

SHEAVES

2025



BERACHAH
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Reflecting Christ's Love
in Scholarship

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PRAY FOR HIMACHAL PRADESH

Spiritual Awakening – Pray for the people of Himachal Pradesh to experience a deep hunger for God and a revival of faith in Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reach – Pray for the spread of the Gospel in remote villages, towns, and cities, especially in Lahaul, Spiti, and other unreached areas.

Church Growth – Pray for the growth of strong, Spirit-filled churches and fellowships across Himachal Pradesh, providing a place for believers to worship and grow in faith.

Evangelists & Pastors – Pray for the protection, strength, and encouragement of evangelists, pastors, and Christian workers laboring in difficult conditions.

Persecuted Believers – Pray for the Christians who face opposition and persecution, that they may stand firm in faith and be a light to their communities.

Youth & Next Generation – Pray for the young people of Himachal to be touched by God, find purpose in Christ, and be protected from harmful influences.

Healing & Deliverance – Pray for divine healing for those suffering from sickness, addictions, depression, and other struggles, that they may encounter the power of Jesus.

Government & Leaders – Pray for the government officials and local authorities to govern with wisdom, justice, and openness to the Gospel.

Economic & Social Welfare – Pray for the people, especially the poor and underprivileged, to receive opportunities for education, jobs, and a better quality of life.

Revival & Transformation – Pray for a mighty move of the Holy Spirit to transform families, communities, and the entire state, bringing peace, joy, and righteousness.

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MESSAGE

from

THE EDITOR



Lect: Godwin K Johnson

Dear Reader,

It is with immense joy and gratitude that I present to you the latest edition of Sheaves, our academic magazine for this year, centered on the profound theme “Reflecting Christ’s Love in Scholarship” based on John:13:34,35.

In an era where knowledge expands at an extraordinary pace, it is essential to remind ourselves that scholarship is not merely the pursuit of intellectual achievement. It is a calling, a divine invitation to integrate faith, learning, and service. As Christian scholars, our academic activities should reflect the love of Christ, illuminating His grace and truth in every sphere of study. The foundation of true scholarship lies in humility, a quality exemplified by Christ Himself. His love compels us to approach our fields with both a thirst for understanding and a heart of compassion. When Christ’s love informs our studies, our learning transcends self-gain and becomes a tool for building His kingdom. It transforms research and writing into acts of worship, enabling us to bear witness to His glory. As we engage in scholarship, let us strive to see it as an opportunity to reflect Christ’s character and His unending love.

This edition of Shieves is a testament to that very vision. With contributions from both students and faculty members, this collection is an embroidery of thought and creativity enriched with articles, poems, testimonies, and memorable moments of the year. The articles explore how Christ’s love can shape our understanding of various disciplines. Together, they

remind us that scholarship grounded in Christ’s love goes beyond knowledge; it transforms lives and communities.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed and the editorial team who worked alongside me. Your dedication, insight, and creativity have made this magazine a beacon of inspiration. To the readers, I encourage you to approach these pages with an open heart and a reflective spirit. May the ideas and expressions within inspire you to integrate Christ’s love into your own academic journey and beyond.

As we embark on this shared journey of learning and growing, let us strive to reflect the love of Christ in all that we do, making our scholarship a true act of worship and service. May Shieves serve as a reminder that every word written and every thought shared can glorify God and edify His people.

“

“True scholarship is not just the pursuit of knowledge but a reflection of Christ’s love—transforming learning into worship, research into service, and wisdom into a beacon of His grace.”

”

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From the **THE DIRECTOR'S DESK**



Dr. Sam Abraham
Director, BIHER

Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus Christ,

It brings me great joy to share a few thoughts on our theme for the Berachah Institute of Higher Education and Research for the academic year 2024-25: "Reflecting Christ's Love in Scholarship."

We are living in a time when hatred, violence, and injustice are spreading across the nation. The Bible teaches us that the root cause of all these is sin. Yet, amidst this brokenness, the love of Christ shines as a golden chain, binding finite, fallible human beings who believe in Him to the infinite and holy God.

