

# BAHRAIN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

## CCCG: Education

May 3, 2024

### Preliminary

Development: The blessing of man's education is first attained by the Creation commandments... Gen 1:26-30; 2:15

- God endowed Adam and Eve special responsibilities in His creation that demand the education of their minds... Ps 8:5-8

Genesis 1:28 = *And God blessed them... "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth"*

Point: God has given all kinds of abilities to men and women that need to be discovered, drawn out, and used... Ex 31:3-5

After the Fall: The goodness of education marred because of disobedience... Gen 3:6

### 1. The Aims of education

Definition: Developing individuals' aptitude for every kind of learning, so that they are well informed, quick to understand, and competent to serve.

Note: The fear of God is foundational to true knowledge and wisdom... Pro 1:7

- (a) The fear of God produces knowledge... Pro 15:14

Knowledge: To "know" something is to perceive it or to be aware of it.

Jn 10:14 = *I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me*

Jn 8:32 = *You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*

Point: Knowledge helps an individual to discern what is best, and then to make the right choices... Phil 1:9, 10

- The pursuit of knowledge for its own sake, but without seeking God, is foolishness... Rom 1:22

- (b) The fear of God produces godly wisdom

Wisdom = The ability to use knowledge in a way pleasing to God and helpful to others... Pro 2:1-6; 14:33

Illustration: Knowledge is knowing how to use a gun; wisdom is knowing when to use it and when to keep it holstered.

Negative: With worldly wisdom, we may become educated, street-smart, and have "common sense" that enables us to play the world's game successfully.

Positive: With godly wisdom, we trade earthly values for Biblical values.

Point: Christians are citizens of another kingdom, and we make choices that reflect that allegiance... Phil 3:20; 1 Jn 2:15-17

- Having godly wisdom means we strive to see life from God's perspective and act accordingly – education should be God centered... Pro 9:10; Ecc 12:12ff

Model: Jesus Himself as 100% man learned and grew in wisdom...

Luke 2:40, 52 = *filled with wisdom... in favor with God and man*

Challenge: In choosing a course in the future, three questions should be asked of oneself... *Who am I? Why am I here? What am I for?*

### 2. The Value of Education

Worldview: Education alone as a cure for all society's problems

Note: Education does nothing to combat ungodliness; it only leads to pride.. 1 Cor 8:1

- Saul and Nicodemus was "Israel's teacher," yet they did not understand even the basics of spiritual life... Jn 3:10; Act 17:28; 22:3; Titus 1:12; 1 Tim 1:16

Point: Simply knowing facts does not make one a better person, unless he/ she has fear of God

Reformation: The church should promote the importance and the *balance* of education to the people... vs. Roman Catholic

[John Calvin] – "Every child should be trained in reading, writing, math, and grammar, as well as religion"

[Martin Luther] – "Both to understand the Word of Scripture and the nature of the world in which the Word would take root"

Item 1: The modern Sunday school movement began in 1780 when Robert Raikes began educating poor children who were otherwise overlooked by society.

Item 2: Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Oxford, and Cambridge, were founded by Christians as religious schools – for God's glory... 1 Cor 10:31

Point: Education is a grace and honor, in that the properly educated are to become attractive in values and godly characters

- A wise speech comes from good education and it overcomes the main causes of friction and trouble in human relationships... Pro 15:7, 21; 16:23

Positive: Education with godly wisdom can make the society good.

### 3. Requirements to achieve successful education

Note: Being a good student involves recognizing authority... Mt 10:24 = *the student is not above the teacher.*

- Students who have little respect for their teachers or who take an attitude of "rules don't apply to me" are hurting their own ability to learn

Point: Whoever has the desire to learn knows how to listen to their teacher...

Lk 6:40 = *A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.*

- As students with godly wisdom must want to learn... Pro2: 2-4
- Always seek the Lord's help... Pro 2:6-8
- To love disciple and correction... Pro 12:1
- Receiving constructive criticism with genuine pleasure... Pro 25:12
- Application and concentration to instruction are to be always applied... James 1:22 = *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only*
- Education is God's blessing, laziness in learning is a clear violation of man's design as God's image... Pro 18:9; 19:15; Col 3:23; Eph 5:15-17

***Fear of God can be defined as the continual awareness that our God is watching and evaluating everything we think, say, and do;***

***Nothing escapes His attention...***

Mt. 12:36; Ps. 139:2; Jer. 12:3