

If Walls Could Talk

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When I was teaching at Canadian Union College some years ago, occasionally I'd hear about a friend who was making some enormous salary teaching at a large university. From habit, I'd smile, look at my hubby and say, "So what are we doing here?" And that was a very good question which deserved a very fair answer. What were we doing there? What brings all types of people from all walks of life together on a Christian campus, or perhaps a large Christian academy, or maybe just a one-room Christian school?

It's here that my mind takes me back some 25 years to a Sabbath afternoon camp meeting. I had been asked to share my convictions about Christian education. My knees rattled, my mouth was dry, and for the life of me I can't recall one word I said. Perhaps it doesn't matter. Either that day affected my career or my career just reflected that day. Little did I dream though that for 15 years I'd be intricately involved in Christian education.

Why? Certainly not because I feel that public education is poor quality. Most schools are well equipped and have highly qualified teachers. I spent nine happy years in a public school, and had many Christian friends and teachers. My scholastic training was great. So then-why?

The answer lies in my belief in a Saviour-Jesus Christ. At some point in time, He began to work in my life. And through time, He has become the central focus of my entire world. He is the very reason for my existence. Without Him, life is nothing. He is an integral part of my teaching because I teach what I am. And wouldn't you know it? That's all part of the Christian teacher's job description. I like that! That's why I support Christian education.



But there's more. Education prepares students for life. That's good.

Christian education goes one step further. It prepares students for eternal life. The very core of Christian education is the salvation of souls. I like that! That's why I support Christian education.

And there's still more. If walls could talk, they would reveal some very interesting secrets. The walls I've known would tell of two students in a spare classroom, quietly bowing their heads together over a table; one praying for the other before she has to face a very challenging assignment. They would tell of teachers earnestly pleading with God to be very near to a student who is undergoing serious disciplinary action. They would tell of students publicly sharing their testimonies of their confidence in God's leading, and of teachers reaffirming their faith in Jesus. They would tell of thoughtful deeds and answered prayers. If only walls could talk. But they can't. So that's why I've shared this with you today. That's why I promote Christian education. And I like that!

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