

Church-Based Education & Kingdom Expansion Webinar ACEA

Dr. Rob Covell

Introduction

The mission of the Church extends beyond Sunday worship gatherings and transactional religious programs. The Church is called to disciple nations, shape culture, cultivate wisdom, and prepare people to live under the Lordship of Christ in every sphere of life. Education is not spiritually neutral; it forms worldview, values, and identity. Throughout Scripture, God consistently commands His people to teach His ways diligently to future generations.

As Abraham Kuyper famously stated:

“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: Mine!”

Church-based education and Kingdom expansion seek to restore a Biblical vision where faith informs all of life.

1. The Church Has a Responsibility to Influence, Guide, and Teach the People Groups They Exist In

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 28:18–20 — The Great Commission
- Acts 17:6 — “These who have turned the world upside down...”
- Ephesians 4:11–13 — Equipping the saints
- Isaiah 2:2–3 — Nations flowing to the mountain of the Lord

Teaching Points

- The Church is not called only to gather believers but to disciple nations.
- Biblical teaching shapes ethics, economics, family life, leadership, and culture.
- The Early Church transformed cities through teaching, discipleship, and moral witness.

Supporting Voices

C. Peter Wagner emphasized that the Church must engage societal structures and influence culture through Kingdom principles.

Francis Schaeffer argued that Christianity provides the only coherent framework for civilization and general goodness for all people.

2. Education Is the Primary Role of the Christian Parent

Key Scriptures

- Deuteronomy 6:6–9
- Proverbs 22:6
- Ephesians 6:4
- Psalm 78:1–7

Teaching Points

- Parents are commanded to disciple their children continually.
- Education is not outsourced exclusively to institutions.
- Biblical parenting includes worldview formation, moral development, and spiritual instruction.

Supporting Voices

R. J. Rushdoony taught that education is fundamentally religious because it transmits ultimate beliefs and values.

Pastor Doug Wilson has consistently emphasized covenantal education rooted in Biblical truth and discipleship.

3. Education Is Foundational to Worldview and Epistemology

Key Scriptures

- Romans 12:2
- Colossians 2:8
- Proverbs 1:7
- 2 Corinthians 10:4–5

Teaching Points

- Education determines how a person interprets reality.
- Every educational system teaches epistemology (how truth is known).
- Secular/Humanistic education systems remove God as the source of truth.
- Biblical education begins with “the fear of the Lord.”

Supporting Voices

Francis Schaeffer warned that abandoning Biblical absolutes leads to cultural fragmentation and moral relativism.

Abraham Kuyper taught that all thought systems operate from foundational religious assumptions.

4. All Knowledge Is Revealed from God to Humanity

Key Scriptures

- Colossians 2:3 — “In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
- James 1:5
- John 1:1–4
- Psalm 111:10

Teaching Points

- Truth is not autonomous/separated from God. God is truth.
- Science, mathematics, creativity, ethics, and wisdom ultimately originate from the Creator. All scientific disciplines prove God’s intelligent design.
- Education devoid of God becomes fragmented and reductionistic and even becomes nihilistic.

Supporting Voices

R. J. Rushdoony argued that neutrality in education is impossible because every system rests upon theological assumptions.

Kenneth Gentry emphasizes the comprehensive Lordship of Christ over every academic and societal sphere.

5. Kingdom-Focused Education Produces Holistic Living

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 6:33
- Luke 2:52
- Colossians 3:17
- 3 John 1:2

Teaching Points

- The Kingdom of God integrates spiritual life with practical life.

- Christians should understand vocation as Kingdom assignment.
- Education should cultivate wisdom, character, innovation, leadership, and service.

Supporting Voices

Bill Johnson teaches that believers are called to bring Heaven’s realities into every sphere of society.

Rob Covell emphasizes identity, intimacy with God, and Kingdom influence as central to mature Christian living.

6. Every Person Has a Valuable Role in Society

Key Scriptures

- 1 Corinthians 12:12–27
- Romans 12:4–8
- Genesis 1:26–28
- Ephesians 2:10

Teaching Points

- Every person bears the image of God.
- Society flourishes when people discover and steward their God-given gifts.
- Kingdom education helps individuals identify calling and purpose.

Supporting Voices

Abraham Kuyper taught sphere sovereignty—the idea that God ordains different societal spheres with unique responsibilities.

C. Peter Wagner discussed the mobilization of believers into societal influence and transformational leadership.

7. All Culture Is Built on Canon

Key Scriptures

- Psalm 33:12
- Proverbs 14:34
- Deuteronomy 28:1–14
- Matthew 7:24–27

Teaching Points

- Every civilization is built upon foundational beliefs and narratives.
- The Judeo-Christian worldview historically produced literacy, charity, scientific advancement, legal systems, and human dignity.
- When societies abandon transcendent truth, cultural instability follows.

Supporting Voices

David Chilton emphasized the transformational implications of Biblical truth upon civilization.

Francis Schaeffer demonstrated how ideas shape art, politics, philosophy, and culture.

8. The Kingdom of God Is Wider Than Religious Expression

Key Scriptures

- Romans 14:17
- Matthew 13:31–33
- Genesis 1:28
- Habakkuk 2:14

Teaching Points

- The Kingdom affects every sphere: family, arts, business, education, media, and government.
- Christianity is not merely private spirituality.
- The Gospel transforms individuals and societies.

Supporting Voices

Bill Johnson frequently teaches that believers are commissioned to influence culture with Kingdom values.

Abraham Kuyper articulated a theology of comprehensive Christian engagement with society.

9. Churches Should Educate All Age Groups Toward Biblical Literacy, Wisdom, and Cultural Influence

Key Scriptures

- Titus 2:1–8
- 2 Timothy 2:2

- Hosea 4:6
- Acts 17:11

Teaching Points

- Discipleship is multigenerational.
- Churches should cultivate Biblical literacy and practical wisdom.
- Kingdom education equips believers to engage culture faithfully and intelligently.

Practical Application

Churches can develop:

- Leadership schools
- Biblical worldview classes
- Family discipleship training
- Business and vocational mentorship
- Youth apologetics programs
- Community education initiatives
- Arts and media training
- Civic engagement discipleship

Conclusion

Church-based education is not just about transmitting information; it is about forming disciples who think, live, and lead from a Biblical worldview. Kingdom expansion occurs when believers understand that Christ's Lordship extends into every dimension of life and society.

The goal is not isolation from culture but transformation of culture through truth, wisdom, discipleship, and faithful presence.

As Abraham Kuyper declared:

“When principles that run against your deepest convictions begin to win the day, then battle is your calling.”

Discussion Group Questions

1. How does modern education shape worldview and identity differently from Biblical education?

2. In what practical ways can churches equip families to disciple all generations more effectively?
3. What would it look like for believers to bring Kingdom influence into their vocational and cultural spheres?

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