

CCA epistola



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Upcoming Dates

Jan. 20th - Feb 17th
CCA Re-enrollment

Feb. 1 - 17th
Laundry Detergent
Fundraiser

Feb. 7th - Parent Council
Mtg

Feb. 10th - Donuts with Dad

Feb. 10th - TACS Fine Arts
Competition

Feb. 16th - Parent Academy

Feb. 20th - Parent/Teacher
Conferences

What do you treasure?

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” - Matthew 6:21

As we settle into this new year of 2023, it will be good to take account of what we truly treasure. Many people verbally say they treasure many things; but when it comes to daily life, we have limited time and resources. Therefore, people have said, “The checkbook and the calendar never lie,” or another saying of uncertain origin, “Show me your checkbook, and I’ll tell you your values.” I could even add, “Your internet search history reveals what you love.” Where you spend your time, resources, and online activity is a good indicator of what you truly value.

People throughout history have had many and varied treasures—from the Roman emperors treasuring emperor worship to St. Francis of Assisi treasuring a life of asceticism. In our modern age, specifically our American culture, we are divided on what we value based mainly on an individual’s moral framework, but one thing has not changed: everyone values something.

We are a people who treasure our sports, our music, our movies, our recreational activities, and our entertainments. In short, many see work as a necessary evil, so that we can consume or spend time with what we treasure. On the flip side, there are also those people who treasure their work to such a degree that they inadvertently harm those who are closest to them.

Nearly everyone I know would wholeheartedly claim to treasure their children or grandchildren, but do our words and actions say otherwise? Providing for your children’s needs or lavishing them with gifts does not automatically translate to treasuring them. One of the best ways to love our children or grandchildren is to follow Christ by being a faithful and active member of a local church. Consider the following quote by Kevin DeYoung:

“The man who attempts Christianity without the church shoots himself in the foot, shoots his children in the leg, and shoots his grandchildren in the heart.”

A second way to treasure your children or grandchildren is by providing them with a Christ-centered, historically rich, robust education that is grounded in truth. No single English word fits what the Bible commands parents to do for their children, but Deuteronomy 6:4-7 directs us:

4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

The word used in classical education to best describe a scriptural understanding of this idea is the transliterated Greek word "paideia," indicating an education based on more than simple information and skills. It is best understood as the God-honoring enculturation of knowledge, understanding, values, culture, and wisdom.

I am grateful for a church and school that treasures Christ and children. We have a great opportunity here at Candies Creek Academy to equip, model, and mobilize students to be effective disciples through Christ-centered education with academic excellence. As individual families, we each need to assess what we treasure these days. If your family desires your children or grandchildren to have the privilege of attending a Christ-centered, classical school, but you believe costs prevent you from doing so, please get in touch with our staff to begin the steps to apply for a scholarship. If you know a family in our area who would love to have their children in a private Christian school, please have them contact our office so we can begin working on making their desire a reality.

Jesus also spoke to these concepts. This first is his instruction of what it will cost to be one of his

disciples in Luke 14:33: "*So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.*" The idea of renouncing is not just giving up something but truly letting go of what we treasure physically or emotionally so that what we possess will no longer possess us.

We also see in Matthew 19:13-14 how Jesus paused to treasure children in the midst of a crowded group of educated men who had questions about the law and his own disciples who were trying to understand and do important kingdom work. It is written, "*Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'*"

Oh, brothers and sisters, let us redeem the time (Eph. 5:16) and renounce all that we treasure apart from Christ and his commands. Let us teach our children diligently (Deut. 6:7) bringing them "*up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord*" (Eph. 6:4), so that all nations will come and worship the Lord for his righteous acts have been revealed (Rev 15:4).

Assessing Treasure,

Pastor Dave
CCA Headmaster