

# SCEE CONNECT

Vol 1 no 2



**Southern Cross**  
EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISES

- Academic Excellence - Values - Faith - Happiness - Christian Character - Friendship - Support - Kindness - Servantship -

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*That They May be One...United*



**REDWOOD College**



**CONNECT**  
Ministries



**SouthEast**  
Home Education



**Southern Cross**  
Home Education



**1 ACCORD**  
Publications

SCEE Group of Ministries:



# *That they may be One* **...UNITED** *John 17:11* *by Mr. Slabbert Pretorius M.D.*

*Jesus prayed: "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."* John 17:11

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

**I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME IMAGES OF FISHING NETS – notice that there is more nothing than something.**

You can see straight through it. It is the something, the lines bound together that make the net effective. That is what we need to understand and try and achieve. We all have a lot of differences, but we need to take hands and be bound together when it comes to Biblical Worldview Education.

We should be United through fine threads or lines that will scoop up the harvest.

From SCEE's point of view we will try and do what we can to connect with you and take your hand in support of your ministry.



We have developed a number of projects and develop systems to improve our support of our TEAM ministries. We have limited resources and manpower, but will do our best. Please do not hesitate to connect with us from your side to remind us of your needs or follow up on requests made.

It is no excuse but when you are very busy it is possible to let a few things fall through the cracks. When we are in unity, we dream together, talk together, plan together and work together. We also pick up balls dropped by our fellow TEAM members. We will be patient with one another and we will cover a multitude of weaknesses. That will help us take hands and be whole as a net.

## **Achieving success through unity**



*More nothing than something  
But it is the places where we  
connect that makes the difference*



## Teamwork Provides Mutual Accomplishment, Encouragement, Inspiration, and Protection

### *A Few things to pray about:*

- We have again submitted our intention to apply for the recognition of the Australian A.C.E Framework as an alternative to the Australian Curriculum.
- We have also started the processes to apply for an official recognition of the A.C.E. program in Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, The Solomon Islands, Fiji, Indonesia and some of the smaller Island nations.
- We are in submission to and aligning ourselves with A.C.E. in the USA and work with them to achieve their goal. **Reaching the World for Christ one child at a time.**
- Our mission statement is: **SCEE is a ministry that offers Biblical Educational resources to equip people for their God ordained role in Life**
- We have developed a clear Elevator speech:

**We are a ministry and offers**

**A Biblical Worldview**

**Character enriched**

**English Medium**

**Internationally Benchmarked**

**Individual and personalized**

**Mastery Based**

**Learning System**

- and a **RPM** slogan to articulate ourselves and explain to people what A.C.E. is about. The **RPM** is to motivate and mobilize all TEAM members to be more efficient and achieve more:

**R – Results.** We are RESULT driven and the results we desire will determine our priorities and not a to-do list.

**P – Purposes.** We all need to understand our specific purpose in the God's Kingdom and in the TEAM

**M – Massive Action.** Every single member must do something small every day and our combined effort will be massive.

- We have developed the Staff Enrichment Workbooks (SEW), the Staff Extended Training program (SET), the Parents Biblical Mandate Booklets (PMB) and other material to support our schools in achieving certain outcomes.

**TOGETHER WE WILL STAND.**

**TOGETHER WE WILL SURVIVE.**

**TOGETHER WE WILL BE BETTER,  
GROW BIGGER AND REACH MORE.**

Remember we will pray for you and we are working with you.

Let's **RUN** for Christ.

*Your Brother in Christ.  
Slabbert Pretorius.*

*From the  
Chairman*

*Mr. Trevor Phillips*



Hello again dear friends within the ACE South Pacific community. There has been a flurry of activity within our SCEE Head Office and our team have been achieving significant things in and for the ministry. Whilst the team are active at home our Managing Director Slabbert Pretorius, together with his wife Anna-Marie, have been busy across the region meeting with many of our educators in the various nations and making some great contact with Officials in Government and the Education Departments. Much is yet to be done and we will continue to build on the foundations laid with a view to advancing ACE in the region.

In travelling around our region it is very clear that our collective ministry (that includes SCEE and all of the ACE schools and families) needs to be a ministry where there is true Unity in our diversity. Unity is not easy because human nature is naturally selfish. It needs our specific intent and commitment to be "Unified". In Luke 22: 24-26 after the disciples had broken bread with Jesus it is reported that there was strife amongst them "And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest." It can be easy for any one of us to slip into jealousy and self-interest. We are however not to be like that. Jesus set the ultimate example as 'one who serves' and each of us are called to follow that example. I think also of an often used saying throughout the ages "United we stand, divided we fall". Mark 3:25 supports this concept also therefore it is my plea that we all work together, United in our purpose, so that collectively, we overcome evil with good and achieve huge amounts for the kingdom.

