



# CENTER PLACE RESTORATION

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## School

April/May/June 2018

## SPIRITUAL TRAINING

From the book of Mark, *"And he took a child, and sat in the midst of them; and when he had taken the child in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall humble himself like one of these children, and receiveth me, ye shall receive in my name."*

*And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them; and the disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw and heard them, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein."*

Every Thursday I have the opportunity to share a short devotion/lesson with the 5th grade class. One particular day I planned on sharing the story of the ruler who asked what he should do to inherit eternal

life (Luke 7:44-48). I asked the class to imagine that they had just graduated from CPRS, and they just found out that they had several million dollars. "What would you do with the money?" was my question. I expected to hear about very expensive items they would purchase for themselves, and thought maybe they would buy something for someone else also. I was then prepared to present the scripture and lesson from Luke. Hands shot up all over them room.

"I would help as many of the homeless as I could."

"I would give the money to the poor."

"I would buy my mom a house."

"I would help people get out of debt."

"I would put some money away for college."

On and on the comments went.

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Not one student mentioned buying anything for themselves. I looked at the teacher, and her smile seemed to say, "Okay, now what are you going to teach them?" My lesson plan was obviously thrown out. It was good to hear the comments, realize that they were heartfelt, and that the students were not just saying what they thought we wanted to hear. I read the scripture and talked about the attitude of the ruler. Then I challenged them to keep their current attitude and thoughts in their hearts as they grew older; not to change them.

Afterwards, I reflected on what these students had been taught by their parents, and how it has been re-enforced by the teachings here at CPRS. At CPRS we can teach the things of the Lord, we can talk about

# SPIRITUAL WELFARE, OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

*This article is a reprint from a CPRS newsletter in 1995. It was written by Robert Bobbitt, then a member of the Board of Trustees, and now a high school religion teacher at CPRS. It is just as appropriate for today as it was 22 years ago.*

"It is a joy to witness so many young people at CPRS who have committed their lives to Jesus Christ and who desire to follow Him. What a blessing it is to witness the spiritual growth of so many who might not have that opportunity in other settings. How blessed we are to have so many instructors who are willing to sacrifice their time and talents for our children.

As Saints, it is natural for us to be excited about CPRS as an experiment in Zionite living. In our enthusiasm, we often speak of going on to perfection and achieving "the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ," spoken of in Ephesians 4:11-13.

But in our haste for perfection, I think that Saints sometimes have a tendency to forget the admonition given in II Peter 1:5 to instill faith and virtue before knowledge in the lives of students. It is character that will determine the eternal destiny of our children. Things like academic, physical or mutual excellence are

wonderful, but they are meaningless without virtue (i.e., moral excellence). Knowledge without faith and virtue does not glorify Christ.

We must give our children adequate skills to survive and, if they choose, to excel in the world, but the real measure of success is found in the development of their character. At times, I believe Saints are misled into thinking that, given enough discipline and rules, we can perfect any child's character. But I believe that such a view doesn't take into account the agency of the individual child. Each child must make his or her individual decision to follow Christ under the impulse of the Holy Spirit. Rules and discipline can only provide an environment where such a decision is possible.

I have a second area of concern. As Saints, the spiritual life of our families varies from non-existent to very high. Quite often, family prayer and discussion of spiritual issues have been pushed aside. Family life has eroded. It is possible to be a nominal priesthood member and never lead your family in worship of God. It is a popular notion in our culture for spiritually dysfunctional families to bring their children to an institution like CPRS to be "fixed." This is not a realistic

expectation. The family is divinely instituted to inculcate values. We can only be an extension of that effort.

In our race to maintain a certain standard of living, the financial pressure on our families is intense. Baby boomers do not have the benefit of rapidly increasing real estate values. Remaining with one company for a lifetime is more the exception than the rule. Companies turn employees out to pasture at a younger age now. Our parents enjoyed a tax exemption for children that, if it had kept pace with inflation, would have been worth \$8,000 per child in today's dollars.

Young families have a tremendous amount of anxiety about the future. It is easy to become distracted from spiritual things. The Doctrine and Covenants advises "repression of unnecessary wants." It would help us as families to reevaluate what is most important to us, to set our homes in order and give the spiritual welfare of our children the highest priority. As a school, our greatest need is for families to make their children's spiritual welfare the highest priority.

