day prophets.
Earth-keepers:	Students will respond to God's call to be stewards of all of creation. Caretaking can so easily succumb to exploiting. We need to reclaim and relearn how to respectfully treat the world/universe and all things contained in it. This is a matter of respecting God and it is our responsibility .
Beauty-creators:	Students will create beauty that praises God and enriches our world. Creation shouts that our God is a God who loves diversity, complexity, and creativity. Being an image bearer means having the ability and responsibility to discover, develop, use, and improve the world God has placed us in.
Justice-seekers:	Students will act as agents of restoration. The world is not as God intended it to be. We lead our students to see the injustices in this world - but seeing these things can't be where we stop. We need to enable students to act as agents of restoration by BOTH identifying and responding to injustices.
Creation-enjoyers:	Students will celebrate God's beautiful creation and give testimony to the presence of God in creation. Creation enjoying is looking at, talking about, studying creation. Ordinary things become extraordinary when seen in a new way. Creation enjoying is helping to coax the "songs of joy" (Ps. 65:8) from ourselves and from our students.
Servant-workers:	Students will work actively to heal brokenness and bring joy to individuals and to culture. Being an image bearer means having the ability and responsibility to discover, respond to, develop, use, and improve the world that God has placed us in. We need to cultivate in our students the desire and ability to offer hope, healing, and restoration to this world and its people.
Community-builders:	Students will be active pursuers and builders of community, in their classrooms, their neighbourhoods, and in the global village they are part of. Students need to learn to pursue shalom - to be active and eager examples of peaceful/shalom-filled communities. Our classrooms will be communities of grace where students will learn to walk and work together in peace.
Image-reflectors	Students bear the image of God in their daily lives. Being an image bearer isn't something we DO. It is deeper than that. Image bearer is what we ARE. We reflect God's image! And we learn to see God's image in others. The more Christ-like our actions are, the more clearly Christ's light shines in a dark world.
Order -discoverers	Students see God's fingerprints all over creation. When we read the creation account we read a story of God creating order out of chaos. There is purpose in God's creation and we are able to discover this amazing order within creation. One of the inescapable conclusions for our students.

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