

# Worklife Restoration and Advancement Project [WRAP]

FOR A VIDEO ABOUT THE RATIONALE OF THE WRAP Ctrl + Click <http://youtu.be/v9ux8UeqYFM>

## The Aspiration:

- To re-direct the course of history by embedding a biblical view of work, economics and human flourishing into the standard Christian school curriculum from pre-school through high school, to equip students to engage in something grand, beyond themselves, yet in the here and now, by engaging in work of all kinds (both present and future) as the very work of God.

## The Problem:

- When students fail to see biology, art and math in the context of a biblical worldview, they will tend to become “Christian dualists,” seeing the Bible as relevant to their personal and private lives, or the affairs of the church, but not relevant to business, law or civil service. Because of this view, most leave their faith at the workplace door as adults, and the world suffers.
- Students often fail to see their school work as God’s present work for them, and this hinders them from experiencing purpose and meaning in school. It also deters them from a sense of meaning and significance in their later occupations, other than church-related work.

## The Solution:

- Christian schools are in a unique position to build into the minds and hearts of students an understanding that all legitimate work is the work of God. Such schools can embed “theology of work, economics and human flourishing” into the curriculum, at all levels, in a way that is systemic, intentional and repeatable. They can create curriculum maps wherein a biblical concept of work dovetails seamlessly with course content, without adding a new subject to the teachers’ load.
- Christian schools can eliminate SSD [the “Sacred-Secular Divide”] and enable students to engage in God’s purpose for humans, in the full spectrum of creation, fulfilling the First Commission of Gen. 1:26-28 in harmony with the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20.

## The Means:

- **On-line instruction through a distance-learning course called, “*Increase Meaning: A Wholistic Approach To Christian Education*”<sup>1</sup>**
  - ✓ This on-line course provides key concepts and practical skills necessary for fulfilling the aforementioned goals and objectives, creating a unified vision through practical teaching aids that embed “theology of work, economics and human flourishing” throughout the school curriculum in all grade levels, and all subjects, without adding a separate course
  - ✓ The on-line training course contains 12 video lectures, each about 1 hour in length
  - ✓ Individualized reviews of all written assignments are provided
  - ✓ **5 university (graduate level) credits** may be earned through a fully accredited United States university [This is optional. The Seattle Pacific University syllabus is available upon request.]
  - ✓ Participants who complete the course will be awarded **10 Continuing Education Units (CEUs)** in *either* Biblical Studies *or* Educational Studies recognized by the Association of Christian Schools International [ACSI] [**This course also satisfies the ACSI requirement for a Philosophy of Christian Education course.**]
  - ✓ Participants have approximately 9 months to complete the on-line training course
  - ✓ Four books come with the course: *Assumptions That Affect Our Lives, God’s Pleasure At Work*, and *The Difference One Life Can Make*, by Christian Overman, and *LifeWork: A Biblical Theology for What You Do Every Day* by Darrow Miller
  - ✓ Classroom-ready teaching tools are taught: *The Conversation Starter* [for developing lesson plans that place any academic subject into the context of a biblical worldview], *The Truth and Baloney Detector* [for helping students sort truth from non-truth], *The DADI Plan* [for aligning all kinds of work with the “bigger picture” of a biblical worldview], *The Awesome Activator* [for connecting student activities and projects with the “bigger picture” that brings meaning and significance], *101 Biblical Worldview Truths* [for determining “connecting points” between various subjects/work experiences and the biblical work-and-life view], *99 Truths about Work, Economics and Human Flourishing*, and more!
- **Leadership Coaching with a Worldview Matters® Certified Coach**
  - ✓ The school headmaster and selected leaders will have a 30-minute coaching conversation every 2 weeks with a Certified Worldview Matters® Coach
  - ✓ Coaching sessions are conducted via telephone or via the Internet, anywhere in the world

<sup>1</sup>Dr. Christian Overman is the developer of the *Increase Meaning* course, and primary instructor. He served as a Christian school headmaster for fourteen years, after which he and his wife, Kathy, founded an educational consulting service in the year 2000, called Worldview Matters®. (See [www.worldviewmatters.com](http://www.worldviewmatters.com).) Christian is the author of several books, including *Assumptions That Affect Our Lives, God’s Pleasure At Work: The Difference One Life Can Make*, and *Making the Connections: How to Put Biblical Worldview Integration Into Practice*, co-authored with Don Johnson. He writes a weekly blog called, *Worldview Matters*, at [www.biblicalworldviewmatters.blogspot.com](http://www.biblicalworldviewmatters.blogspot.com).