More than ever we need to be on our knees, united in prayer, knowing that our God is able to assist us all in the goal of reaching our communities for Him.

Blessings as you serve.

Thanks for your support in the ministry.

Blessings

Trevor





# Geneva Christian College

## Latrobe, Tasmania



- by Rosemary Lincolne

**Our task is to do the best we can, keeping our focus on the job at hand and trusting in the promise, that those who honour Him, He will honour.**

In the latter part of 1967, Reverend Lawrie Lincolne, his wife Innes and a small group of fellow Christians sought God in prayer about 'what to do next', with the property at Geneva in Latrobe, Tasmania. What they were lead to do was start a school

and so Geneva Primary School commenced in February, 1968. In those days the state curriculum was used by both the

state and independent sectors and was harmonious to faith based schools. The school grew and thrived in the small rural community of Latrobe.

By 1980, there were classes from Prep to Grade 6, with enrollments around 140. Mr. Lincolne had heard about the Accelerated Christian Education movement and sought information. Consequently Geneva went over to the individualised programme mid year, 1981. Within a week, enrolments had dropped to 71. It was a great blow to the school and certainly raised concerns about the decision to change. However the belief was, and still is, that God had opened the door in this direction and so a great step of faith was taken.

Over the next decade the school received registration for Grades 7-12 and we have seen in the past 25 years, ebbs and flows in our enrolments, popularity, failures and successes. Currently our enrolment stands at 189, K-12. I have been with the school since February

1981 and have witnessed all of these changes. Some I have seen from the sidelines, others I have been heavily involved in.

Throughout these ups and downs, one thing has remained constant; the presence of God! His goodness, correction, guidance, provision, mercy, grace and love and therefore we have a hope! Hope that as long as He intends the school to continue, it will continue.

Our task is to do the best we can, keeping our focus on the job at hand and trusting in the promise, that those who honour Him, He will honour.

*Fellow Christian educators, be encouraged!*



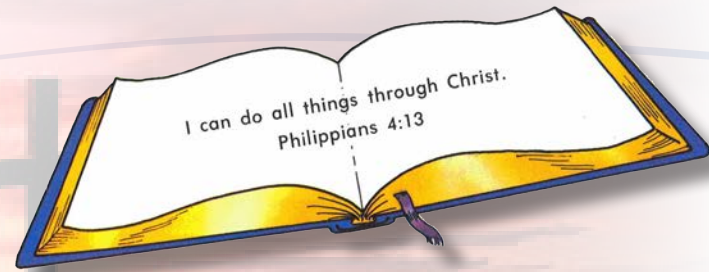
Geneva Christian College,  
enjoying A.C.E.





# Memory pattern categories

## Memorization



## We all learn in different ways.

Here are three common methods by which people memorize:

- \* **Visual learners learn through seeing.**
- \* **Auditory learners learn through listening.**
- \* **Tactile/kinesthetic learners learn through moving, doing, and touching.**

***Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Psalm 119:11***

In today's educational climate, the value of memorization is sometimes overlooked, but knowledge acquired through memorization is a basic learning outcome. Furthermore, memorization is foundational to critical thinking. To be successful in certain academic and skill areas, students must have a store of basic information. They build this store through memorization.

Accelerated Christian Education incorporates memorization throughout its curriculum. Each PACE directs students to commit to memory Bible verses, spelling, grammar rules, math equations, and many facts about the world in which we live. When children are young, memorization is fun.

They memorize nursery rhymes, Scripture verses, numbers, names, and their ABCs. Memorization is a game, and we applaud their successes, but memorization does not necessarily remain fun. In fact, it sometimes becomes a grueling effort, but that does not make it any less essential. The challenge is to put fun back into it and find ways to encourage and help students memorize. To require memorization is not a punishment we mete out, but a gift we bestow.

Without a doubt, some students memorize more easily than other students. There are several reasons for this, but before we label any student lazy, stubborn, or incorrigible, consider some facts. Not everyone learns the same way, and not everyone remembers the same way. Throughout each PACE students are required to memorize material. It is reinforced through reading and answering questions in activities, Checkups, Self Tests, and PACE Tests. Memorization can be individualized through these activities. Children learn in different ways and we must recognize that.

