

Philosophy of Education

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In Proverbs 22:6, the Bible states, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, 2001/2016, Proverbs 22:6). Ideally, this verse amplifies the fact that education fulfills the call of discipleship because it urges us to educate children in a manner that they will remember as they grow old. As an educator, I believe God bestowed on me the responsibility to provide education to develop and nurture my students holistically. As such, education should positively impact the learners’ intellect, emotional, social, and spiritual realms. I believe that the true goal of education is to develop in growing persons an appreciation and understanding of the life, personality, and teachings of Jesus Christ to ensure that they have excellent personal experience. Therefore, I believe that education should involve edifying and loving instructions, applied through the Holy Spirit, mediated through the work of Christ, and grounded in God's gracious revelation.

My Role as a Teacher

I believe that my role as a teacher extends beyond imparting skills and knowledge to students through instruction. Apart from being an instructor, I believe in building character, discernment, and fostering the wisdom of my students. My role as a teacher involves building effective partnerships with colleagues, students, and families. This is imperative because it develops a positive relationship between my students, thus increasing academic achievement, creating connections within the learning environment, and developing social-emotional competency. In essence, cultivating a positive relationship with students’ families ensures they understand that family is a sacred community. As such, parents can be good examples to their children, pray with them, and read the Bible to them especially in these days.

As a teacher, my role also involves loving, caring, and nurturing my students. This involves ensuring that I understand their unique needs and creating an environment that fosters their intellectual, social, spiritual, and moral development. In addition to guiding the students

academically, I am responsible for guiding them in making ethical decisions. This involves helping them model the values and character of Christ in words and deeds. I help my students with advice, listening, and decision-making through counseling. This is essential to ensure they discern their paths in Christian discipleship and explore their life situations. I also mentor and model to the students to ensure accountability and responsibility in teaching-learning relationships. Ideally, in modeling and mentoring, I share the passion for calling and knowledge and skills.

Purpose of Education

The Bible teaches that education should not wholly focus on developing intellect through facts and knowledge but also on establishing one's understanding and moral values (Maitanmi, 2019). Thus education aims to develop ethics, values, and morals among students. Values guide human behavior and are linked to attitudes and beliefs. As such, schools should establish education in which the students form a knowledge base and acquire skill sets to carry on into adulthood to ensure they become responsible contributors to society. Additionally, through developing ethics, values, and morals, students undergo a transformation gaining appreciation and understanding of the world.

Another purpose of education is to develop social emotions among students. Hayes (2022) asserts that this is essential to encourage students to engage in the world in approaches that reflect a faith perspective, relate to others, and interpret their lives. Developing social emotion makes significant differences in how students realize their being in relation to the world, self, other people, and God. Additionally, developing social emotion reinforces religious coping mechanisms, promoting a less risky lifestyle, improving coping skills, and reducing stress's impact. Also, it increases awareness regarding religious practices and beliefs and their influence on the student, the community, and the family.

Education also teaches students how to find meaning and purpose through God's will, how faith is incorporated into each learning area, and teaches them about the world God created (Hayes, 2022). This is crucial for students to cultivate a lasting and profound relationship with God. Ideally, by understanding God, His works, and His word, the students can show love toward the people around them and know the truth. As such, education is essential in preparing for the workplace and life. Through education, students can be more intentional about how they live out their faith and what they learn (Hayes, 2022). Additionally, students can make wise decisions through critical thinking and have guidance on a fulfilled life. This is achieved through learning about the Bible to gain important life skills, including being content, forgiving, and loving others.

My Mission as a Christian Educator

The components of a Christian worldview include knowledge, morals, and existence. As such, the Christian worldview enables one to see reality through the lens of the Bible and its teachings. Thus, as a Christian educator, my mission includes fostering academic excellence, enhancing spiritual formation, and enabling my students' personal growth in a manner that exemplifies Christ's teachings. I strive to help students grow in wisdom and character. My mission is anchored on Matthew 5:15-16:

Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, 2001/2016, Matt 5:15-16)

Additionally, I ensure that I model good behaviors for students to learn and emulate the behaviors. Inherently, students learn by watching others' words and actions. In the classroom, I always teach the students how to pray since I understand that a prayer is a powerful tool that touches lives. My mission includes inspiring my learners to be lifelong learners, improving the learners' knowledge, and ensuring they continue to grow and mature in spirit, wisdom, and

morals. It also involves helping them to develop their gifts and talents for the betterment of self, serving God, and helping their communities.

In conclusion, my passion for teaching is to ensure that I help students develop intellectually, academically, spiritually, socially, morally, and physically. This passion is founded on the discipleship of Jesus Christ. It is based on emulating His teachings and deeds. As such, because the Bible directs me to serve, I am passionate about ensuring that my learners know they are loved, cared for, valued, and adored. Additionally, through teaching, I can make a difference in students' lives, inspire generations, individuals, and societies and emulate the teachings of Jesus Christ.

References

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