

# Philosophy Of Christian Education

The educational philosophy of Prairie Christian Academy is based on a God-centered view of man and truth as presented in the bible. Since God created and sustains all things through His Son, Jesus Christ, the universe and all life are dynamically related to God and have the purpose of glorifying Him. This is particularly true of man who was created in God's image, different in kind from all other creatures, with the unique capacity to know and respond to God personally and voluntarily. Because mankind is sinful by nature and choice, mankind cannot in this condition, know or honor God in his/her life. Mankind can do this only by admitting his/her sinful condition and by receiving God's gift of forgiveness through Jesus Christ to do God's will. This should be the ultimate purpose of his/her life.

The authority for such an education comes both from God's command that children be taught to love God and place Him first in their lives, and from the fact that parents are responsible for the total education and training of their children. At the parents' request, the Christian School, along with the church, becomes a partner in giving this education. From this philosophy stem certain aims and objectives:

For the Spiritual and Moral growth of the student, the school seeks:

- § To teach the Bible as God's inspired Word and to develop attitudes of love and respect toward it.
- § To teach the basic doctrines of the Bible.
- § To lead the student to a decision of confessing Christ as Savior and Lord.
- § To develop a desire to know and obey the will of God as revealed in the Scriptures.
- § To equip the student to carry out the will of God daily.
- § To impart an understanding of each Christian's place in the church and its worldwide task of witnessing, evangelism and discipling and to stimulate the student's involvement in this task.
- § To develop the "mind of Christ" toward godliness and sin, and to teach the student how to live an overcoming life through the exercising of self-restraint and consideration of others.
- § To encourage the development of self discipline and responsibility in the student based on respect for and submission to God and God ordained authority.
- § To help the student develop for himself/herself a Christian world view by integrating life and studies with the Bible.

For the Personal and Social Development of the student, the school aims:

- § To help the student develop his/her personality based both on a proper understanding and acceptance of himself/herself as a unique individual created in the image of God and on the fullest possible development of his/her own capabilities.
- § To teach the student to treat everyone with love and respect since others too are made in God's image
- § To make the student a contributing member of his/her society who realizes his/her dependence on others and their dependence on God.
- § To promote an understanding of time as a God-given commodity, and the individual responsibility for effective use of time.
- § To show a biblical view of life and work, and to provide skills for personal relationships and future endeavors
- § To develop good and proper attitudes toward marriage and the family and also the understanding skills needed to establish God-honoring homes
- § To promote physical fitness, good health habits and wise use of the body as the temple of God
- § To impart biblical attitudes toward material things and to encourage individual responsibility of using them for God's glory

For the Academic Advancement of the students, the school endeavors:

- § To promote high academic standards within the potential of the individual as uniquely created by God and to help the student realize his/her full academic potential
- § To help each student gain a thorough comprehension and command of the fundamental processes used in communicating and dealing with others, such as reading, speaking and listening
- § To teach and encourage the use of good study habits.
- § To teach the student how to do independent research and to reason logically
- § To motivate the student to pursue independent study in the areas of personal interest
- § To develop creative and critical thinking and the proper use of biblical criteria for evaluation.
- § To promote good citizenship through developing and understanding an appreciation of our Christian and Canadian heritage of responsible freedom, human dignity and acceptance of authority.
- § To discuss current affairs in all fields and to relate them to God's plan for man
- § To produce an understanding and appreciation for God's world, an awareness of man's environmental role and man's God-given responsibilities to use and preserve it properly
- § To promote an appreciation of the fine arts through the development of the student's understanding and personal expression
- § To adapt the curriculum to real life situations in the community

To promote the School's goal to Partner with Parents, the school desires:

- § To cooperate closely with the parents in every phase of the student's development especially as it relates to the school program
- § To help the parents to understand the school's purpose and programs
- § To aid families in Christian growth and to help them develop Christ centered homes
- § To assist parents in keeping up with the changing culture and its effects on the home and the implications for their children
- § To encourage regular attendance and involvement in a local church