The love that the Lord has for His children surpasses all knowledge. No science can fully define or explain it, and no human wisdom can fathom its depths. However, selfishness and pride often hinder the pure love that unites us with Jesus Christ. When this love is truly cultivated, humanity will be transformed. The finite will blend with the infinite, and all will center on the infinite. Humanity will unite with humanity, bound together by the heart of infinite love.

Sanctified love for one another is sacred. Christian love—far higher, more constant, more courteous, and more unselfish than anything the world has known—preserves tenderness, benevolence, and politeness. This love enfolds human brotherhood in the embrace of God, acknowledging the dignity and worth He has bestowed on every individual.

The golden chain of Christ's love binds believers' hearts in unity, fellowship, and oneness with the Father and the Son. This unity serves as a powerful

testimony to the transformative power of Christianity. When this love is fully expressed, selfishness will be uprooted, unfaithfulness will vanish, and there will be no strife or divisions among us. The stubborn independence of the wayward heart will yield to the guiding hand of Christ, and His followers will walk in harmony with one another and with Him.

Love is a tender plant that must be cultivated and cherished. The roots of bitterness must be removed so that love has room to grow and flourish. When this love takes hold, it will influence every aspect of our minds and hearts, enabling us to love God supremely and our neighbors as ourselves.

As we engage with the world, may the Lord help us to demonstrate the love of Jesus in all we do. Let our scholarship reflect His love, and may our lives bear witness to the unity and compassion that come from Him.

*"A mirror turned away from the sun
cannot reflect the sun's rays. And a human
being turned away from God's Son cannot
reflect His love to others."*

- Dr. Sam Abraham -

Fierce love? Are you sure?



Dr. Valson Abraham
IPC General President

Most times, we don't put those two words together. We think of "fierce" as aggressive, destructive and fearful, and love as soft, tender and peaceful. But "fierce" has another side to it—heartfelt and passionate intensity. This definitely describes the character of Jesus' love.

The fierce love of Jesus lies beyond our comprehension and normal practice. We get a tiny glimpse of this fierce love in the foot-washing episode of John 13.

Think about the context of this event..

In a few hours, Jesus will face a mock trial by wicked men who are supposed to be the moral and religious examples of the people but hate the truth Jesus consistently lives and speaks about God. He will be flayed without mercy by sadistic Roman soldiers. He will face a great mob who cry for His death though He has likely healed many of them or members of their families. He will die by crucifixion, a death so cruel and obscene that no respectable person dared to mention it.

All of this loomed over Him. He knew exactly what was coming His way that very night. He would die the worst of deaths and bear the sin of humanity on top of everything. He would experience a period of separation from His Father from whom He had never been separated for even a second of eternity. None of us can fully comprehend it all, and we stagger under its weight when we try.

Our tame pictures of the crucifixion convey only the tiniest fraction of what Jesus endured and suffered. Smooth and varnished church crosses numb us to the demonic ugliness, hate and evil He actually would face on that cross.

Yet just a few hours before His death, He thinks of His disciples and their comfort in one of the most humbling details—their tired and dirty and smelly feet. He, their Master of masters, even takes the role of a lowly servant and washes each disciple's feet.

He does not leave out Judas Iscariot who will soon betray Him with a kiss and submit Him to His agony. Nor does He leave out Peter who will deny Him with curses. The others are no better—they will all abandon him to the merciless rage of His executioners.

He knows all of this will take place that very night, yet He performs this humble and menial servant task anyway. There is something else we should keep in mind about the context of this incident...

All the gospels repeatedly portray Jesus' disciples as dull learners who, over the past three years, forget what He says and does almost as soon as they hear and see it. If we had met the disciples during this time, we would not have been impressed with them. We would have seen no hint of greatness in any of them. Instead, we would have seen them fight and bicker over the most inane and childish things, and we would have puzzled over why Jesus associated with such a miserable bunch.

