



## From My Heart to Yours...Kathy Tweeten, Head Administrator

### Why Christian Education?

I am a strong proponent of Christian Education. It has not only been my life-long career, as I have only taught and administrated in Christian schools, but it has been my personal choice for my daughter as well ~ Kindergarten-College. The reasons that I have chosen Christian Education are personal, but I wanted to share them with you today.

First and foremost, the Bible tells us in Proverbs 22:6 to, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." There is a truth in nature that also has a spiritual application: You never harvest in the season you sow. I believe that while children are in your care, you are still sowing, training and preparing. Training takes more than the first 5 years of life, and when it was time to allow someone else to assist in that training for 7 hours a day, 5 days a week ~ there was no question in my mind that it had to be a strong Christian believer who would impart the same values and demonstrate the same love and respect for God's Word that was part of our home life. You will only find that in a Christian school. There are no guarantees in life, but I wanted to know that I did all I could to impart God's Word into my child's life ~ because the Word promises that it will not return void (Isaiah 55:11). And, parents are the ones who are held accountable to God for the training of their children. That being said, the decision as to where your child attends school is a parental decision, *not* a child's decision. You may glean their input, but ultimately God has entrusted your children to *you* to make these decisions. There are three key institutions that shape your child: your home, your church and your school. Your child is best served when all three point in the same direction.

Secondly, years ago, I heard a sermon where the pastor challenged the congregation to list the priorities in their life. He then asked us to look at our checking account registers and list how we spent our money, listing the expenditures from the largest totals in categories like tithing, house payment, eating out, entertainment, etc. to the smallest totals. He then said if the two lists didn't match, the real priority in your life was where you put your money (Matt. 6: 19-21). Doing this exercise was quite an eye-opener, and if you have never done it, I challenge you to do so. It was at that juncture that I decided that at the end of my life, when I would have to make an accounting for everything ~ including how I spent my money, that I wanted the top expenditures to be for things that lasted forever ~ that made a difference for all of eternity, because the rest is really only wood, hay and stubble (1 Corinthians 3: 10-15). The four areas that I have focused on, and that will last forever are: my tithe, my offerings, support of missionaries, and my investment in Christian Education. All four areas are spiritual investments that last for eternity.

So, for me, "Why Christian Education?" I view it as an eternal investment in the gift of our children, who are on loan to us from God.