

Worklife Restoration and Advancement Project [WRAP]

FOR A VIDEO ABOUT THE RATIONALE OF THIS PROGRAM, CLICK <http://youtu.be/v9ux8UeqYFM>

The Problem:

- Students often fail to see their school work as the work of God, and this hinders them from experiencing purpose and meaning in school. It also deters them from a sense of later meaning and significance in occupations other than church-related vocations.
- If students fail to put biology, art and math into the context of a biblical worldview, they will tend to become “Christian dualists,” seeing the Bible as relevant to their personal and private lives, or the affairs of the church, but not to business, law or civil service. Because of this view, they will leave their faith at the workplace door, as adults, and the world will suffer.

The Solution:

- Christian schools are in a unique position to build into the minds and hearts of students an understanding of all legitimate work as the work of God. Such schools can embed “theology of work” into the school’s curriculum, at all levels, in a way that is systemic, intentional and repeatable. They can create curriculum maps in such a way that a biblical concept of work dovetails seamlessly into academic course content rather than adding a new subject to the teachers’ load.
- Christian schools can eliminate SSD, the “Sacred-Secular Divide,” and enable students to engage meaningfully in God’s purpose for humans to govern over the full spectrum of His creation. This is the First Commission of Gen. 1:26-28.

The Aspiration:

- To re-direct the course of history by embedding the biblical view of work into the standard academic curriculum, eradicating Christian dualism. To fully equip students to engage in something grand, beyond themselves, yet in the here and now, by engaging in work of all kinds (both present and future) as the very work of God.

The Tool Kit:

- **On-line instruction through a distance-learning course called, “*Increase Meaning: A Wholistic Approach To Christian Education*”¹**
 - ✓ This on-line course provides key concepts and practical skills necessary for fulfilling the afore-mentioned goals and objectives, creating a unified vision through the use of practical teaching aids that embed “theology of work” throughout the school curriculum, in all grade levels and in all subjects
 - ✓ The course has 12 video lectures, each about 1 hour in length
 - ✓ Individual, professional assessment of all written assignments is provided
 - ✓ Optional 5 college credits may be earned through a fully accredited United States university
 - ✓ 10 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) in either Biblical Studies or Educational Studies as recognized by the Association of Christian Schools International are available
 - ✓ Participants have approximately nine months to complete the course
 - ✓ Four books come with the course: *Assumptions That Affect Our Lives*, *God’s Pleasure At Work*, and *The Difference One Life Can Make*, by Christian Overman, and *LifeWork: A Biblical Theology for What You Do Every Day* by Darrow Miller
 - ✓ Classroom-ready teaching tools are presented: *The Conversation Starter* [for developing lesson plans that place academic subjects into the context of a biblical worldview and theology of work], *The Truth and Baloney Detector* [for helping students sort truth from non-truth], *The DADI Plan* [for aligning all kinds of work with the “bigger picture” of a biblical worldview], *The Awesome Activator* [also for connecting all kinds of work with the “bigger picture”], *101 Biblical Worldview Truths* [for determining “connecting points” between various subjects/work experiences and the biblical work-and-life view], *60 Premises of Theology of Work*, and more!

- **One-On-One Coaching for the Headmaster with a Worldview Matters Certified Coach**
 - ✓ The school Headmaster will have about 10 private coaching sessions per year (*45-60 minutes each*)
 - ✓ The coaching sessions are conducted via telephone or the Internet, anywhere in the world

¹Dr. Christian Overman is the developer of the *Increase Meaning* course, and primary instructor. He served as a Christian school Headmaster for fourteen years, after which he, and his wife, Kathy, founded an educational consulting service in the year 2000, called Worldview Matters®. (See www.worldviewmatters.com.) Christian Overman is the author of several books on Christian thought, cultural renewal, and theology of work, including *Assumptions That Affect Our Lives*, *God’s Pleasure At Work*, *The Difference One Life Can Make*, and *Making the Connections: How to Put Biblical Worldview Integration Into Practice*, co-authored with Don Johnson. He is also does a weekly blog called, *Worldview Matters*, at www.biblicalworldviewmatters.blogspot.com.

The Process:

Step 1: Investigation by the Headmaster or Superintendent of the School

- ✓ The chief leader of the school [headmaster of a smaller school or superintendent of a larger school] will complete the on-line course, to become familiar with the material, and to make sure it is something fitting for their particular school
- ✓ The chief leader will ideally complete the on-line course with a small group of other chief leaders of schools in the same geographic area, if possible

Step 2: A Small Group of Key Leaders in the School Complete the Course

- ✓ The key leaders of the school [principals, influential teachers, curriculum designers] will complete the on-line course together as a small “Phase 1” group in approximately nine months
- ✓ The head of the school will have one-on-one coaching sessions with a certified Worldview Matters coach approximately once a month, via telephone or the Internet

Step 3: All Teachers in the School Complete the Course

- ✓ All other teachers in the school will complete the on-line course as a “Phase 2” group
- ✓ The “Phase 1” group that completed the course in the previous year will begin the process of curriculum mapping, building a customized scope and sequence for biblical worldview and theology of work into the regular academic curriculum used by the school, with standards and benchmarks throughout all grade levels
- ✓ The Headmaster will continue to receive one-on-one coaching sessions with a certified Worldview Matters coach
- ✓ After the Phase 2 group has completed the training, they will begin work on curriculum mapping and continue this work beyond the time spent with Worldview Matters

If a particular school determines that the program is not a good fit for their school, there will be no obligation to continue.

The Price:

- The cost of the on-line course (for tuition and materials) is \$247 per person, plus the cost of shipping materials to the school. This is the fee without college credit. If anyone wants to earn college credit for the course, this would be \$495 (tuition and materials) plus shipping. The cost of the one-on-one coaching sessions with the Headmaster is an additional \$800 per year.
- Grant funding may be available through foundations that work with Worldview Matters. Please contact Worldview Matters for details.

The Benefits:

- **Students** will develop a sense of meaning and purpose for their lives, for their studies, and for the world around them. They will understand that no matter what career path they may take, whether it is in business, civil service or homemaking, they will be doing God's work. They will understand here is no "ordinary" work.
- **Parents** will be delighted, which translates into increased value and a greater return on their investment in their children, to the glory of God.
- **Teachers** will sense they are shaping history, and this will bring greater meaning to their own work.

Commendations and Referrals:

Worldview Matters® is endorsed by national and international Christian leaders. For a list of commendations and referrals, see http://bit.ly/WM_referrals. Additional referrals are available upon request, including school leaders whose schools have participated in the WRAP.

First Step:

- **Have an exploratory conversation with Dr. Christian Overman via telephone or the Internet.** This will help to determine if the WRAP is "right fit" for you and your school. Send your request for a conversation via this link: http://bit.ly/converse_1