**Most educators classify learning styles into three categories**— visual learners, auditory learners, and tactile/ kinesthetic learners. One of the prominent helps you can give a child is to identify his or her learning styles and then provide ways to memorize in those learning styles. The visual learner sees what he or she is memorizing, maybe in

different colors, in different sizes, or in different settings. The auditory learner likes to hear what he is to memorize. He may need to subvocalize or record his own voice and listen to himself or a loved one. He may memorize best with music or other soft sounds in the background. The tactile/ kinesthetic learner receives physical stimulation. He likes to touch, move, and feel. Helping him memorize might mean letting him jump rope, tap in rhythm, bounce, or walk while memorizing. Remember that all children need the three kinds of stimulation. For instance, they may quickly memorize the multiplication tables while jumping rope, saying them aloud, and seeing them on a blackboard all at the same time. Ideally, use all three for best learning processing.

Memorizing Scripture is a large part of A.C.E.'s curriculum. For younger students, have them say the verse several times out loud. Write the verse and review it each day at school and with their parents. Regardless of your students' learning styles, make sure to adapt to their individualized needs so that they may go forth and serve Christ in a more meaningful way. Memorization is essential to education and success in learning. Encourage and motivate your students in different ways to develop their memorization skills because we all have two that are more prominent than the other.

# BOOK REVIEW: *Christian Contours*

- By Carolyn Pearce

*Christian Contours: How a Biblical Worldview Shapes the Mind and Heart*, brings together the minds of 10 highly accomplished authors to provide an introductory worldview resource for all followers of Jesus Christ. Written by various academics at Northwestern College in Iowa, this book is aligned to theological standards of the Reformed Church of America, one of the conservative movements within the Protestant tradition. Offering a basic examination of the Biblical worldview, *Christian Contours* is focused on provoking individual self-examination as well as the opportunity for group study and discussion. The book is divided into groups of essays (chapters) focused on two major themes:

## **Part 1 – Worldview Thinking and the Biblical Worldview**

## **Part 2 – Worldview Thinking and Personal Responsibility**

Each chapter follows the traditional essay format – introduction of the topic, the ‘meaty’ argument paragraphs offering insight and clarity into how a Biblical worldview should permeate the life of every believer, and finishing with a concluding paragraph. The author of the essay then offers questions for personal reflection or group discussion as well as further reading prompts

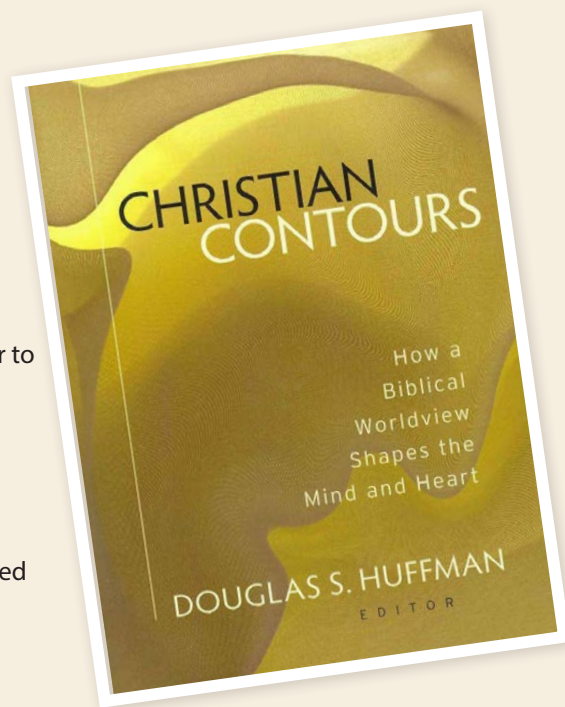
for those interested in pursuing the information in that particular chapter to a deeper level.

I personally found the book to be intellectually stimulating, but rather challenging, particularly as I found some of the reflection questions forced me to confront areas of my thinking which were not consistent with a Biblical worldview. I also found some of the essays in Part 2 challenged my daily way of living by forcing me to examine not only my witness but also how intentional I was about living a life consistent with a Biblical worldview. The authors do not shy away from difficult discussions, tackling topics such as how to handle disagreements between believers over worldview matters, living the Biblical worldview in a culture that does not share it, and encouraging others to adopt the Biblical worldview. One of the greatest selling points of this book is the Appendix materials. There are 3 Appendices:

Appendix A is a 9 page chart that compares the significant worldviews of our day

Appendix B contains 12 pages of useful website links for further study (though they only reference US and UK sites)

Appendix C provides 52 pages of subject specific overviews for further reading – a great tool to use if you are looking to expand your library!



