DR. RENTON RATHBUN

PRESENTATIONS FOR CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS:

(New) Losing Our Religion in Education: Creating a Stickier Biblical Worldview

We teach our students from a biblical worldview. So, why are so many children from Christian schools abandoning the bible, the church, and ultimately the faith? In this talk, we discuss the cognitive process of how this divorce between biblical worldview instruction and biblical faithfulness happens. Then we discuss steps that will help develop our students' sense of certainty, value of truth, and individual responsibility found in the Law and the Gospel.

(New) The Marxification of Christian Education: Our Obligation to a Philosophy of the Classroom

As teachers we want to keep up on new techniques and trends in running a classroom that is best organized for learning. However, throughout the years, we have unintentionally developed "best practices" in our classrooms that are actually Marxist in nature. As a result, our students have developed a distain for authority and an overestimation of their existing knowledge base. This talk exposes how these practices work and how to develop a philosophy of classroom order that is not only conducive to learning but also biblical.

(New) How to Create Thinking Habits in the Classroom: Worldview Down to the Lesson Plan

Let's face it, biblical worldview has been an ethereal for too long. If biblical worldview is to have any legitimacy, it must be practical. In this talk, we develop the lost art of reading, writing, and arithmetic in the classroom. We established that every subject taught in the classroom involves these three skills. We then develop how Worldview work is at the heart of 1) organizational thinking in reading, 2) critical thinking in writing, and 3) conductive thinking in arithmetic.

(New) Living in a Transsexual World: How We Got Here and How It Affects Teachers

Social media, peer pressure, music, movies, and news outlets have created a culture that has so saturated the minds of our students, they are almost completely unaware that their default is the affirmation of the transsexual movement. The Pew Research Center found that teens are far more likely than adults to say society hasn't gone far enough in accepting people who are transgender. How did all this begin? Can we learn from our recent history of affirming transsexual ideology? How do we proceed from here? This talk address these questions from a biblical worldview.

(New) Apologetics in the Classroom (part 1): Guidelines for Defending the Faith

No matter what we teach, we all run across an argument, view, or philosophy that rejects or diminishes the Christian faith. But in defending the faith in the classroom there are pitfalls that can actually hurt our students' faith instead of helping. In this talk, we will develop practical guidelines for how we can defend our faith in the classroom that allows students to exercise higher levels of thinking processes.

(New) Apologetics in the Classroom (part 2): Developing an Apologetic Template for Any Issue

As we face a world that has developed sophisticated arguments against Christianity and the absence of the true God, we, too, must increase our competency in defending our faith in the classroom. In this talk, we discuss a tool for defending the faith called "B.I.G. Apologetics"—a simple but effective model that allows intelligent engagement with difficult arguments, views, or philosophies set up against the knowledge of God.

(New) Beta Males and Boys' Clubs: a Better Definition for Servant Leadership

At the heart of Biblical leadership is a hierarchy of a love for God that then dictates how we will love others. The higher the level of responsibility and the weight that accompanies decision making, the greater the temptation is to either avoid difficult decisions or avoiding the truth that leads to difficult decisions. In this talk, we will use a case study to develop the skill of recognizing when these temptations arise and what steps to take to ensure biblical, authentic leadership is achieved.

Only in the Mind? Why Biblical Worldview MUST Develop Holiness

Biblical worldview tends to be discussed only in terms of one's thinking patters. However, if biblical worldview does not lead to holy living, we are really just making "Christianly pagans." How do we make the connection from biblical thinking to biblical action? This talk develops a three-step plan for a holistic biblical worldview.

Roots of Gen Z Thinking & How to Respond

Young people continue to consent to and even affirm culturally acceptable sin. LGBTQ+, Social Justice Theory, and Critical Race Theory are not just movements, they are a unified way of thinking. In this talk, we discover the root of this thought process that has groomed Gen Z into doubting God, redefining Christianity, and ultimately walking away from the faith. We discuss three biblical principles to respond with as we educate, train, and prepare this generation for a world that hates God.

