



The
Excellence
Centre

CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD
FROM
DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

It is an understatement to remind each other that at times we lead very busy lives. We know that if we can come by a word that speaks to our hearts, it will be good for our souls, even amid the sometimes hectic pace of school life.

We hope that this series of Care Conversations can speak to all of us, because we are leaning on one of the most read Christian pastoral writers – A.W. Tozer. The comments in this series from Stephen are based on *Culture: Living as Citizens of Heaven on Earth. Collected insights from A.W. Tozer* (Moody Publishers, 2016).

May you be refreshed as you faithfully go about your good work this week.

Sincerely,

Dr Tina Lamont

Director TEC

The Excellence Centre

Series 6:

CULTURE:

LIVING AS CITIZENS OF HEAVEN ON EARTH

REFLECTION BY
STEPHEN J FYSON PHD
PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT



Number 2:

Our cornerstone amidst the climate of change

Have you noticed how many new challenges come to those who work in schools? There seems to be an endless array of legislative and regulatory ‘adjustments and developments’ as the years march on. Clinging to what is important, central, and grounding can become a challenge in such an environment.

A.W. Tozer notes how this is a symptom of a larger force. Like Chesterton before him, he noticed how there is, in our so-called sophisticated mindsets, a belief that recent developments tend to trump those older and ancient truths upon which our civilization was built. How we use the Bible is not immune to this pressure:

‘Outmoded’ means we have new modes of thinking and living now, so the

Bible is out-of-date – a back-issue magazine. We must, therefore, reassess its teaching and rethink our beliefs and hopes. (p.21)

Tozer calls this thinking for what it is – a prideful attempt to prove we are morally and spiritually more advanced than previous eras. A dispassionate look at how people relate to each other shows that the heart-struggles of life are still there for all of us.

To where do we turn? God's Word, His Bible, and guided by His Holy Spirit, in fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let's look for more of that today: *So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit', says the Lord Almighty". (Zechariah 4:6)*

Grace and peace,

Stephen J Fyson PhD
Principal Consultant
The Excellence Centre

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