



We are Christian educators who live and teach in a world whose values are in direct contradiction to Kingdom values and who teach students (and engage parents) who are being deeply influenced and disciplined by those values. How do we respond to that? It is not our responsibility to create a utopia in which students are shielded from conflict and opposition but to equip them to engage and disrupt this broken and distorted culture.

Introduction When it is 15° outside, how do you deal with the inclement weather?



As Christian educators, are we called to...

Insulate to Isolate?

Insulate to Infiltrate?

Jesus' Example - Luke 24:13-35

What does Jesus do?

- He walked with them (24:15-17)
- He engaged them with questions (24:17)
- He communicated uncompromised truth about himself (24:27)
- He gave answers, not arguments.
- He left conviction to the Holy Spirit

How did they respond?

- Because he loved, they listened. Because they listened, they heard. Because they heard, they were influenced.
- They were moved by the HS who convicted them of the error of their ways. (v. 32)
- They repented. (v.33a)
- They impacted others. (v. 33b)



Change Agent Action Steps

EMBED

To embed is to enter into the "cold" with the assurance that you are properly attired to deal with the conditions

- Properly gauge the temperature of who you are talking with.
 - Are they looking for an answer or an argument?
 - Can the blinded see? - 2 Cor. 4:4
 - Will the visioned obey? - Philippians
- Beware of erecting barriers that create isolation.
- "Cold Weather" behavior- Matthew 9:35-36
 - Intentional Presence - We must be light in the darkness. Darkness cannot overpower light.
 - Divine Vision - See brokenness as God as sees it.
 - Compassionate Response - Respond to the brokenness as God as God responds to it.
 - Broken heart and Busy hands (Sympathy combined with Action)
 - Prayer

“
 A Christianity that is walled off from the culture around it is a Christianity that dies. The gospel we have received is a missionary gospel, one that must connect to those on the outside in order to have life. Our call is to an engaged alienation, a Christianity that preserves the distinctiveness of our gospel while not retreating from our callings as neighbors, and friends, and citizens.
 ~Russell Moore
 ”

Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

SERVE

- Commit to being gracious servants
 - Galatians 5:13-15 - For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.
- Meet needs with no strings attached

- Serving others has the power to conquer evil.
 - According to Romans 12:9-21, what are some practical ways to do this?

ENGAGE

YOU CANNOT INFLUENCE A RELATIONSHIP THAT YOU ARE NOT IN.

- Love must be our driving motivation.
 - Our capacity to love others is the most powerful witness we have to the power of God to change a life.
 - John 13:35 ; Romans 5:8
- Listen – Jesus asked a question and listened to their response. They were genuinely looking for answers.
- Learn – He heard their confusion and struggle.

TEACH

- Exalt Jesus –communicate an uncompromised truth about himself (24:27)
 - John 12:32
- Clearly present Jesus

DISCIPLE

- Walk with them to orient their hearts towards Christ.
- Commit to relationship to help them adopt the priorities, principles, practices and protocols of Jesus.
- Model Jesus for them.
- Pray for them.

car-i-ca-ture
/kerikaCHar,kerika,CHöör/
noun
a picture, description, or imitation of a person in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated in order to create a comic or grotesque effect

**"BE IMITATORS OF ME, AS I AM OF CHRIST"
1 CORINTHIANS 11:1**

I wonder how often people are rejecting our caricature of Christ as opposed to the character of Christ.

Bottom Line...

Our Mandate: Be change agents in a changing world.

Our Mission: Relate to others in unconditional love AND uncompromised truth at the same time.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
John 1:14 NIV

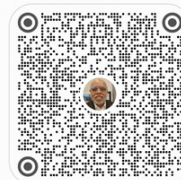


Grace without truth creates LICENSE.
Truth without grace creates LEGALISM.
Grace with Truth is the truest expression of LOVE.

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