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CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD  
FROM  
DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

We are basing this semester's Care Conversations on the TEC Leadership Matrix. We have already covered some areas that relate to Personal Spiritual Formation.

We now move to the area of Community Spiritual Formation. How can our Leadership in Biblical Christian Schools shape a school culture that honours the Lordship of Christ and develops Biblical Christian Education Communities that equip young people to engage redemptively?

Yours in Christ,

Series 14:

## COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL FORMATION

### REFLECTION BY BRIAN COX

Consultant in Leadership & Education

#### Number 1: MISSIONS

We should understand “Missions” as developing in young people a heart of ministry and a life of servanthood in the name of Jesus.

One of the dangers is that we may see “Missions” as “one-off events” or “trips” or isolated “acts of service”. This is to fall very short of the purpose.

The problem with “acts of service” is that they have a start and finish. We can switch our acts of service on and then switch them off. Our goal is that our students develop servant hearts – a recognition, desire and willingness to serve in every situation.

Jesus corrects his disciples as they argue about “greatness” saying, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>[1]</sup>

Paul frequently introduces himself as “a servant of Christ Jesus...” [2]

Paul is clear that ministry is a consequence of knowing the mercy of God [3] and thus concludes: “For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your ***servants*** for Jesus' sake.” [4]

So.... Our goal is not to “do service” but to develop ***servants***.

How does developing servants permeate our whole school curriculum and culture? What might our goals look like?

1. This means having a focus on servanthood from kindergarten to Year 12 and beyond. It involves initiatives from teachers, leaders, staff, students, families and others in the community. It means that our development is intentional and progressive. It is making sure that it takes place in our families and classrooms as well as in the local, regional and global community. If we don't serve in our homes and classrooms, there's no point trying to change the world.
2. It means developing a focus that seeks to benefit others. Servanthood commits to look outwards and do good.
3. It means understanding the importance of fellowship in Christ; being servants to one another without arrogance or superiority.
4. It means understanding the importance of fellowship in suffering; [5] developing compassionate hearts and actions.
5. It means serving with humility and obedience; developing a servant heart and life.
6. It means understanding that servanthood and worship are inseparable. Who is the ONLY ONE who knows how to be a servant and worship the Father truly? Jesus, the Son of God.

This sounds idealistic, but it's the way we are called to develop ourselves and our young people.

We hope to include a lot more detail around this idea as part of the TEC Leadership workshops.

Seeking to be authentic servants together.

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[1] Mark 9:35

[2] Eg Romans 1:1

[3] 2 Corinthians 4:1

[4] 2 Corinthians 4:5

[5] Philippians 3:8-11

*Brian Cox*

Consultant in Leadership & Education



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are the feet of him who brings  
good news, who proclaims peace.

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