**I would recommend *Christian Contours* as a useful resource for school principals to use to develop their staff's understanding of Biblical worldview matters. Homeschooling parents would also find this book a great addition to their home library - for encouragement, personal challenge and growth of their faith.**



*Carolyn Pearce*



# Responding to the Biblical mandate for Christian education

- By Nita Margaretha Lie



In 2011 Pastor Samuel Julianto Suwondo, the pastor of Hagios Family Pentecostal Church of Indonesia in Yogyakarta, established Hagios School of Life. He has a vision of educating children to live their lives God's way. He has the passion to equip students not only with knowledge, but also with Biblical wisdom and the character traits of Christ, so they can live their utmost for God's glory.

The flame began flickering in his heart when he met a pastor who already started his own school. The pastor shared the vision of his school with Ps. Suwondo when he came to visit and preach at his church. Realizing that Hagios church had the potential to start a Christian school, he urged Ps. Suwondo to establish a school in the church area.

Ps. Suwondo then shared the vision with the congregation. Some parents responded by helping him seek the right curriculum. Ps. Suwondo desired a different curricula from those used by other schools so the future school would contribute more in shaping students to know and love God. Finally the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum was chosen because it was Bible-based, emphasized Christian character traits training, applied an individual learning system, and aimed for mastery.

In 2011, the school started with only nine students, most of them were children of the congregation members. There were only two classes, one for the Kindergarten with Ace and Christi program, the other for the elementary level. The

rooms being used were functional rooms that were also used for the church prayer meetings, cell group meetings, and Sunday school activities. The ACE programs blessed the students and parents and they shared their testimonies to other parents. Therefore, in the following years, more students came to enrol in the Hagios School and the rooms could no longer facilitate the students. There were no more function rooms available. Although Ps. Suwondo had been living in the parsonage for more than 17 years, he freely let go of the parsonage and moved out of the church to give more space for the growing school.

This coming academic year, the number of students will be around 120 in total, from the Playgroup level up to level 12. As a result the school needs more space. Praise the Lord that Hagios church fully supports the school's growth by providing the hall on the third floor for Learning Centers.

The coming years are full of challenges. Yet, with Him all things are possible. Hopefully Hagios school of Life can be an instrument of God's glory by reaching children for Him, one child at a time.



*Slabbert Pretorius and Pastor Samuel Julianto Suwondo of Hagios Family church in Yogyakarta*



*Staff members of Hagios School of Life, Yogyakarta.*

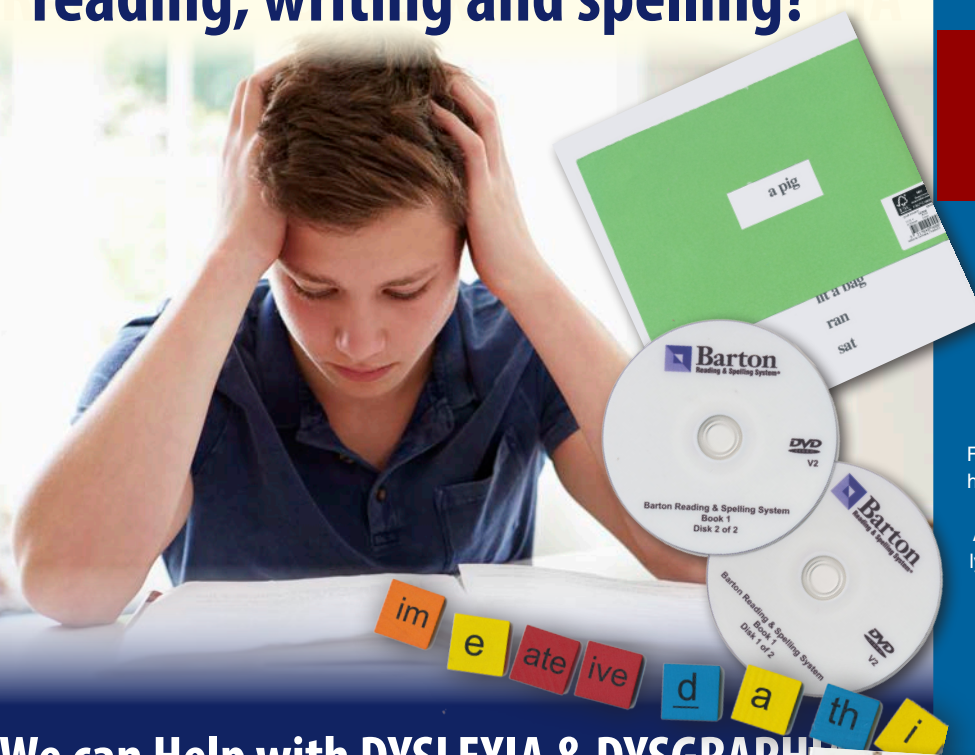


*Staff and students of Hagios School of Life together with Anna-Marie and Slabbert Pretorius.*



