

FORWARD FROM **DR TED BOYCE**



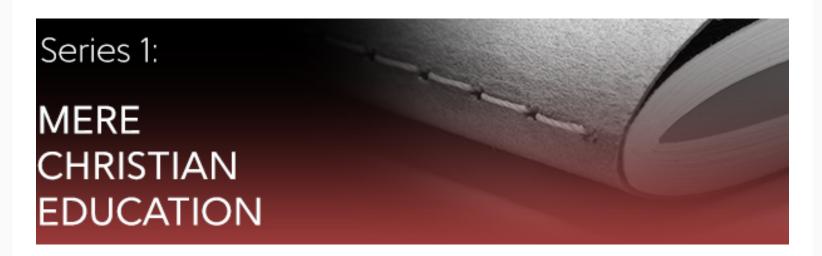
Dear Friend,

Please find below a reflection to encourage you in your work of Christian education. We will send these out weekly and hope that these thoughts feed your soul.

The first series is based on CS Lewis' "Mere Christianity", and is therefore called "Mere Christian Education" by Dr Stephen Fyson.

Should you not wish to receive these reflections from me or my team in the future please unsubscribe at the bottom of this email.

In Grace and Truth, Dr Ted Boyce.



REFLECTION BY STEPHEN J FYSON PHD PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT





If you are in leadership in a Christian school, then you will have come up against people who disagree about the start of our Universe. Sadly, this can also include those within our own school people. This is not a new phenomenon of course. Augustine wrote about such things in his *City of God* and in his *On Christian Teaching*.

For example, he noted:

A person who is a good and true Christian should realize that truth belongs to his Lord, wherever it is found, gathering and acknowledging it even in pagan literature, but rejecting superstitious vanities and deploring and avoiding those who 'though they knew God did not glorify him as God'... (p. 47)

So the concept that 'all truth is God's truth' has been articulated for at least 1700 years! However, the debate has been, and still is, what thinking 'does not give thanks and glory to God'? CS Lewis outlined a guiding principle in this way:

And very roughly, two views have been held. First, there is what is called the

materialist view.... The other view is the religious view. According to it, what is behind the universe is more like a mind than it is like anything else we know. That is to say, it is conscious, and has purposes, and prefers one thing to another.... You cannot find out which view is the right one by science in the ordinary sense.... Do not think I am saying anything against science: I am only saying what its job is. (Mere Christianity p.30)

As JI Packer reminded us as his students in his Systematic Theology classes, Science's job is to ask the *how* questions of life. It is Theology that explores the *why* questions of life. Let's prayerfully and in deep fellowship remind each other and our people of this, and so work to keep the unity that is Christ, as expressed in Ephesian 4:3 – *Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace* (NIV).

Please contact us at TEC if we can be of assistance in discussing this further with your people.



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+61 2 9651 0712



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