VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Academic Excellence + Biblical Worldview = Education for Eternity

We are an interdenominational, private Christian school who believes a solid foundation is essential for building a strong educational and spiritual future. At Valley Christian School we desire to partner with families in the building of this foundation. Our students have the opportunity to excel academically while in the care of certified and capable educators. Our teachers believe that God has uniquely placed them at Valley Christian School in a position of ministry to the body of Christ. Guided by these teachers, children are encouraged to develop disciplined learning habits, positive social skills, and Christ-like attitudes and values.

Working together, the Chrisitian home, church, and school present a "triple braided cord" (Ecc 4:12) that is not easily broken. This triple braided cord serves as the foundation for our "One Voice Model"; creating an atmoshpehere where children are hearing One Voice, the same voice - at home, in church and at school.

Mission Statement

Valley Christian School exists to partner with Christian families that desire educational excellence taught through a biblical worldview so their children will be prepared for a lifetime of authentic faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

Valley Christian School exists for the following reasons:

- To provide an excellent academic education throughout which He (Jesus) is always preeminent (Col 1:8).
- To provide an educational experience in which the spirit of each child is challenged by the truth of God's Word.
- To challenge each child to hide (memorize) God's Word in their heart (James 1:22-25).
- To provide an environment where love comes from the Spirit and springs from the Hope we have in the shed blood of Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God.
- To prepare young people to live in this world without being part of this world (Mal 3:18; Deut 30:19).

History of Valley Christian School

On July 20, 1978, five men signed the initial documents of incorporation for Valley Christian School. The driving verse for these men was Col 1:1 "...that in all things HE might have the preeminence." They desired to create a Christian environment; a place where Christ could become preeminent in all things and the Bible should be the book by which all experiences are evaluated. They believed Valley Christian School would provide the setting for developing the academic abilities of all students as well as developing a Christian moral system.

On September 4, 1979, the first school year began for Valley Christian School with 50 K-6th grade students. An additional grade was added each year with the first graduating class being 1986. Thirty-five years later, our 700th student graduated on May 17, 2015. We currently enroll over 300 students grades PK-12th.

Valley Christian is committed to high quality academic education in a distinctive Christian setting. Our faculty members are committed Christians, certified, and capable educators, who believe that God has uniquely placed them at Valley Christian in a position of ministry. Our classroom style is a conservative, traditional approach where classroom discipline, modest dress, respect for authority, and a genuine desire to learn are characteristics that can be observed.

Our goal is to teach Christ in all areas of the curriculum and life. To "proclaim Him" to our students so that we may present each of them "perfect in Christ" (Col 1:28-29). We want to make disciples, teaching them to obey everything Jesus has commanded (Matt 28:19). It is through this Christian education they will come to know the full joy of life in Christ and live productive lives in Him.

Through our chapel program and daily devotions, each student is challenged to commit his/her life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to walk in daily discipleship with him. Students are challenged to a life of service as committed laymen in their respective fields of study.

Our School Board

The oversight of our school is currently shared by five to eight men who comprise the Board of Trustees.

Their first purpose is to provide the school with Godly leadership. The Board is autonomous and self-perpetuating, and new members are selected by the Board based on their evidenced spiritual leadership, maturity and Christ-likeness.

Board members evaluate their ministries each spring and agree as to whether or not the Lord is calling them to continue in this ministry. From the first spring meeting in June of 1978 the Board has agreed to function in a spirit of unity and submission to the Lord and to one another.

Every decision made has been unanimous. Where there is doubt or hesitation, the matter is tabled for further prayer and seeking of the Lord's will.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative, Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return to power and glory.
- We believe that for salvation of the lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Statement of Philosophy

