



CARE CONVERSATIONS

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.*

Series 1:

MERE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

REFLECTION BY
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Number 3:
LIFE FORCE
OR
SPIRITUAL HUNGER?



Do you pray with people when they come to visit you about enrolling in your school? I was taught to do so by Bob Frisken, founder of the Christian Community Schools, some 30 or so years ago. I have continued the practice, including when enrolling teenage mothers into a special program for them.

As time progressed, I noticed that many of these young mothers who were teenage students, had no understanding of the traditions and meaning of the Christian faith. When I offered to pray with them, I would often need to explain to them what prayer was. They would then normally agree to try this ‘new thing’. Some of them did so with a bit of trepidation!

At the end of the prayer, there were routinely smiles on the faces of the young women. Many of them wanted to know more. Sometimes there were tears in the eyes of the teenage mothers, as their spirits responded to a soul experience for which they hungered. More than one young person explained to me: ‘So that is what it is called – prayer! I do it at home, but did not know what I was doing...’ Remember, these were young people with no experience of church in their memories.

These kind of experiences remind me time and time again that so many of our students are searching for deeper spiritual truths in their lives. They do not just need meaning for their lives, but hope in their lives.

And we know that there are many false ideas floating around to lure them into a wasteland of pseudo-hope. The concept of the 'Life Force' that is prevalent in many media productions, is one of these main shadowland contenders. CS Lewis put it well when he commented on such ideas, starting as they were in his time of the 1940's:

The Life Force is sort of a tame God... Is the Life-Force the greatest achievement of wishful thinking the world has yet seen? (34)

What a privilege we have to present real hope to our young people, so they do not become washed away in the swirl of wishful ideas of our times.

Stephen J Fyson PhD
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The Excellence Centre

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- Provide excellent products, services and research products
- Practice Christian Community

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