LGBTQ+ Ideology: What Your Students Are Facing and How to Respond

Students today are inundated with LGBTQ+ indoctrination via social media, entertainment, and personal friendships. Now there are movements, even within the church, that have accepted varying degrees of LGBTQ+ affirmation. Christian schools can take steps to address this issue biblically. In this session, we will explore how biblical worldview strategies can shape our students' thinking about these concepts.

Walking Away from the Faith: Preparing for the Public University

There have been many news articles about unrest and political activism in the public university. There have also been many stories of students leaving the faith after attending public universities. What are Christian students in for when they embark on attending such a place? After numerous years of teaching in public colleges and universities, Dr. Rathbun will lay out the challenges that Christian students will face, as well as biblical strategies for preparing them for those challenges.

What Should a Bible Program Look Like in a Christian School?

When Christian schools were first established in response to public education, the Bible was at the center of the education. Is the Bible still the centerpiece of the Christian school today? Does the Bible suffer from a lack of intentional, year-to-year scaffolding, a lack of relevance to other subjects, and a lack of rigor that equals the rigor of other subjects? This workshop is about getting back to our original formula.

What in the World Is a "Biblical" Worldview?

Recently, the word "worldview" has become a household word particularly within the Christian school community. But few will admit we've been getting it wrong. In this talk, we discuss a useful definition of biblical worldview and investigate how it can affect the classroom and curriculum.

Biblical Worldview & Academic Rigor

Some view biblical worldview as a nice addition to a curriculum if there is *extra time*. This fundamental misunderstanding of biblical worldview shaping stems from the idea that critical thinking is possible without biblical worldview shaping. Because of the demands and scope of critical thinking as a discipline, biblical worldview is absolutely inherent in providing real critical thinking skills.

Christianity and Secularism: What Does It Mean to Teach as a Christian?

Textbooks are not written to steer the perspective and thinking merely of students. They are created to steer the teacher's thinking as well. It is subtle. It is deliberate. It is effective. But what are we being taught in our textbooks?

A Biblical Worldview of Math? Does It Add Up?

Typically, attempting to integrate Bible into a math course results in unconvincing biblical connections and zero advancement of mathematical knowledge. This workshop defines mathematics from a biblical worldview and develops strategies for having biblical worldview discussions that do not change the subject away from math. Students will learn how to make biblical worldview connections that are cohesive and unified, while still advancing mathematical knowledge.

A Biblical Worldview of Leadership

Christian education needs strong leadership. But what does that mean? A Christian school can create a healthy interdependency between administration and faculty. This is possible when the leadership leads by transforming their faculty into leaders. This workshop traces the foundational principles of biblical leadership, illustrates strategies for engaging and inspiring millennials, and demonstrates the importance of changing from "game-theory leadership" to, what we will call, "foxhole leadership."

PRESENTATIONS FOR HOMESCHOOL EVENTS

(New) Calling All Men! We need a Better Definition for Servant Leadership

Today, more then ever, we need strong, reliable men, husbands, fathers. At the heart of Biblical leadership in the home is a hierarchy of a love for God that then dictates how we will love others. The higher the level of responsibility and the weight that accompanies decision making in the home, the greater the temptation is to either become like a child to our wife or become a bully in the home. In this talk, we will use a case study to develop the skill of recognizing when these temptations arise and what steps to take to ensure biblical, authentic leadership is achieved at home.

(New) Losing Our Religion in Education: Creating a Stickier Biblical Worldview

We teach our children from a biblical worldview. So, why are so many children from Christian homes abandoning the bible, the church, and ultimately the faith? In this talk, we discuss the cognitive process of how this divorce between biblical worldview instruction and biblical faithfulness happens. Then we discuss steps that will help develop our children's sense of certainty, value of truth, and individual responsibility found in the Law and the Gospel.

