

School Choice Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Bible passages for examination and meditation:

Luke 6:40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone, when he is fully trained, will be like his teacher.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Proverbs Chapter 8 and 9

Proverbs 24:3-7

Spiritual Considerations - Pray individually.

1. Have you asked God for wisdom in this decision?
2. How do you feel God is leading you in your schooling choices?
3. Who is responsible for my children's education?
4. What is the purpose of academic pursuits from a Christ-centered perspective?
5. What do I want my children to believe about God as a result of their education?
6. How will my children be equipped for mission, regardless of vocation, by any of their schooling choices?
7. Read through and meditate upon Proverbs 8-9 and Proverbs 22:15. Reflect on learning wisdom vs. folly. How do these passages relate to formal schooling?
8. How does "wisdom" spoken of throughout Proverbs relate to learning specific subjects? (How does studying Math, Literature, History, etc. relate to acquiring wisdom?)
9. How much hope are you placing in your school choice? Will it redeem your child or minimize conflict?
10. How will you implement spiritual training no matter where your child is receiving formal instruction?
11. Consider your children's development of a worldview, how will you best help them develop a biblical worldview?

Parental/Family Considerations - Pray with your spouse and family

12. What does your spouse say about the decision?

13. What is your goal/objective as a family for the education of your children?
14. What relationship do you want your children to have with you as parents and their siblings?
15. How will our academic choices facilitate these relationships?
16. What fears/anxiety/concerns might you be looking to avoid by making one particular choice?.
17. How much is this “avoidance” influencing your decision? If it is a significant influencer, how can you frame this as a vision, looking forward to a goal rather than looking back at what you want to avoid?
18. List three implications your decision will have on your family.

INDIVIDUAL CHILD - Pray with each child.

19. In broad terms, what are three goals you have for our children while they are in your care as a parent? How will education achieve or detract from these goals?
20. In specific terms, what are three goals we have for our children as a result of their education?
21. Is your current decision one that you expect to span the duration of your children’s primary school years?
22. What does this particular child need this year? Is there room for one child to have their individual needs met differently from your other children?
23. How will you spend the school year nurturing the individual soul of each child?
24. What does this individual child want? How much weight will you give to the child’s requests?