



EAGLE EXPRESS

Oroville Christian School Newsletter

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Message From The Head of School

“The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary”
Isaiah 50:4

Remembering the Covenant

By Sinclair Ferguson

We’ve been thinking all week about the importance of remembering in the Christian life. Years ago, we carpoled one of our sons with another family, and I was driving our son and their daughter home on the very last day of class. And the little girl was expressing pretty considerable anxiety about how difficult their next year at school was going to be. And to my complete astonishment, my young son turned to her and said, “There’s nothing to worry about next year because it’s all a matter of revision.”

I don’t think he knew then at the age of eight or nine or whatever he was that he was embracing a rather well-known and particular point of view of a philosophical school. Because some philosophers have held the view, on the one hand, that the human mind at birth is a tabula rasa. It’s a totally blank slate, like an empty computer disc that needs programmed and populated with information. But other philosophers, and some neuroscientists as well, have held the view that the human brain, the human mind, at least to some extent, comes pre-programmed, already hardwired. Otherwise, how can you explain that human beings everywhere with very different languages seem by and large to think in the same ways?

Well, no matter whether the empiricists or the innatists, as they’re called, are right, one thing is for sure. None of us is born with the Bible already in our memory banks. We need to put it there. We need to program our memories with the truth of Scripture, and as we know from God’s Word, this is how our lives are transformed. The way in which the transformation takes place is by the renewal of the mind. And the renewal of the mind takes place through the truth of Scripture, so we need to hide God’s Word in our hearts.

I don’t know if you’ve ever thought about this, but it’s not only true of us that we don’t come pre-programmed with the Bible in our minds. It was true of the Lord Jesus. In His humanity, He had to program His mind with the truth of Scripture. And He must have known from early days that this, in fact, was prophesied of Him in those lovely Servant Songs that we find in the second half of the prophecy of Isaiah. Here are some words that Isaiah puts into the mouth of our Lord Jesus: “The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary” (Isa. 50:4). Isn’t that a beautiful description of Jesus, the meek and the lowly, sustaining those who are weary?

Now, how did that come about? Well, listen to how the passage goes on. This is Isaiah 50, incidentally, verse 4: “Morning by morning, the Lord awakens. He awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.” And if that was true of the Lord Jesus in His perfect humanity, how much more true it needs to be of us as we battle against our inward temptations, as we battle against our native sin, as we seek to live for God’s glory. We need to hide the Word of God in our hearts.

We’ve been talking about some of the things that we forget and some of the things that are never to be forgotten. Here’s another of them from Deuteronomy chapter 4 and verse 23: “Take care, says the Lord, lest you forget the covenant of the Lord your God” (Deut. 4:23). And the word “Lord” there, as you may know, is Yahweh, the covenant name of God. So that was a very important command that the Lord was giving to them: “Take care lest you forget the covenant of the Lord your God.”

You know, there’s a remarkable passage later on in 2 Kings 17 where the author interjects his own voice into the story to remind his readers just how important these words were for God’s people. But then he adds—you can almost imagine with a slight shake of the head—“However, they would not listen” (2 Kings 17:40). They didn’t take care. They forgot the covenant of the Lord their God, and spiritual disaster followed.

I wonder when you last remembered the covenant of the Lord or even last thought about it. I think your answer will probably tell you a good deal about how much or how little the Lord’s covenant means to you. But here’s something wonderful: the Lord not only urges us in Scripture to remember His covenant, He helps us to remember it. Every time we come to the Lord’s Table, what’s happening? Through the bread and the wine, the Lord Jesus is whispering to us, “Remember the covenant in My blood.” And what we see in the bread and in the wine stimulates our memories, and we remember Christ’s death until He comes. The bread is placed in our hands, the cup on our lips, and we are given these remembrances by Jesus of His covenant love for us.

We are so much more privileged than those old covenant saints who were told to remember the Lord’s covenant. He knows how forgetful we are, and He helps us. And it is, I think, one of the most wonderful things in the world therefore for us, to remember that He is a covenant-making and covenant-keeping God, and that the covenant He has kept has been the most difficult covenant to keep that there ever was in human history because it cost Him His Son. He has remembered His covenant, and we should remember it too.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Mark Bates

Parent Teacher Prayer Fellowship

PTPF is an association of Oroville Christian School that works to improve the relationship between OCS families and the school. As a component of registration, all teachers and OCS families are automatically PTFP members!

