



BIBLICAL LENS OF ACADEMICS

Embracing the Bible in our Christian School Community

It is essential for our Christian school community to maintain a strong and clear understanding of the Bible's significance and its role, as well as to establish a framework for its use. Without this clarity, different approaches may lead to confusion among both teachers and students.

The Bible is the inspired and living word of God, disclosing His nature and plan of redemption for creation and humanity. It serves as the cornerstone for our worldview, curriculum, and teaching methods. As a Christian school community, we:

1. Listen to God's Word to guide our practices,
2. Submit to it as 'the light' that reveals truths about ourselves and creation, and
3. Lead students in studying the Bible so that it can be understood and become foundational for their responses.

Understanding these three key ways to use the Bible in a school context is crucial.

Three Key Approaches to Using the Bible

1. **Devotional Use:** The Bible can be used devotionally, where God speaks to and encourages a specific group today. In staff and classroom settings, this typically involves a brief 5-10 minute session of listening to and responding to the Bible together.
2. **Guiding Light for Learning:** The Bible serves as a 'light to our learning path,' guiding our educational pursuits. This addresses how the Bible informs our perspective regarding the particular aspects of life we are studying. It involves strategically integrating Scripture within our units to develop Biblical Perspectives.
3. These two approaches are most effective when students possess or are developing an understanding of the Bible's scope, content, context, and its various literary genres. This understanding reveals God, our identity as His image-bearers, our cultural mandate, our fallen nature, and the redemption offered in Christ.
4. Families and churches play a vital role in the lives of our students. Experience has shown us that we must enhance the efforts of families and churches in this endeavor; hence, we have implemented a weekly Bible study program.
5. **Studying the Bible as an Object:** The Bible can also be approached as an object of study, focusing on the overarching narrative. This builds students' knowledge and understanding of the Bible's content, structure, and God's redemptive plan.

At ELC, our mission is not to teach theology, unravel complex mysteries, or lecture on ancient history. Instead, we aim to narrate the Bible's story in a vibrant manner, allowing students to connect with its characters and recognize that God has an ongoing purpose for His people, inviting us to be part of it.

Our goal is to ensure that students become well-acquainted with the overall Scriptural narrative. With this understanding, they will be better equipped to develop a biblically informed perspective in their areas of study.