- Life View Valley Christian School is God-Centered and seeks to view life in every dimension as God sees it. Thus we see man as sinful, responsible to God and complete only in God (Col 2:10) who is perfect and not willing that any should perish (2 Pet 3:9).
- God The existence of God is central to our philosophy, purpose, and goals. He is not only the God of creation but the God of revelation. He has revealed Himself through the written word (Heb 1:1-2), the Living Word (John 1:1, 2, 14), and His creation (Ps 19:1-2). The very purpose of all that God has created is to glorify Him (Rom 11:36). Our purpose at Valley Christian School clearly becomes that of bringing glory to God.
- Jesus Christ Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, is the Source of wisdom and knowledge (Col 2:3), the Creator, Architect, and Sustainer of all things (Col 1:16, 17), and the One by whom our thought life is to be controlled (2 Cor 10:5).
- The Holy Spirit It is by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. The Spirit teaches (Luke 12:12, 1 Cor 2:13, 1 John 2:27), guides the believer into all truth (John 16:13), and discerns error (1 John 4:6).
- Man Man was created in God's image (Gen 1:27). However, the original image has been marred by sin, and that blemish has been inherited by all of Adam's descendants (Rom 5:12). In summary we view each student as: (a) special in God's eyes, (b) lost without Christ, (c) needing Christ, and (d) perfect in Christ. These four factors determine and define all the educational experiences each student will encounter at Valley Christian School.
- Knowledge and Wisdom "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (Prov 1:7) and thus knowledge is not merely a collection of data, but it is data seen in relationship to God as the Sovereign and Almighty One. It comes from God. There are two kinds of wisdom: Earthly and heavenly (James 3:13-18). Heavenly wisdom works itself out in deeds done in humility and by a good life. Earthly wisdom, in contrast, is evidenced by bitter envy, selfish ambition, disorder, and every evil practice. But wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere (James 3:17).
- Truth God has revealed truth to us by His Spirit through His Word. Christ is Truth (John 14:6); God's Word is Truth (John 17:17); All Truth is interpreted by God's Word (1 Cor 2:9-16).
- God's Word God's Word is the totality of truth. God's Word must be integrated into every aspect of a Christian school. A thorough understanding of Scripture must be in a place of primary importance (2 Tim 3:16-17).
- Parental Responsibility Christian parents are becoming increasingly aware of the need for an educational setting that is centered in Jesus Christ. The Scriptures state that parents are responsible to provide an education that keeps their children in God's presence (Pr 19:27). The Christian school is to be an extension of the Christian home (Deut 6:5-9).
- Education Education is a two-fold activity: Impression and expression (Phil 4:9). Christian education is the process whereby we learn to see things as God sees them through the perspective of His Word. As students acquire the mind of Christ they become like Him in character and conduct. Therefore, at Valley Christian School the "impression" is the process of revealing God to the student, and the "expression" is the student coming into conformity with God's revealed will.

Statement of Marriage, Gender and Sexuality

- We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
- We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union as delineated in Scripture (Gen 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor 6:18-25; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.
- We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, pedophilia, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10).
- We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity [the organization] as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Valley Christian School members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Valley Christian School in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thes 5:22).
- We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11).
- We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Valley Christian School.

Interdenominational Concept

Valley Christian School is an interdenominational school. We believe that all Christians are one in Christ, and we support the scriptural teaching of unity in Christ. However, we are also aware of the denominational preferences of believers. We support denominational differences and respect the doctrinal distinctions which make each local body unique.

At Valley Christian School we handle these differences openly and in a climate that teaches children to respect and tolerate such differences in a spirit of brotherly love.

The Board has determined doctrinal specifics that cause division and will handle these issues as outlined below:

- Baptism: The Board supports the scriptural teaching that baptism is a step of obedience by one who wishes to identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Teachers will be directed to avoid controversies related to this doctrine.
- **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit:** We recognize that the Spirit gives gifts to men as He chooses. We also recognize the controversies associated with these gifts. Teachers will be instructed to avoid controversial areas.
- The Filling of the Holy Spirit: In this matter we will take a stand on Romans 8:9, which teaches that any person who does not have the Holy Spirit living within him is not of Christ. Therefore, to be born of God is to have His Spirit dwelling within. We will go no further than this and will not seek to teach anything about a second blessing or successive filling by the Holy Spirit.

- Eschatology: Here our teaching will be limited to Christ's statement in John 14 that He will come again. We will not go beyond this in terms of establishing a timetable or sequence of events. We will not seek to establish a position relative to a tribulation or a millennial period of time. We acknowledge the various doctrines pertaining to these matters.
- **Eternal Security:** The Board recognizes the two major doctrinal positions on this matter and takes no official position on this doctrine.

Parental Commitment

Research shows that students tend to thrive if their parents and the school develop a strong partnership. The message and values displayed at home and at school should be consistent – this is part of the "One Voice Model". Therefore, to further promote this partnership there are two opportunities that are required for you attend: the first is Parent/Teacher /Child conferences, scheduled twice a year K-12 and once in the spring for pre-k. The second is Faith Challenge Celebration in the spring at which at least one parent is required to attend. This event is a time for our families to come together and celebrate all that God has given us as well as address the needs of the school.

Discipline Policy

Scripture includes love and discipline as interrelated matters (Deut 8:5; Ps 94:12; Pr 3:11-12; Heb 12:5-11; and Rev 3:19). We find that students respond well to structure and high expectations. Usually they will rise to the teachers' expectations, becoming responsible, considerate, and generally, doing the right thing. There will be times when students' behavior requires correction, admonition and negative consequences. When negative consequences are warranted, we find that prompt, fair and appropriate actions cause students to reflect on their behavior and change accordingly. Students are reminded that this is not a school of rules and regulations, but one that disciples youth to develop a strong relationship with their Lord and Savior. As students grow in their walk with Him they will become empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the right thing.