## **The Process:**

### ***Phase 1: A Small Group of Leaders in the School Complete the Course***

- ✓ The primary leader of the school [headmaster of a smaller school or superintendent of a larger school] completes the on-line course with a small group of selected key leaders as a “Phase 1 Group,” to understand the material first hand and to affirm the decision to have the whole staff proceed
- ✓ The Phase 1 process takes about 9 months, coinciding with the academic school year
- ✓ During this time, the headmaster will have on-going coaching conversations with a certified Worldview Matters® coach for 30 minutes every 2 weeks via telephone or via the Internet
- ✓ If a particular school determines that the WRAP is not a good fit for their school, or the timing is not right (or if Worldview Matters should determine this), there is no obligation to continue into Phase 2

### ***Phase 2: All Other Teachers Complete the Course***

- ✓ All other teachers in the school complete the on-line course as a “Phase 2 Group” during the second academic year of the WRAP
- ✓ The Phase 1 Group that completed the course in the previous year begins the process of curriculum mapping, creating models of seamlessly embedding biblical worldview truths and theology of work, economics and human flourishing into the full academic curriculum of the school
- ✓ The Phase 1 Group encourages teachers in the Phase 2 Group
- ✓ The headmaster continues to have coaching conversations with the certified Worldview Matters® coach throughout the academic year

### ***Phase 3: Curriculum Mapping***

- ✓ During “Phase 3,” all teachers examine their respective academic learning objectives to determine the most fitting places for theology of work, economics and human flourishing to be embedded seamlessly into the curriculum in way that is systemic, intentional and repeatable
- ✓ On-going coaching with a certified Worldview Matters® coach is optional during Phase 3, at the request of the headmaster or superintendent

## **The Price:**

- Grant funding to cover the cost of tuition and texts for the on-line course may be available through foundations working with Worldview Matters®. Contact Worldview Matters® for details.
- The cost for the on-line course (tuition and texts) is \$298 per person, plus the cost of shipping texts to the school. If anyone wants to earn 5 university credits for the course, this will be handled directly through Seattle Pacific University. Their tuition fee (as of September, 2016) is \$495, with an additional cost of \$72 for the texts (paid to Worldview Matters®), plus shipping.
- The cost of the coaching conversations is \$800 per year. Grant funding does not cover this cost.

## The Benefits:

- **Students** will develop a sense of meaning and purpose for their lives, and for their studies. They will understand that no matter what occupational path they may take, whether in business, civil service, or homemaking, they will be doing God's work, for His glory. They will understand there is no "ordinary" work.
- **Parents** will be delighted, which translates into increased value and greater return on their investment in their children, not to mention the investment in the school.
- **Teachers** will know they are shaping history, and this will bring greater meaning and significance to their daily work.

## Referrals:

Worldview Matters® is endorsed by a wide number of national and international Christian leaders. For a list of commendations and referrals, see [http://bit.ly/WM\\_referrals](http://bit.ly/WM_referrals). Additional referrals are available upon request, including school leaders whose schools have participated in the WRAP.

## First Steps:

- **Have an exploratory conversation with Christian Overman via telephone or the Internet.** This will help to determine if the WRAP is a "right fit" for you and your school. Send your request for a conversation via this link: [http://bit.ly/converse\\_1](http://bit.ly/converse_1)
- **Submit a WRAP Application Form.** Request this Application Form by contacting Worldview Matters® through the above link.