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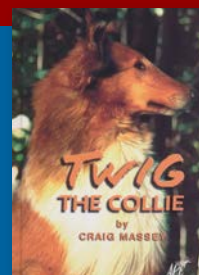
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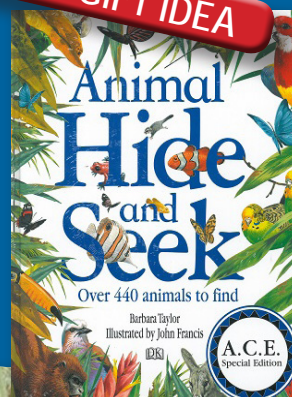
READING LEVEL AGE 12 - 15

**AUTHOR:** Craig Massey (Used as extra reading for this level) Twig the Collie is the story of Gordon, a teenage boy, who is falsely accused of a crime. Bitter and defeated, he finds little joy in life, until, through a set of events and a special puppy, God changes his life.

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while stocks last!

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**\$15** GST incl.  
limited stocks!



# SCEE NEWS Distribution Department

They are the friendly voices and the helping hands...

customer  
approved

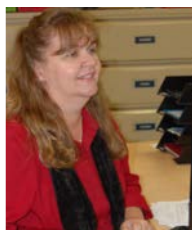


by Justin Croome

The ladies from the Orders Department in SCEE do a lot more than just enter data. They are the friendly voice on the phone when you ring up to place or enquire about an order, when you need to make a payment or get stuck on the webstore.

Orders received by email, post and fax are entered into the accounting system. Payments and invoices are processed before the orders are shipped out to schools and home educators.

In the background is the SCEE Distribution Manager, Mr Barzyk, who is always available to answer questions and assists with school orders. This team serves diligently and is a pleasure to work with. We thank the Lord for them."



From top left: The friendly faces of Charnine Gericke, Lee Bishoff, Lael Naude, Juanita Dodd of the Orders Department.



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**Southern Cross**  
EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISES



by Luke Yim



## Indonesia - Opportunities and Challenges

Indonesia, the world's biggest Muslim nation, stands strategically as a link that connects the South Pacific, Southeast Asia and South Asia. It is also the southern entry point to the 10/40 window, where the vast majority of the world's unreached people groups who have never heard the gospel are found. It is evident that God is doing amazing work in Indonesia. Despite having the biggest Muslim population in the world, Indonesia also boasts one of the biggest and most rapidly growing Christian communities in Southeast Asia.

Yet, the Christian missionary effort faces a formidable challenge in Indonesia today. While many Christian missionaries see the strategic importance of Indonesia, so do radical Muslims. There has been a clash of missionary efforts between Christian and Muslim missionaries, and currently the main battle arena is in the field of education. Coming with the enormous financial support from the Middle Eastern oil dollars, Muslim educators

have been planting numerous Islamic schools throughout Indonesia with a clear goal of radicalizing mild Muslims and attracting Christian children to their influence. Added to that, Muslim missionaries receive substantial political support from the local Indonesian government, becoming an unbeatably powerful force. Compared to them, Christian missionary effort seems small and relatively unseen, presenting a modern day fight between David and Goliath.

## Korean Educational Complex and Accelerated Christian Education

But just as the shepherd boy David proclaimed before the giant, we do not fight with "sword," "spear," or "javelin" but by "God Almighty". Korean Educational Complex (K-Eduplex) has been a project that has undergone years of preparation with the mission of reaching Indonesia for Christ through education. We endeavor to bring transformation to the young generation of Indonesia from kindergarten to