Some of the primary ways PTFP strives to enhance your experience with OCS:

- Engaging parents in fellowship and volunteerism to create fun and memorable experiences for our students.
- Supporting school-organized events that enhance the educational experience.
- Planning and participating in events that encourage our teachers, parents, and students in a spiritual, social, and educational ways.
- Partnering with the Evangelical Free Church and OCS Administration to pray over our students and school.

In the spirit of fellowship, we are asking you to consider serving the students, teachers, and other families of OCS as a PTFP Officer for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Who Can Help?

Anybody that has great ideas about how to help their kids have fun! Officers needed are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 3 At-Large members. According to PTFP By-Laws, the President and Vice President must have a pastoral reference letter to submit to Mr. Bates. All other Officers will need to agree and sign the EFC doctrinal statement.

How can I get involved?

We need nominations for people interested to serve by April 15th. Please feel free to reach out to me at kristen.hard@yahoo.com, or any of the current officers to ask questions!

What am I committing to?

PTPF meets the first Tuesday of every month, for 1-2 hours. During these meetings the brainstorming for events happens, and then the planning for who can do what to make everything work. You can be involved with planning, doing...or both! Beyond the meetings, it is up to you to decide how much more time you can commit. Officers will serve a two (2) year term.

Spelling Bee Results

On March 1, 15 OCS students competed in the ACSI Regional Spelling Bee. The top OCS finisher in the grade level competition was Haiden Fackrell, who finished 1st in 6th grade! After the grade level competitions, the top 5 students in each grade proceeded to the overall championship. Again, and OCS student finished in the top group. Overall, Hadleigh McKillop finished 3rd and qualified for the ACSI Divisional Spelling Bee in Orange County!

Other OCS participants were:

5th Grade
Megan Ching
Katelyn Johannsen
Kasey McKillop

6th Grade
Haiden Fackrell, 1st Place
Dylan Holloway
Kylie U’Ren, 4th Place

7th Grade
Abby Marshall
Hadleigh McKillop, 4th Place, 3rd Overall
Kendall Schmid, 5th Place
Tymus Yang, 2nd Place

8th Grade
Pressley Carlson
Austin Connelly
Tristan Nelson
Bryan Wilson, 3rd Place

Important Dates

Wednesday, **Mar 15** - Camp Read-A-Lot, (Grades 1-3)

Thursday, **Mar 16** - OCS Board Meeting, 6 pm

Friday, **Mar 17** - Band Chapel, 8:40 am

Friday, **Mar 17** - Band Concert, 6 pm

Friday, **Mar 24** - 3rd Grade Chapel, 8:40 am

Thursday, **Mar 30** - ACSI Speech Meet, 9:30 am (Grades 1-8)

Friday, **Mar 31** - 2nd Grade Chapel, 8:40 am

Friday, **Mar 31** - PTFP Outlaw Derby, 5:30 pm

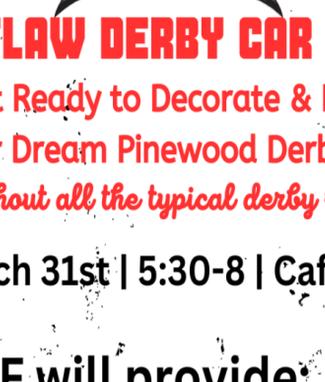
Tuesday, **Apr 4** - PTFP Meeting, 6 pm

Friday, **Apr 7-16** - Easter Break, NO SCHOOL



Please check the lost and found table outside the school office for any missing items.

We have many jackets and other items that need their owner!



OUTLAW DERBY CAR RACE

Get Ready to Decorate & Race Your Dream Pinewood Derby Car *without all the typical derby rules!*

March 31st | 5:30-8 | Cafeteria

PTFP will provide:

DINNER/DESSERT
DERBY CAR DECORATIONS
RACE TRACK FUN!!!

STAY TUNED for MORE DETAILS

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

Oroville Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.