Bob Bobbitt  
(High School Faculty)

*".....He shall save His people from their sins." Matthew 2:4*

# CPRS STUDENTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Our congratulations go out to Noah Alaniz, CPRS 6th grader, who is the winner of the Southwest Airlines Adopt A Pilot nationwide tie design contest! His tie will be worn by the 683 pilots who participate in the Adopt A Pilot program this year.

On April 9, a special school assembly was presented by representatives from Southwest Airlines — Adopt A Pilot ambassadors Nick Caulfield and Wendy Hales Mora, coordinator Janet Felty, and our own “adopted” pilot Doug Seaver. They shared information about the Adopt A Pilot program for 5th graders, which inspires the students toward academic achievement through aviation-themed activities in various core subjects. Students also have opportunity to design a tie to be worn by the participating pilots in the following year.

Our guests announced that, from 4,428 entries from all across the country, the winning design was submitted by our own Noah Alaniz! Though it came as a

complete surprise to Noah, his family had been informed in advance so his parents and grandparents could attend. This award is especially meaningful to Noah, since he has long been interested in aviation and hopes to become a pilot himself someday.

Fox 4 news was on hand to cover the story, with their report running several times on the local station that day.

Noah received several a framed award that included a tie, his original colored pencil sketch design, and a plaque. He was also given several ties to share with his family. Following the assembly, Noah and his family and classmates attended a reception in the school cafeteria to celebrate his achievement.

We are so proud of Noah and this recognition of his talent and interests!

*See photo last page*

William Bauman, 5th grader, is a big fan of the Kansas City Mavericks hockey team and monster truck competitions, so when he heard about two contests promoted by these groups, he was enthusiastic about entering.

The KC Mavericks partnered with Recycle More to sponsor the second annual Rejectamenta Restored Contest, which increases awareness of the need for recycling. The challenge was to produce an artistic creation, using only recycled materials and glue. William chose to make a horse's head logo in recognition of the Maverick mascot. After deciding on a silhouette, he collected boxes from tea, graham crackers, cereal, and even an old Dillard's gift box, all in the colors of the Mavericks team. The boxes were sliced into strips, trimmed to fit the silhouette, and glued onto a recycled shipping box. It took about 3 days to complete the project, which was submitted in the youth category. When his mother, Catherine, was notified on social media that William's project had won, he was excited to hear that Mac, the mascot, would visit his classroom at school for a pizza party to be

shared with his classmates! In addition, William won 4 tickets to an upcoming Mavericks game.

The second contest — sponsored by Toughest Monster Truck Tour, Silverstein Eye Centers, Variety KC, Charter Spectrum, and Paradise Park — invited young people to submit an original design for a monster truck “costume” that would be built and presented to a Variety KC wheelchair child. Variety is a Kansas City children's charity that provides developmental disabilities adaptive equipment and opportunities for inclusion for area youth. William's colorful design was chosen as the winner, and his award includes 8 tickets to the monster truck rally with pit access and a private suite, as well as pizza and a (day late) birthday cake for William! But one of the best parts was seeing the finished product and meeting the young lady who received the wheelchair costume.

Congratulations to William on his creativity and community awareness!

*See photo last page*



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### *Spiritual cont'd from page 1*

the Lord, pray to the Lord, and help these students grow closer to the Lord. In fact, this is part of the mission statement for CPRS. Our teachers appreciate the freedom to talk of the Lord in their classes. You will notice in another article some of the academic accomplishments of two of our students. This gives an illustration of what CPRS is about—spiritual and academic growth.

As we begin to look ahead to what the next year will bring, it can be a frightening time for a student. I think one of our teachers put it best in her newsletter to parents, “In class, we continue to focus on the fruits of the spirit. We are discussing how we can use those fruits to ‘survive at school next year’. This doesn’t have to be a scary time. The BEST thing the kids can do to prepare is im-

prove their relationships with God. There will be many times in the next few years (and the rest of their lives) that they will have to cry out to God. So, I encourage you this summer to do **WHATEVER** you can to encourage your child's spiritual development. Please know, I am no expert. I have my own child that I'm also concerned about, but I know God can supply all our needs.”

Parents, church and school working together under the guidance of the Spirit can “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” – *Proverbs 22:6*

Dan L. Schoenemann  
*School Administrator*

