

EDUCATIONAL CREED PLENTY VALLEY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



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PLENTY VALLEY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL CREED

Plenty Valley Christian Education Ltd has been established for children, irrespective of age, race or creed where students may be educated to the highest academic standard upon the educational creed of the company. All reference to 'man' in the Educational creed is representational of humankind, male and female, namely:

- As a community united in Christ for the education of youth we confess with the church universal that:
 - There is one God eternal and indivisible in whom are three Persons Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which three Persons are really truly and eternally distinct, each one truly God, yet without in any way destroying the unity of the one and only God who is one and not three.
 - This one God is the Creator of all things visible and invisible.
 - Man was created in the image of God with dominion over the creation.
 - Man sinned by disobeying the express command of God so repudiating his Creator and bringing God's wrath and curse on himself and on the whole creation over which he rules.
 - By the curse of sin justly imposed every man is cut off from communion with God and is dead in sin wholly corrupt throughout the whole man and utterly indisposed disabled and made opposite to all good and wholly inclined to all evil.
 - God in his love for the world sent His only son Jesus Christ our Lord to be born of the Virgin Mary being conceived by the Holy Spirit to live and suffer on this Earth as a man under the curse of sin to endure the fullness of God's curse on sin in His death on the cross as a ransom for many laying down His life for the sheep so that all who believe in Him should receive without regards to their works of merit full and free pardon the riches of God's favour as his sons and heirs and eternal life in Christ being renewed by the Holy Spirit in Christ's likeness.
 - The Lord Jesus Christ having died for our sins rose again on the third day by the power of God ascended to heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty who has put all things in subjection under his feet appointing him to be head of all things to the church which is his body.
 - At the time appointed by God and known to no man this very same Jesus shall come the second time in power and great glory to judge all men living and dead and having destroyed this present world to establish the new heavens and new earth in which righteousness has permanent home.
 - When the Lord Jesus comes again all the dead shall be raised bodily those who by faith have done well to eternal life and those who through unbelief have done evil to eternal condemnation.
 - The risen Christ has sent the Holy Spirit into the world that by Him redemption might be effectually applied the divine purpose of salvation accomplished and the church equipped for its mission on earth.
 - The redemptive activity and gracious favour of God the Father Son and Holy Spirit is essential for the fulfilment of man's life.

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- We confess that:
 - The Scripture of the Old and New Testaments acknowledged in the confessions of the Reformation is in all things our supreme standard by which all we do is to be judged.
 - This Scripture written by men moved by the Holy Spirit is itself God's Word written God himself being the author.
 - Scripture is the integral divine Word by which God through his Spirit draws us to and enlightens us in the truth which is Christ Jesus our Lord the eternal Word of God;
 - The same eternal Word who reveals himself in Scripture reveals himself in all that he has created so that the revelation of God is one.
 - Scripture is indispensable and determinative for our knowledge of God of ourselves and of the rest of the creation and also for the whole educational task.

- We confess that:
 - Man as God's image bearer is given dominion over the creation to rule it manage it and develop it for God who is King over Kings and Lord over Lords;
 - Man's life is fulfilled only in a life of free willing submission to God; a life lived in harmony with the law of God for his creation made known in the integral revelation of the Word of God;
 - Being now fallen into sin man can attain this fulfilment only through renewal by the Holy Spirit after the image of his creator;
 - For man to attempt anything at all in independence of God or in ignorance of God's revelation is inherently destructive of man and of the creation over which he is given dominion;
 - It is man's glory as God's image bearer to do everything so that the glory of God is revealed in his doing;
 - The development of the child as the image bearer of God is a central concern of the educational task.

- We confess that:
 - Human life in its entirety is religion unfolding itself as service of the one true God or of a God-substitute.
 - In sin man has repudiated God in favour of God-substitutes with the result that he is cut off from the knowledge of God himself and of the meaning of the creation so that the light he supposes he has is darkness and his wisdom is folly.
 - Apart from the man Christ Jesus no man is exempted from this falsifying of knowledge through sin but all alike grope in darkness being blinded to the meaning of life of the world and of man himself.
 - No area of human knowledge is free of this sinful falsifying.
 - True education is possible only where the fear of God is re-established by God's grace in the heart of man as the indispensable foundation of all wisdom and knowledge.

