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**The Purpose and Potential of Christian Education**

How many of you remember the events of the 1960’s? Firsthand? (Quite a few of you old/mature enough to remember that history.) Those of you who do remember, witnessed the pioneering days of space travel. NASA began in late fifties, but it didn’t really gain much momentum until 1961. On May 25, 1961, Pr. JFK Jr. presented the American nation with a challenge: to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade. Breaking beyond the confines of planet earth and reaching another world. This would be a great accomplishment for man. This dream captured the imaginations of the American people and set in motion a massively organized effort to carry it out. Gifted men were given the job of coordinating this effort….

The kingdom of God has a NASA too. It is the church of Jesus Christ. Christians, as the people of God on the earth, have been given mandate and a mission. NASA’s mandate was to put a man on the moon; the church’s mandate is to proclaim to the entire world that Jesus is Lord. NASA’s mandate was given in 1961 by JFK; the church’s mandate was given by Jesus around the year 30….

Our mandate was given to us many generations ago, but it is still what defines the church’s activity, what gives direction and purpose to its life. We need to understand that this mission encompasses all of life….

Too often, I think, the church’s mission has been portrayed too narrowly….