

# The Responsibility of the Youth

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"Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her; and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her." Proverbs 4:5-8.

Many children and young people are now in the midst of the busy school schedules. Amidst all the busyness of school, after school activities and jobs, we have quite a responsibility for our schooling. Whether we see it as this or not, all, young as well as old, have responsibilities in this life. As a young person the foremost calling in our lives is our responsibility to school. While we are busy with our schooling let us ask ourselves, "Am I fulfilling my responsibility to my schooling?"

Every day many children and young people go to school. The young kindergartners can't wait to get to class, see their teacher, and do their work. The junior high and high school students go into school thinking of what kind of challenges and work the day will bring. Every student has an attitude to school, whether it is good or bad. We must see our schools as a means which God has given unto us and therefore we must use it and perform our work to the best of our ability.

Our Christian schools are a great blessing we have received from God. Many people toiled long and hard for us to have these Christian schools. Sometimes we take these schools for granted. Do we really appreciate the education that we receive from our schools? Do we realize why our schools are different from other schools in the world around us? In school we are taught the basics of science, math, spelling, grammar, etc. Do we see the unique way in which it is taught to us? Each subject is taught from a true biblical perspective. Just take a moment and think of the many classes we take which are centered around God's Word or how they relate to God's creation around us. What would class be like without that Scriptural teaching? Sooner or later many of you will find out. As we will go on into college it will become quite evident how unique and special our schools are.

Soon many of the seniors will be graduating and going out into college or the workplace. In college there may not be classes taught which are based on the Word of God. Many different kinds of teachings and doctrines may be thrown at you. Young people from every kind of background will be sitting in the same classes together. Many of them will not have the same Reformed doctrinal beliefs as you. Classes will be taught from a totally different perspective. Some will be taught from a humanistic or evolutionistic viewpoint. We will continue to fight that for the rest of our lives on this earth. College is only the beginning. We then realize how precious our days at a Christian school were. Be thankful for those days!

Whether you are in school or in college each and every one has a Christian responsibility for being a good steward. We must be good stewards of the talents and abilities that God has given to us. That responsibility includes faithfully doing homework and putting our all into it. Although you may receive a "C" on a test for which you really studied, you can feel that you received a good grade because you put your best into it. If, however, you receive a "C" without studying, by putting some time into studying you could receive an "A." We must always strive to do our best in our work and glorify God by putting our talents to good use.

Another responsibility that scholars have is to respect and obey teachers and others who are in authority over them. Even though some students and teachers may not see eye to eye on everything, we must still honor them for God has put them over us. Give your teachers respect and even encouragement. They need it just as you do! We must also remember that our teachers have the huge responsibility of teaching the covenant youth. What a task! They are teaching and instructing the chil-

dren of believing parents—the children of God. Let us pray that they will receive what they need in this great calling.

Remember that our schools are an extension of our covenant homes. Besides teaching the basic classes, our schools teach us to respect others, to be honest in our lives as well as our work, discipline and to show love toward our fellow believers. Much of what we learn in school will carry over into our life beyond high school.

Let us, then, thank God for our schools and teachers and let us strive to carry out our responsibility in school; respect those in authority, be honest and do our work to the utmost of our ability. Pray that our schools may continue to be true to the Word of God.

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