



PRINCE Leadership MONTHLY

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Led to Lead

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As the end of another school year draws near, this is typically where we look back over the past year with gratitude and a good bit of introspection. We remember how nervous our child was to start that new grade...only to look back at how they blossomed over the past year. We think back to that one class where our student thought that he/she would never grasp that concept...only to look back at how they persevered and grew over the past year. We reflect back on a challenging social dynamic that changed...only to look back at how much our son/daughter has matured over the past year. Natural endings are always great places for contemplation.

As we are approaching the conclusion of the 2017/2018 school year, I think that it is equally important to revisit the very core of Prince Avenue Christian School. In other words, what is the unifying purpose that draws and binds all of our families together? The PACS Mission Statement is: **"To partner with Christian families to provide scripturally based discipleship while pursuing excellence in academics, fine arts, and athletics from a biblical worldview."** When examining the individual components of our Mission Statement, I feel that we all understand what *"partnering with Christian families"* is about. I feel that, for the most part, we are all on the same page in regard to what *"pursuing excellence in academics, fine arts, and athletics"* means. And, I believe that as Christian families, we have a shared viewpoint on the definition of *"biblical worldview"* ...seeing every facet of life through the lens of Scripture. The question that often needs most clarification is: What is *"scripturally based discipleship"*? The short answer is: Teaching (through bible study, prayer, mentorship, etc.) our students to become who the Bible says that God created them to be so that they may live out the purpose that God created them for. The more expanded answer to this question is found in a prominent biblical truth: We are all led to lead.

One of the best examples in the New Testament of the "Led to Lead" principle is Paul's relationship and mentorship of Timothy and Titus. Throughout the books of I and II Timothy and Titus, the Apostle Paul pours his life into these two young men. Paul's investment in them was not simply for them...Paul knew that through Timothy and Titus, God would grow His kingdom throughout the city of Ephesus, all over the island of Crete, and beyond. When you read the books of I and II Timothy and Titus, you will notice the Godly counsel, commandments, and encouragements that Paul gives these Christian men, but you also cannot help but notice that His Godly counsel, commandments, and encouragements were given to be passed onto the people that Timothy and Titus would encounter in their circles and spheres of influence. Timothy and Titus were led by Paul to lead the people around them to a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

While you have your student(s) in your home, and while we have those same students in our classrooms, we are to imitate this same Biblical model of discipleship. This means, that we begin seeing our children and students as rivers and not reservoirs. God created their lives to flow along the currents of His will for them, not to become stagnant pools onto themselves. The way in which we unpack this model of discipleship for our students is to provide solid biblical teaching within the classroom while providing opportunities for them to serve someone outside themselves....to generously pour out onto others what has been generously poured into them. While we are immensely honored to have your student at Prince, we are seeking to prepare them for life after Prince. We firmly believe that God has incredible plans to reach the nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the students at Prince Avenue Christian School! As we strive for this mutual goal, let me encourage you by stating that the primary arena of discipleship is the home. For this reason, it is vital that we, as parents, stay closely connected to God through prayer and Bible study...because, at the end of the day, we are all led to lead.

Thank you all so much for the opportunity to partner together...I am so excited about all that God will be doing in and through our students and families!