- We confess that:
 - God in Christ by the Cross has restored the whole creation to harmony with Himself making all things new in Christ.
 - Although the fulfilment of this restoration awaits the future revelation of Christ in glory yet in principle by the present work of the Holy Spirit in the world it is a present reality to be reckoned with in faith in every area of life.

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- Christ in His redemption by His Holy Spirit is creating a new regenerated humanity bound in covenant community to Christ as Head.
- This covenant community is God's appointed means through the power of the Holy Spirit within the community for communicating the redemption of Christ to the world.
- Although by the grace of God men who reject the Word of God as the ordering principle of life provide many valuable insights into the common structure of reality yet the religious direction of their thought remains radically opposed to that of the covenant community in Christ so that there can be no possibility of a synthesis of their systems of thought with the scripturally directed thought which Christ's covenant community is called to pursue.
- We confess that:
 - The whole cosmos is the creation of God remaining under his government upheld by his power and existing for His glory.
 - The cosmos is neither chaotic nor meaningless but ordered and pregnant with meaning by the creative act of God graciously preserved and sustained by Him in spite of the disruptive effects of man's sin and subject to the law of the Creator in all things.
 - It is man's task to unfold the meaning that God the creator has given to the creation.
 - Man can fulfil his task only as dependent on the Holy Spirit; he functions in subjection to the law by which God orders the creation.
 - The law of the Creator ensures a rich diversity within the unbreakable unity of the cosmos.
 - The whole creation finds its coherence and meaning in Christ who is the First and the Last the Beginning and the End of the creation of God.
 - True education is the unfolding to the child of the creation in harmony with the order and meaning it has in Christ so that the child may be prepared and equipped for his office and calling in this world as God's image bearer and steward.
- We confess that:
 - The covenant community redeemed in Christ expresses itself in the field of education in the college where Christ is confessed as head of the educational task in harmony with scripture.
 - The college is only one of several ways in which the covenant community expresses itself in this temporal world, each one displaying in a distinctive manner the rich fullness of Christ's redemption.
 - It is the special task of the college to open out to the child the meaning and structure of the creation under the guidance of the Word of God as part of the equipment of the child for his calling in life in subjection to Christ as King.
 - In pursuit of its special task, the college is in no sense subordinate or subject to family, church or state or to any other societal structure but to Christ alone who only rules as King over all.
 - As it expects respect for its own sovereignty under Christ so the college is bound to respect and uphold the sovereignty of family, church and state as well as every other societal structure each in its own sphere under Christ and to encourage such respect in the child.
 - This respect for the sovereignty of the societal structures under Christ requires that the College direct all its efforts toward its own special task refraining from activities that infringe on the special tasks of the family the church the state or any other societal structure.
 - The college under Christ and by His Holy Spirit is to advance the reign of Christ on earth in the field of education so that His kingdom may come to expression here and now, though with much imperfection and weakness and so that our Lord may find us busy in His garden when He comes in glory.

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- We confess that:
 - The college is a community of students, teachers and members of the company united in a communal confession of faith in Christ as the head.
 - Although parents have a primary responsibility for the education of the child yet as Christ has one body and as believers are members together of that one body the task of the college is the responsibility of the whole body of Christ.
 - Within the college community the student is subject to the authority of the teacher whose legitimate authority is to be upheld by the whole college community.
 - Authority is never to be exercised or maintained for its own sake but in the college is only to be used for the effective nurture of the child in harmony with the special task of the college and with an awareness that all authority is of God to whom all who exercise authority must give account.
 - Confessing Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Redeemer and Renewer of all our life, we pursue the educational task together, with confident hope and humble reliance on God who for Jesus' sake, sends his Holy Spirit to lead us into the truth, which is Christ and with glad submission to God's Word as the guide of all our endeavour that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, whose is the glory and the dominion for ever and ever.

Modified Extract from Constitution - Plenty Valley Christian Education Limited ACN [005 198 578] - A Company Limited by Guarantee - Adopted 16th March 2011

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Approved by:



John Metcalfe
Principal

Date