

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.



The nature and nurture debate can often take centre stage in our educational settings. Who knows how many articles and books and articles have been written debating which one is more influential when dealing with particular issues?

Of course, there is a kernel of truth in both of these. Our physical predispositions do give us certain opportunities and limits in life. Our social upbringing also trains us into cultural norms of relating to others. But as human beings, 'nature and nurture' does not sum up who we are!

CS Lewis reminded us of this aspect of life in the following way:

Now what was the sort of 'hole' man had got himself into? He had tried to set up on his own, to behave as if he belonged to himself... In other words, fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel who must lay down his arms.... This process of surrender – this movement full speed astern – is what Christians call repentance (56)

When our people are focussing on just nature and nurture, let's remind each other that we are spiritual beings as well, and we are in deep difficulty when we

start believing that we 'only need some self-improvement' to move from imperfection to perfection.

Let's continue to pray for discerning and creative ways to explain our need for surrender – but joy oh joy, our surrender is to the Grace and Truth of Christ. Amen!

Grace and peace,

Stephen J Fyson PhD Principal Consultant The Excellence Centre

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We pursue our vision from a biblical base by aiming:

- To be authentically Christian
- Provide excellent products, services and research products
- Practice Christian Community

The Excellence Centre is a not for profit ministry of Pacific Hills Christian Education based at our Dural Campus in Sydney Australia.

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