

beliefs. Even our Sunday schools have fallen into the trap of dividing families by age groups. This is not found in the Scriptures. May God help us come to our senses and quit following the world. We must not overlook the fact that all those in Christian schools are not Christians. In most cases, there are mixed multitudes that will only discourage the faith of your children (**Exodus 12:37-38**). The Bible is very clear in **I Corinthians 15:33** that *“evil communications corrupt good manners.”* Many Christian schools as well as public schools are plagued with problems that would not exist if parents kept their children at home. Some Christian schools are having to do drug testing, check for weapons and control filthy language. This ought not to be, and our children should not be exposed to it or have to deal with it.

IN CONCLUSION

The church, as well as the state, should stay out of the business of educating children. The church should support and promote home schooling, that is, parents training their children in the way of the Lord. Churches should serve as an umbrella for their home schooling families. The church I pastor serves as an umbrella for our home schooling families. The church prays for, encourages, and helps those parents who desire to teach their children, but the church stays out of their business in the actual training. God has blessed as some have grown into adulthood and have started families of their own. May we seek the Lord in this area and find His perfect will. Christian schools are a compromise and cannot be found in Holy Scriptures.

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.”

Jeremiah 6:16



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*“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”*
Acts 16:31

The RICHIES

OF GRACE

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“hath appeared to all men.” Titus 2:11

Christian Schools

“For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.”

Psalm 78:5

+ SECOND BEST +

Christian education for our children is not only good, but it is commanded in Holy Scripture. But, God did not commission the church to be involved in the education of children. The Christian school movement began some years ago in our nation with good intentions. Their desire was to rescue children from the godless public school system. But the question remains, do good intentions make a thing right?

As a pastor, I had considered, at one time, starting a Christian school out of concern for our children. The most that can be said about Christian schools is that they are second best and no Christian should settle for second best, especially when it comes to their children. The Bible is clear that the best education comes from parents home schooling their children. The purpose of this article is not to criticize pastors or Christian workers in the Christian education arena, but to encourage us to consider “Thus saith the Lord” in this matter. Amen.

This article will focus on why Christians should not send their children to Christian schools. Bible-believing churches should reconsider their schools, day care centers, youth programs, etc. in the light of the Holy Scriptures. There are three divine institutions in the Scriptures: the home, church, and the state. All three institutions have their own functions outlined and also their boundaries. The home is ordained to administer education, the church is to administer grace and the state is to administer justice. Many churches detest the state usurping authority over it and rightly so, but at the same time the church usurps the authority of the home.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS USURP THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

Parents have a God-given right and duty to train their children in the ways of the Lord (**Genesis 18:19, Deuteronomy 6:1-10, Proverbs 22:6, Psalms 78:3-10, Ephesians 6:4**). This responsibility is not to be relieved by the state or church. The home was the first divine institution mentioned in Scripture and God knew what He was doing when He gave parents children to raise (**Genesis 2:18-25**). Before there was a church or state, there was a family and God said it was good (**Genesis 1:26-31**). There were no schools for hundreds of years and families did just fine training their children. The function of the church is described in **I Timothy 3:15**, *“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”* The church is to stand for the truth and carry out the great commission, but there are no Scriptures given to the church or state to usurp authority over the family. When a church establishes a Christian school, the church takes the place of parents in the area of educating their children. No one can instill your convictions in your children but you. Parents are not to surrender their children to anyone. There is no schoolteacher that knows the needs of a child as the child’s parents. This authority should not be delegated to another, nor should the parent-child relationship be compromised. The child’s loyalty should not be divided between two masters.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS TAKE THE MOTHER FROM THE HOME

Christian schools, many times, take the mother from the home

under the guise of “it is a ministry.” Most Christian schoolteachers and administrators are women. According to **Titus 2:4-5**, a woman’s ministry is in the home, *“That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.”* These verses clearly say that she is to be a keeper at home. According to **I Timothy 5:14**, her calling is centered around her home, husband, and children. Anything that pulls a woman from her God-given role cannot be of God even if you attach the word “Christian” to it. Christian schools are a violation of God’s word in this respect. Church-sponsored schools promote women working outside the home. This places a woman under the authority of someone else besides her husband. The mother’s reward is based on her home and not other things (**Proverbs 31:10-31**).

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS ARE PATTERNED AFTER THE WORLD

Many Christian schools copy public schools in their approach to education. Christian schools are patterned after public schools in their programs, curriculum, test scores, grade levels, segregated age groups, classrooms, number of hours spent in school, promotion of sports, and the training of boys and girls in the same way. To give boys and girls the same type of training is to confuse their roles. Boys should be trained in a vocation, with leadership abilities. Girls need to be trained in homemaking, childbirth, etc. The average young lady that gets married cannot cook, sew, or manage a home. Young men getting married know little about work ethics or leading a wife and family.

Peer dependence is as commonplace among Christian schools as it is in public schools. Peer dependency is a product of peer grouping. Peer pressure cannot be avoided when young people are grouped together. The average classroom has twenty to thirty children in them. The gap between parent and child develops as peers spend a lot of time together. The counsel of peers eventually outweighs the counsel of parents (**I Kings 12:1-8**). Even brothers and sisters are split up in Christian schools just as they are in public schools. Seven or eight hours a day with peers can only be detrimental to the child.

In following the structure of the secular educational system, Christian schools have violated many principles in God’s Word. This age-segregation and peer-grouping has its roots in evolutionary