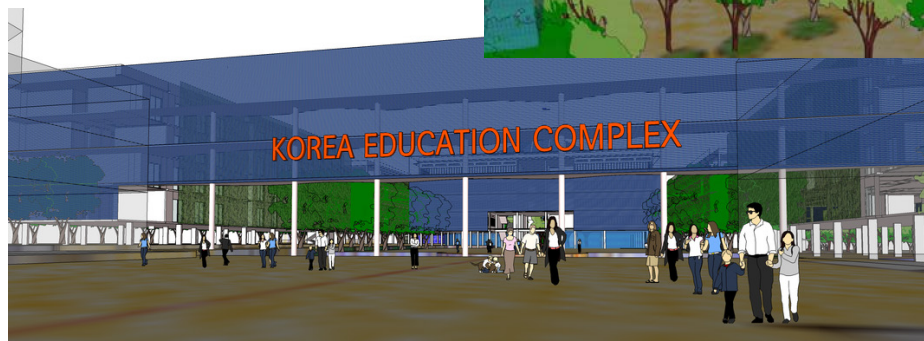
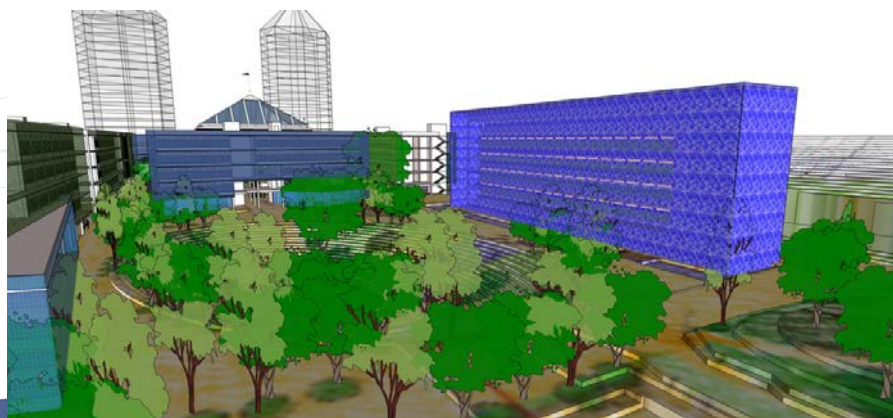
college years through Godly programs. Included in K-Eduplex are Jakarta International University, Vocational School, Online Learning Program, and a K-12 international school that utilizes the A.C.E. curriculum.

About a year ago, we came across the A.C.E. curriculum and SCEE as we were still on the preparatory phase for the university establishment. Upon reviewing the curriculum, we became certain that this curriculum is the key to changing the tide in the clash between Christian and Islamic education in Indonesia; the answer to the prayers of Christian missionaries and educators in Indonesia; and the ultimate weapon to challenge and defeat the giant. Without much hesitation, we decided to start a K-12 school using the A.C.E. curriculum and further incorporated the A.C.E. educational principles in other K-Eduplex programs.

*Continue to next page.*



# Launch!



## The Launching of the University Project in 2016

This coming fall semester in August 2016, “Jakarta International University (JIU)”, the main project of K-Eduplex, is officially launching with its first department – The College of Economics. As an international university, JIU aims to recruit students from all over South Pacific and Southeast Asia. A multinational team of dedicated, mission-minded Christian faculty members will educate students not only with Christian values but also with missionary perspectives. Studying at JIU, students will obtain the privilege to witness and participate in God’s great ministry in the world’s biggest Muslim nation, where an exciting race for the cause of Christ is undertaken.

Looking at the program development prospective, JIU plans to offer an intercultural learning environment with an immersive global campus

and various programs for continuing in international academic and career opportunities. Students will benefit from a rigorous and extensive curriculum with an innovative education system and purposeful learning programs that challenge them to discover and fulfill their God given gifts. Starting with the College of Economics, JIU will continue to expand with other key departments such as Management, IT, Media, English, Korean language & Studies, and Southeast Asian Studies.

## Welcome, A.C.E. Graduates!

On that note, JIU’s door is wide open for the A.C.E. graduates. As a starting school, we realize the critical importance of recruiting the first tier of students well. As an organization endorsing the A.C.E. Christian values, we see that there is no better place to find prospective students than the

schools using the A.C.E. curriculum. We have faith in the A.C.E. program, so we have faith in the graduates as well. We believe that these young men and women of God trained in the A.C.E.’s values will play an indispensable part in building a godly international student community at JIU. We are greatly excited about seeing many A.C.E. graduates from various countries coming to JIU to learn, pray, and dream together for Christ. JIU waits for you! For more information please contact [jiu.admission@k-eduplex.net](mailto:jiu.admission@k-eduplex.net).

Luke Yim, M. A. (Columbia)  
Principal, Cornerstone Global Academy  
Committee Member, K-Eduplex  
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# Frustrated Learning

- by Carolyn Pearce

*"I hate maths! 'I'm can't sentence diagram!" "This is stupid!"*

I must admit – I have said all of those sentences when I was learning at school. I did hate maths, I thought sentence diagramming was a ridiculous exercise, and I was firmly of the opinion that having to do my PACE work was a stupid waste of my time.

Now that I am an adult, I cannot tell you how many times I have heard students – big, small, just starting out and those about to finish – utter similar statements. I have heard countless testimonies from parents who are frustrated by their children's frustration and at a loss as to how they can offer encouragement that is not going to be rejected as 'Mum's just saying that because she wants me to finish my work.' (Insert much eye-rolling and sighs of frustrations here.)