Yet He says to these twelve pitiful and childish men, “Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God.” His love for them never wavers for a second, even in spite of their habitual stupidity and soon-to-be-revealed cowardice.

The love of Jesus is stronger than death. It is a fierce love that stops at nothing, is discouraged by nothing, not by even the worst and most petty parts of human nature. His love accepts the full reality of sin but completely overrules and overcomes it by even greater good. It crushes every lesser thing in its path.

Charles Spurgeon once said: “Earthworms are miserable company for angels...yet love made our great Master endure the society of His ignorant and carnal followers.” His great love is conditioned by nothing. That’s what Jesus demonstrated that night as He washed His disciples’ feet.

In contrast, our own weak and sentimental love is conditioned by a thousand different things. We are always getting offended by something or someone. We allow the most trivial things to divide us for months, years, and even a lifetime or many lifetimes. Political correctness is a symptom of how unloving we have become as a society and within the church itself.

Many of today’s young people leave the church when they reach adulthood. The church remains unattractive to them because they are not impressed by the unloving characters of most church people, including their own parents. They are aware of their sins and feel deep guilt over them. They fear coming to church to hear more rebuke than encouragement. They hunger for redemption and release, but they hear only judgment and bickering over lesser issues.

Before we become completely discouraged with ourselves, let us remember the good news: the fierce love of Jesus always wins in the end! His fierce love includes you and me!

The disciples (except for Judas Iscariot) did not remain dullards and cowards. As imperfect and unheroic as they were during those dark days, they still had tiny mustard seeds of faith that enabled them to humble themselves before Him after their abject failure. That fact allowed Jesus’ fierce love to fill them with the Holy Spirit and turn them into bold and eloquent witnesses and workers of signs and wonders that began winning thousands of men, women and children to Christ.

They moved mountains, laying foundations that would eventually change people and societies far beyond Jerusalem and Galilee. The foundations they laid have continued to our present day. For the fierce love of Jesus, these former cowards eventually sacrificed their own lives.

The fierce love of Jesus has not changed over the past 2,000 years. The fierce love of Jesus covers you and me just as it covered His disciples. Today, He is washing our feet even as He washed the disciples’ feet. What He did to transform His original weak disciples into bold witnesses He is still able to accomplish through you and me as we trust Him with our own mustard seeds of faith. Then we, too, will move mountains.

Let us as Jesus’ 21st century disciples remember, trust and experience again and again the fierce love of Jesus that stops at nothing and will not let us go. This is the greatest weapon by which we fight the works of the devil. This is how we defeat fear, doubt and hopelessness. This is how we stop medicating ourselves with materialism and worldliness. The fierce love of Christ restores relationship with God’s everlasting love and ends mere religion and legalism.

When the fierce love of Jesus possesses our hearts and minds, we have the one thing for which the rest of the world truly hungers. May that day come sooner rather than later!

“The fierce love of Jesus stops at nothing, overcomes everything, and transforms the weakest into world-changers. His love is not sentimental—it is relentless, victorious, and unstoppable.”

- Dr. Valson Abraham

Glance of BIHER

BIHER's 2024-2025 focused on operational excellence, holistic education, and spiritual growth. Key activities included faculty recruitment, student onboarding, guest lectures, seminars, and cultural programs. Faculty contributed to research and mentorship, while students participated in practical ministry, spiritual formation, and extracurricular, developing servant leadership. Reports assessed academic, spiritual, and character development, including successful orientation, enhanced library resources, bi-monthly assessments, and integration of practical and spiritual education. These efforts reflect BIHER's commitment to shaping global leaders and nurturing a community of faith, learning, and service.

