



ELEMENTS OF RESPONSIVE DISCIPLESHIP

The following elements are incorporated/interwoven throughout all dimensions of schooling: relational, curricular, and structural. Some learning activities or units may be built around specific elements but experiences of all these elements need to be woven into the entire school program in developmentally appropriate ways.

1. **Individuality/community** - students need to learn to understand themselves as uniquely created beings, approaching life and issues as individuals who need to give account to God. But individuals are always in community and need to interact.
2. **Stewardship** - the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. People are called to take care of and enjoy the entire creation, themselves and their neighbours. People need to live balanced lives with opportunities for work, contemplation, for exploration, and for building relationships.
3. **Service** - God calls people to live lives of service to Himself and His Kingdom. This needs to translate into obedient caretaking, meeting the needs of individuals and communities the Lord places on our paths, and identifying the gifts and abilities with which the Lord has called us to serve.
4. **Justice** - is more than abiding by the laws of the land. Justice is concerned with creating conditions for all people to be able to live rightly regardless of their background, nationality, creed or abilities.
5. **Vocation** - relates to the discovery and development of gifts and abilities, and how these can be used to work out our calling in service to God, other people and the creation in which He has placed us.
6. **Spirituality** - Our lives are lived in response to God or to something else that we have put in His place. We are challenged to direct our hearts and lives to God. Even though spirituality can be expressed in praise and worship, it is not limited to these activities. It is 'acting justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with God'.
7. **Communication** - People communicate in a variety of ways; through body language, through written and spoken word and through artistic representation.
8. **Balanced living** - refers to healthy living in all areas of our lives. The various sides of the human being are interrelated. How one feels physically affects one's emotional and even one's spiritual life.
9. **Aesthetics** - refers to both an appreciation and creation of beauty and harmony. People have various abilities to respond creatively to the God who Himself is wonderfully creative.
10. **Ethics** - refers to the need for standards of behaviour and morality based on God's Word. Students need to learn and experience that God expects all humans to live morally upright lives, choosing between right and wrong.
11. **Deliberation** - suggests thoughtfulness and careful analysis and evaluation. Response in this area is dependent on the gifts God Has created within each individual person.