Frustration with learning is a common issue for everyone. Everyone, at some point in their life, has experienced frustration. Think about your last learning experience – did you experience frustration? Now think about why. Was it because you didn't understand what you were learning or that you didn't really want to be there? If we as adults become frustrated with the processes of learning, how much more might our children find this difficult?

So what is the solution? Should we throw away all those things that cause us frustration? Of course not!

As adults we have the life-experience to know that while the learning can be frustrating, the reward of greater knowledge and understanding is worth the effort of enduring the momentary frustration. This is a Biblical principle found in James 1:2-4 "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers

temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." Unfortunately, children and teenagers don't have that life experience and can become fixated on their frustration to the point that they assume all learning is frustrating and not worth the effort. So what can we do to help?

First, understand what is causing the frustration. Ask why – why do you hate your maths? Why can't you sentence diagram? Why is this stupid? Make sure your tone is gentle and sincere. And listen. You may need to prompt them to explain why they are feeling frustrated and it may not be something that they can always articulate. So be gentle and use wisdom.

Second, invest time with them. You are teaching them the invaluable virtue of perseverance – this takes time and energy. Think outside the box. Try different things. I remember when I was at school, my mother (who was also my supervisor) had a student who passionately hated their math PACE because the process of subtraction frustrated them and they felt that it didn't make sense. She tried counting sticks, using the ruler, doing physical groups – and none of these things worked. Then she tried Mars Bars – they would do the sums with Mars Bars and stories... 'If you have 6 Mars Bars (he counted out six Mars Bars and held them) and you decide to give 3 to George, how many Mars Bars would you have? (He would take his six Mars Bars, count out the three he was giving to 'George', and then count out how many were left). And the time and effort invested in this student began to pay off. He soon graduated from needing

the physical manipulative (the Mars Bars) to being able to think through his subtraction sums.

I have explained Algebra in funny voices, diagrammed sentences in many different colours (verbs are red – don't ask me why, but they are), and re-enacted historical moments with students who were experiencing frustration with their learning. There is always a solution to the source of the frustration – it just takes time and effort to investigate. Don't allow their frustration to become a source of irritation for you – take a deep breath, count to 10, and then get on with helping the child discover the joy of learning even when it is difficult.

Finally, don't forget to pray. Pray for the child who is frustrated that God will help you discern what is causing the frustration. Pray with the child that God would help them to find a creative solution to the problem causing the frustration. Pray for yourself that God would give you wisdom and discernment as you help the child to learn.

**Frustration left unchecked becomes bitterness. Frustration given direction provides an opportunity for life-long learning.**





# A.C.E. What it means to me

By Ray Barzyk



In early 1980, when I finished my tertiary studies, I began looking for work. Full-time Christian ministry really wasn't on my mind at the time and I was considering an offer to work in the Shire Council Office. Then I was offered work with a Christian literature distributor. After consideration and prayer, I decided the Christian ministry path was my calling.

My association with A.C.E. goes back to 1981 when the distribution centre was relocated from Sydney to Brisbane. At the time, I was working as an inventory control and warehouse assistant. I vividly remember the sight of several semi-trailer loads of PACEs coming into our warehouse and progressively being moved to our bulging mezzanine and floor shelving. The use of A.C.E. had already been well-established through-out Australia by this time thanks to the vision and hard work of its early pioneers. It really was an exciting time for this ministry with many church-based schools established across the country. What was the common denominator amongst these schools? It was a firm conviction that spiritual and character development of children needed to occupy a place of equal prominence with academic rigour. A.C.E. with its unique, self-instructional, individualistic approach designed to allow students to proceed at their natural learning level, offered the right answer to these schools. The growth in schools using these resources continued through-out the 80s and did not escape the attention of the wider community and media. I have kept on file a few newspaper articles which reflect the enthusiasm and conviction of Christians at the

time. One from September 1987, captures these feelings. "Australia now has 80 schools operating under a Bible-based curriculum that is taught to 4000 pupils" runs the sub-title of the article. And another states, "One of the most rapidly growing sectors of Australian school education is the small, Bible-based Christian schools". Such was the strength of conviction and the desire to have a God-honouring educational programme to undergird the development of future generations of Christian children.

This was the background in which I was immersed as a worker in the ministry. I was content to be part of the "help-ministry" ensuring the schools were well supplied with the resources they needed. It felt good that we were partnering with church-based schools that were standing against the increasing secularisation trends of the day. Then an opportunity arose to be more directly involved by helping to write nationalised Social Studies units. Having a history and research background, it gave me a deep sense of satisfaction in writing fifteen units which were used to counter the persistent criticism that the curriculum was overly American.