Parents will be notified of serious behaviors. Please see Student Handbooks at www.valleychristian.org for detailed information.

Biblical Worldview Integrated Throughout

VCS Students attend a 45-minute chapel each week where teachers and other speakers address spiritual and Biblical truths. They will memorize and learn to apply many Scripture verses through the years. Classroom teachers also provide daily Bible devotions and prayer times. Furthermore, we teach that our God is the God of our entire curriculum. Since He is a God of order, mathematics is a reflection of His nature. Since from "the beginning...the Word was God" (John 1:1), He is also the creator of language and communication. Science is the study of God's creation, and history is a record of human events in which God was always involved. In summary, we study our world through the lens of the Bible.

Character Education

Character: The qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

Character development takes place informally every day, and our character is often formed and developed unintentionally. Daily life is a great place to build character, but we must be careful about letting our character develop by chance. Our Character Education program is our attempt to be intentional about character development. We want

to emphasize who we are as Christians instead of what we do; believing that having God help us change our hearts will eventually change how we act.

Being in a Christian school gives us the opportunity to focus on Godly character, and to have the solid Biblical foundation that gives purpose and meaning to this program. We don't put our hope in trying to do what is right, or tying to change our hearts, but rather in the power of the Holy Spirit living within us to make us more like Christ.

In the book of Judges, the nation of Israel was described as a place where everyone did what was right in their own eyes. Our world desperately needs men and women who will do what is right in God's eyes, and that begins with developing the character we need to live that way.

Curriculum

Colossians 2:2-3 "..... Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Since Valley Christian School opened its doors to students our desire has been to help each student learn to be more like Jesus. This goal affects every area of our curriculum.

Our curriculum includes the integration of Bible memory and the study of God's truths as they are woven into every subject taught here at Valley Christian School. The foundation of this curriculum is rooted in the Word of God. Each student spends time every day in the study of God's Word. Christian education involves dealing with every area of life from God's terms. All truth belongs to God. That means all content areas (math, science, language, Bible, etc.) need to be studied from God's viewpoint.

In studying math, we learn of God's order. In mastering the skills of mathematics, we learn the importance of being accurate, honest, and responsible in our financial dealings with others. In science we learn about the power and beauty of God in His creation. History shows us God's hand in human affairs and the results of obedience and disobedience to God's laws. It can also provide us with many good role models.

ELEMENTARY

In addition to the core classes, we offer Band (beginning in grade 5), Music, Art, Computer Science and Physical Education. Beginning in 6th grade our students have the opportunity to play in interscholastic team sports, including basketball, tennis, track and volleyball.

Our average class size K – 6th is 14 students.

A one-on-one interview with one of our school principals is part of our admissions process. You are welcome and encouraged to ask our principals any questions you may have regarding our curriculum at that time.

JUNIOR HIGH

Students in Junior High have a room teacher who disciples them in theology, Bible memory verses, and Christian character development. They also learn from teachers who specialize in mathematics, English, science and history.

Junior High students have the opportunity to play in interscholastic team sports, including basketball, tennis, track, and volleyball.

A one-on-one interview with one of our school principals is part of our admissions process. You are welcome and encouraged to ask our principals any questions you may have regarding our curriculum at that time.

HIGH SCHOOL

Athletics

VCS offers 6 sports including boy's and girl's basketball, tennis, soccer, and track as well as volleyball for girls and football for boys.

Bible Discipleship Training (BDT)

"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." I Corinthians 11:1

We believe our Bible and Discipleship Training (BDT) program is the cornerstone of our Christian school's curriculum. Each BDT teacher will have a small group of students (male teachers with young men and female teachers with young ladies) for the purpose of teaching the Word, memorizing the Word, living out the Word (ministry) and praying together.

The Advanced Studies Program

The advanced studies program is strongly recommended for the college-bound student. It provides more intense academic preparation and includes opportunities for AP (Advanced Placement) courses which may be used for college credit, depending on student scores and the college attended. In addition to the core program, the advanced studies program requires additional credits in math, science and foreign language. These credits may be earned from the following classes: AP English, Advanced Math, Calculus, AP Chemistry or AP Biology.

A one-on-one interview with one of our school principals is part of our admissions process. You are welcome and encouraged to ask our principals any questions you may have regarding our curriculum at that time.

Admissions

Our admissions process is selective. Students are evaluated on the basis of their personal interview, Christian testimony, pastoral references, recommendations, transcripts and test scores. We also believe in the careful assessment of your child's needs and your expectations so we can best partner with you in the education of your child.

Schedule a visit to tour our campus and let our school speak for itself. We look forward to sharing with you the difference a Christian education makes in the lives of children and families.

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