

The Well-Kept Secrets of a Biblical Education by Diana Waring

The cosmos — our perspective is distorted.
Our plumb line — the Word of God.

Well-Kept Secret #1. Revelation

Revelation is the foundational cornerstone of a Biblical education. It is seeing God and His **revelation** as the *source* of meaning and knowledge.

The world's system of education has its foundation in the Greco-Roman worldview. It looks no higher than human reason — enthroned human reason. The Greeks, and later the Romans, indoctrinated their students in this point of view.

Greco-Roman worldview:

Man is in the center.
Human reason is the source of truth.
Man is the decider of truth.

Biblical Position:

Jesus is in the center.
God is the source of truth.
The Holy Spirit is the declarer of truth.

How does **revelation** come into the picture?

- #1. By setting all academic knowledge against the plumbline of Scripture.
- #2. Unlike the Deists who thought God created the Earth, wound it up like a clock, and then went away, we believe in a God who is Immanuel — God with us. He is present and active in our lives, and will reveal truth to us.

Well-Kept Secret #2. Relationship

Relationship is the fabric — the warp and weave — of a Biblical education. It means that we learn in **relation** to God, in **relation** to each other.

We have to ask the question, “Is the purpose of an education from a Biblical perspective to learn all the facts, the mountain of information?”

The *Greek Model* was to **instruct the mind**.

The *Biblical Model* was to **instruct the whole person** (body, soul, spirit) in a relationship to God and to one another. It taught not just **content** but **character**.

How does **relationship** come into the picture?

- #1. We learn about all subjects in relationship to Him. We see all fields of knowledge (biology, mathematics, physics, music, literature, history, architecture, etc.) as having their beginnings in God.
- #2. We teach our students relationally, not as mechanical computers intent solely on transmitting facts, but as brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. We are their servants in the Lord.

- We honor them because they are created in the image and likeness of God:
Psalm 139.14: *"I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well."*
- We allow individuality to them:
Eph 2.10: *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."*
- We listen to them:
James 1.19: *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath..."*
- We ask them:
1 Cor 2.11: *"For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God."*
- We learn from them:
Mark 10.15: *"Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*
- We respect them:
Matt 18.10: *"Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven."*

Well-Kept Secret #3. Imitation

The teacher's *imitation* of Jesus is the method of a Biblical education.

- #1. Who did Jesus teach?
 - He taught people as individuals.
No stereotypes, no mass marketing, no "every ten year old should do 5th grade work."
 - He taught people starting with where they were at (use your own wording Izo)
Woman at the well, Nicodemus

- #2. How did Jesus teach?
 - He used questions—"Who do men say that I am?"
Questions draw the learner into the learning, helps them think through things.
 - He used stories—"A sower went out to sow some seed. . ."
Stories help us to integrate knowledge into our own experience.

- He led the disciples step by step till they were ready for His ascension message:
"Go into all the world. . ."
Here a little, there a little, precept upon precept.
- He had them learn by doing.
Content & experience—it's not enough to just know the words!!