

~Wholehearted Wisdom~

Cultivating Character, Curiosity, and Calling in Christ-Centered Education

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HomeschoolCompanion.org

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Welcome to **Wholehearted Wisdom**, the newsletter for educators, parents, and pastors who believe learning is about more than grades and test scores. *Homeschool Companion* explores how to cultivate character, curiosity, and calling through Christ-centered education.

Whether you teach in a multi-grade classroom or around the kitchen table, this newsletter is for thoughtful conversations that shape minds, strengthen hearts, and prepare students for lives of purpose. If you're part of a small Christian school, a homeschooling family, or an educator or parent who believes education is about more than academics, this newsletter is for you.

Before we go any further, we want to explain **why this newsletter exists** and **what values guide everything we do here**. Because clarity builds trust and trust matters in Christian education.

The mission of **Wholehearted Wisdom** is simple:

To support Christian schools and homeschooling families by offering clear, thoughtful, Christ-centered conversations that nurture faith, character, and excellence in learning, while preparing students for both service and eternity.

It is our aim and mission to:

- Encourage Christian educators and parents who carry heavy responsibilities
- Help students understand *why* faith, health, and character matter—not just *that* they do
- Strengthen the partnership between school, home, and church
- Thoughtfully explore modern tools—including technology and AI—through a biblical worldview
- Promote education that prepares students not just for careers, but for lives of service

We are not here to replace schools or parents. We are here to support you. Everything we discuss in this newsletter is shaped by a few core values rooted in **Christian beliefs and educational philosophy**.

The Great Pajama Debate A Devotional for Homeschool Families

Some families are up at 6 AM, dressed like they're headed to a board meeting. Others are solving algebraic equations in dinosaur onesies at 10:30. Both are valid. Both are surviving.

But here's what matters more than our wardrobe choices:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."— Col 3:23 (NIV)

Notice Paul didn't say, "Whatever you do, make sure you're wearing real pants." He said work with *all your heart*, whether you're teaching fractions in yoga pants, reading history on the couch with bedhead, or yes, even conducting science experiments still wearing last night's pajamas.

God cares about the condition of our hearts far more than the condition of our appearance. He sees the mother who's teaching her third explanation of long division with patience (or trying to). He notices the kid who's genuinely curious about why the sky is blue, even if they're asking from under a blanket fort.

Homeschooling isn't about performing education perfectly. It's about faithfully showing up, however that looks in your home—and doing the work God has given you with love and dedication.

So whether your school day starts with everyone dressed and breakfast eaten at the table, or with someone yelling "MOM, ARE THERE ANY CLEAN SPOONS?" while you're Googling "*What year was the War of 1812?*" You're doing kingdom work. The pajamas (or lack thereof) are just details.

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- What does it mean to work "with all your heart" in our homeschool?
 - How can we encourage each other when the day isn't going perfectly?
 - What's one thing we can thank God for about our homeschool today?

1. Christ at the Center of All Learning

We believe true education restores the image of God in humanity and integrates:

- Faith and learning
- Knowledge and character
- Academic excellence and spiritual growth

Every subject, every conversation, and every tool should point back to Christ.

2. Scripture and the Great Controversy Worldview

We approach education through the biblical lens of the **Great Controversy**—the ongoing struggle between truth and error, good and evil.

This worldview shapes how we think about:

- Culture
- Technology
- Media
- Education
- Character development

We teach students not just *what* to think, but *how* to think Biblically.

3. Grace, Patience, and Growth

Christian education happens in real homes and real classrooms—with real challenges.

We value:

- Grace before criticism
- Patience over perfection
- Growth over comparison

Teachers, parents, and students are learning together—and we speak with humility and respect.

4. Whole-Person Development

Christian education has always emphasized the development of the **whole person**:

- Mental
- Physical
- Spiritual
- Social

We believe habits, health, service, and character are just as important as test scores.

Education should prepare students to think clearly, live healthfully, serve faithfully, and walk humbly with God.

5. Wisdom in Technology & AI

Technology is a tool—not a teacher and not a savior.

We explore AI and modern tools carefully, asking:

- Does this support honest learning?
- Does it strengthen or weaken character?
- Does it serve people—or replace responsibility?

Our goal is to help families and schools use technology **wisely, ethically, and purposefully**.

6. Partnership Between School, Home, and Church

Education works best when schools, homeschools, churches, and families move in the same direction.

This newsletter exists to:

- Strengthen communication
- Encourage mutual respect
- Build unity—not division

We believe Christian education is strongest when it is collaborative.

7. Faithfulness Over Recognition

Success for this newsletter is not measured by numbers alone.

Success is faithfulness—to God, to truth, and to the mission of Christian education.

If this newsletter encourages one teacher, supports one homeschooling parent, or helps one student think more deeply about faith and life. That matters!

What You Can Expect:

- Christ-centered, Christian-informed conversations
 - Practical encouragement for schools and homeschools
 - Thoughtful discussion of modern challenges
 - Respect for different educational paths within a Christian outlook
 - A focus on faith, character, and service
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A Note to Pastors:

You're already excellent at building faith communities and nurturing families.

We could amplify that strength instead of asking you to become educators.

You've built a faith community where families grow together, where children learn to love God, and where lasting relationships are formed. But you're watching something happen that is heartbreaking: faithful families are leaving, not because they don't love this church, but because they're forced to choose between their educational values and their church community.

Every year, families in your congregation face an impossible decision. They want their children educated in an environment that reinforces their faith, but when that's not available at their home church, they're forced to choose. They may end up sending their students to public schools or move to a church with a school, and you lose not just their attendance but also their gifts, their service, and their friendship.

Your Church Provides What You Already Do Best:

- Provide an Christian education for your children
- Keep the families who are currently forced to leave
- Deepen your discipleship impact with children 5 days a week instead of 1
- Become the church that other families seek out
- Create a model that other churches want to replicate
- Space you already own and maintain
- The community relationships you've spent years building
- Pastoral oversight and spiritual formation
- The ministry heart that makes this church special



This isn't about starting a school. This is about extending your ministry through partnership.

If you have any questions or comments, send them to V.Jennings@homeschoolcompanion.org

Parents are the primary spiritual and educational guides for their children, teaching faith and life skills at home, a role reinforced by the Church, where moms and daads act as spiritual leaders and as their children's first teachers, laying foundations for life, though formal schooling and church support also play crucial roles in this lifelong formation.

*Thank you for spending this time with **Wholehearted Wisdom**. If this edition encouraged you, share it with a fellow educator or parent walking the same path. We inviting you to keep cultivating Christian character, curiosity, and calling, as we pursue faith-filled learning that shapes lives for time and eternity.*