(New) Teaching Apologetics at Home (part 1): Guidelines for Defending the Faith

No matter what we teach, we all run across an argument, view, or philosophy that rejects or diminishes the Christian faith. But in defending the faith to our children, there are pitfalls that can actually injure their faith instead of helping. In this talk, we will develop practical guidelines for how we can defend our faith that allows our children to exercise higher levels of thinking processes.

(New) Teaching Apologetics at Home (part 2): Developing an Apologetic Template for Any Issue

As we face a world that has developed sophisticated arguments against Christianity and the absence of the true God, we, too, must increase our competency in defending our faith at home. In this talk, we discuss a tool for defending the faith called "B.I.G. Apologetics"—a simple but effective model that allows intelligent engagement with difficult arguments, views, or philosophies set up against the knowledge of God.

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(New) How to Create Thinking Habits in Our Children: Worldview Down to the Lesson Plan

Let's face it, biblical worldview has been an ethereal for too long. If biblical worldview is to have any legitimacy, it must be practical. In this talk, we develop the lost art of reading, writing, and arithmetic in our teaching. We established that every subject taught in the home involves these three skills. We then develop how Worldview work is at the heart of 1) organizational thinking in reading, 2) critical thinking in writing, and 3) conductive thinking in arithmetic.

Homeschooling Gen Z: How They Think and Why It Matters

Young people continue to consent to and even affirm culturally acceptable sin. LGBTQ+, Social Justice Theory, and Critical Race Theory are not just movements; they are a unified way of thinking. In this talk, we discover the root of the thought process that has groomed Gen Z into doubting God, redefining Christianity, and ultimately walking away from the faith. We discuss three biblical principles to respond with as we educate, train, and prepare this generation for a world that hates God.

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How We've Gotten Biblical Worldview Wrong and How to Get it Right

Recently, the word "worldview" has become a household word particularly within the homeschool community. But few will admit we've been getting it wrong. In this talk, we discuss a useful definition of biblical worldview and investigate how it can affect homeschooling and shaping our children's minds.

How Biblical Worldview IS Critical Thinking

Some view biblical worldview as a nice addition to a curriculum if there is *extra time*. This fundamental misunderstanding of biblical worldview shaping stems from the idea that critical thinking is possible without biblical worldview shaping. Because of the demands and scope of critical thinking as a discipline, biblical worldview is absolutely inherent in providing real critical thinking skills.

Walking Away from the Faith: Preparing for the Public University

There have been many news articles about unrest and political activism in the public university. There have also been many stories of students leaving the faith after attending public universities. What are Christian homeschoolers in for when they embark on attending such a place? After numerous years of teaching in public colleges and universities, I will lay out the challenges that Christian homeschoolers will face, as well as biblical strategies for preparing them for those challenges.

LGBTQ+ Ideology: What Our Children are Facing and How to Respond

Kids today are inundated with LGBTQ+ indoctrination via social media, entertainment, and personal friendships. Now there are movements, even within the church, that have accepted varying degrees of LGBTQ+ affirmation. Christian parents can take steps to address this issue biblically. In this session, we will explore how biblical worldview strategies can shape our children's thinking about these concepts.

Can the Wrong Textbook Harm My Child? Guidelines for the Right Textbook

The act of teaching is really the act of teaching a worldview. The textbook (which is at the heart of the curriculum) presents a worldview. Sometimes even Christian textbooks present poorly constructed worldviews while secular textbooks present well-constructed poor worldviews. In this presentation we take a hard look at the characteristics of effective textbooks.

What Should a Bible Program Look Like When We Homeschool?

Although many homeschool in order to teach their children from a biblical perspective, surprisingly, many homeschoolers are not engaging the Bible with the same rigor and attention as they do other subjects. This presentation demonstrates that all these issues can be overcome when we develop an intentional, biblical worldview of Bible curriculum, in its scope, relevance, and rigor.

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