The biggest blessing of all, was the fact that I met my wife in the context of this ministry. Roslyn had worked as an A.C.E. Supervisor in a Sydney-based school for twelve years before

accepting a position with A.C.E. Australia in 1993. She worked with the many families that chose home-schooling as the path for their children. Both Roslyn and I shared a conviction about the quality of the ACE material. We married in 2000. Now that so much time has passed, we enjoy looking at the fruits of the programme. In particular, it is encouraging to hear about A.C.E. graduates who have done well in tertiary study and the workplace. It is also very encouraging to notice that quite a few graduates start their children on A.C.E.. Student Convention has been a good place to see young people displaying their skills and their Christian character.

**In these latter days when the pressure on schools and families is still present, I enjoy using my knowledge and experience to help where I can. Although I am not a teacher and have no children of my own, it is pleasing that God has allowed me to play a part in this ministry. I can see that A.C.E. has impacted on thousands of young lives and am thankful for the opportunity I have been given to participate.**



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## Tropical Cyclone Winston

Michael Mani

### Cyclone or no cyclone, Smile and a big Bula....the Fiji way to go.

On the night of February 20th, 2016 Fiji was hit by a category 5 cyclone. Most parts of Fiji were wiped out. 42 lives were lost, many were injured. People lost their house, all their belongings, livestock, you name it, was gone. Weeks after Cyclone Winston, we had another natural disaster and this time it was flooding everywhere around Fiji, especially the low lying areas. People who were living in tents and temporary shelters again lost everything.

Straight after Cyclone Winston, we visited some parts of Fiji that were hit the hardest. We as a church were able to help people in need. We made a few trips to give out food vouchers, monetary assistance,

hardware shop vouchers, school bag packs, etc. What touched our hearts most was that school buildings were destroyed. Children had nowhere to go to school to. Those affected by the cyclone were still in trauma. Fijian people are known by their smiles. Amidst all these they were smiling. Whenever we handed them supplies, they would smile and say "vinaka." Everyone was trying to get their lives back slowly.

The Government of the day was there to assist. People of all walks came out to help. Right now three months after Cyclone Winston,

people are continuing to build their lives back. Schools are almost back to normal, but the fear and trauma of the night of 20th of February will remain in every Fijian's heart. Although the other half of Fiji was not directly affected, we all had some damage to our properties. The building process continues in terms of counseling people and other related processes.

*The principal of Glory Gate mr Michael Mani.*





## Tropical Cyclone Winston CONTINUED.

Pastors and church families and students are out there day after day trying to meet the needs of people.

Last week we were invited to attend a workshop by the Ministry of Health. This was an eye opener and a learning experience for us. We learnt basic simple ideas to teach children about preventing these outbreaks from spreading and promoting cleanliness. It was an eye opener when we were told that the villages do not know how to get rid of the debris sitting in their compounds and that the Ministry was working on it. The sad part was when a social worker shared that the children from the islands were brought to Suva and could not cope in schools because of the language and the faster pace of life than the islands and that they were bullied.

Straight after the Cyclone Winston, NCDs like conjunctivitis, Zika virus and Chikangunya hit the news. Hospitals around the country ran out of eye drops

etc. Everyone was affected in some way or other but the Fijian smile remains. Praise God. We thank and praise God that not all A.C.E. schools around Fiji were directly affected but only minor damage was done. The debris left behind needed a major cleanup. As usual, the Fijian spirit continued, and everyone pitched in to help. A.C.E. schools were up and running a week after the cyclone. Praise GOD". Most of us were able to attend the Teacher Training held at the GPH, Suva. That was a blessing, and even more to be able to meet the CEO of Southern Cross Education Enterprise Mr. Pretorius and his dear wife. We thank you for praying for Fiji. Please continue to pray that those

affected will continue to lean on His everlasting arms. In times like these, we need the Saviour and an anchor.

**Pray that the Fijians will remember Cyclone Winston with a brave Fijian smile. Vinaka !**



*Devastation of TC Winston.*

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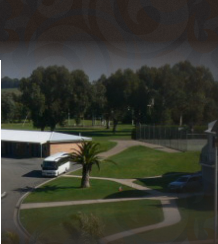


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## Student Convention Guidelines

The 2016 Guidelines **MUST** be used. They can be downloaded from

[www.scee.edu.au](http://www.scee.edu.au)

Please destroy any old versions you may have to save confusion.

Please Note: Judges forms from previous editions **WILL NOT** be accepted.



## Looking forward to 2017

We are interested in hearing your thoughts about future guidelines. If you have any suggestions of updates or changes, please submit them to [guidelines@scee.edu.au](mailto:guidelines@scee.edu.au) by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.

Please include the reasons and rationale for your suggestion(s).