Dr. P. Abey Thomas
Principal



Highlights of BIHER:

The academic year 2024-2025 is divided into two sessions: Didactic session (June - October), focused on teaching, research, and intellectual development, and Kerygmatic session (November - March), emphasizing proclamation, preaching, and the sharing of knowledge and insights. Key achievements for the year 2024-2025 include:-

- ▶ Faculty Recruitment & Orientation: Effectively evaluated, recruited and on boarded new faculty members for the academic year 2024-2025. The orientation highlighted academic insights and leadership development.
- ▶ Onboarding, Inauguration & Classes Commencement: Onboarding began on June 10, with registration on June 13. The Inauguration on June 14 introduced faculty, officers, and student leaders. Classes commenced on June 17 with orientation and preparatory classes.
- ▶ Library: Expanded collection with academic books and theological journals; enhanced study spaces, though facing space constraints.
- ▶ Extracurricular & Co-Curricular Activities: Activities included speeches, quizzes, indoor sports, and volleyball, promoting personal growth with graded participation.
- ▶ Alumni Engagement: Maintained strong alumni connections via WhatsApp & Zoom, offering updates and spiritual support.
- ▶ Campus Safety: Zero cases of harassment or ragging due to proactive measures by Anti-Sexual Harassment and Anti-Ragging Cells.
- ▶ BIHER celebrated the 78th Independence Day on August 15, 2024, with flag hoisting and vibrant cultural performances. The institution also commemorated Republic Day on January 26, 2025, highlighting its profound significance, particularly the commitment to upholding constitutional values.
- ▶ Mobile Book Exhibition: Hosted by BIHER on July 10, 2024, featuring books from the

National Book Trust and an orientation on using Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya.

- ▶ Awards & Recognitions: Dr. Sam Abraham received awards from the Rotary Club of Palampur and the Gyan Uday Foundation.
- ▶ Faculty Achievements: Dr. Abey Thomas and Rev. Robin C. Varughese presented a paper on technology in theological education. Dr. Amruta Bag published two papers and presented them at the Evangelical Missiological Society.
- ▶ Teachers' Day Celebration: Held on September 5, 2024, honouring educators with certificates for their dedication to shaping future leaders.
- ▶ Medical Awareness Program: In collaboration with Rotary Eye Hospital, offering health check-ups to students and staff for preventive healthcare.
- ▶ Field Visits: Explored India's religious diversity through visits to Buddhist, Hindu, and Sikh sites, providing valuable insights.
- ▶ Practical Ministry: Students engaged in outreach activities, including prayer walks, Sunday school, and church worship teams, guided by local mentors.
- ▶ Performance Appraisal: Conducted during Didactic and Kerygmatic sessions, with feedback for improvement.

International Student Exchange and Practical Training Program:

From September 18th to 26th, a group of students from the Institute for Global Opportunities (IGO) in Thailand visited our campus as part of their internship training. They engaged with our students through various activities, games, and songs, promoting cultural exchange and building lasting friendships. Additionally, from December 26th to January 11th, 2025, Sorios Theotech Institute from Chandigarh sent their students to our college for practical training. This collaboration provided a valuable opportunity for the students to develop academically, spiritually, and personally, while also gaining hands-on experience in administration.

BIHER Representation at Academic Events:

- ▶ International Education and Skill Summit, New Delhi (September 18-19, 2024): Represented BIHER as a change maker.
- ▶ Lausanne Congress, Seoul, Korea (September 22-25, 2024): Attended the global gathering focused on "Let the Church Declare – and Display Christ Together."

Other Events Conducted

- ▶ Pastoral Conference: A conference was held to engage with leaders and gain insights into pastoral practices.
- ▶ Alumni Meet: Alumni were warmly welcomed to reconnect and share their experiences with current students in this year 2025.
- ▶ Graduation Ceremony: The closing event of the academic year 2024-2025 was marked by the Graduation Ceremony, celebrating the achievements of the graduating students.

BIHER celebrates Republic Day, emphasizing its multifaceted significance, particularly the commitment to upholding constitutional values.

BIHER achieved ISO 21001:2018 certification, a management standard aimed at organizations delivering educational services that meet the needs of learners and stakeholders.

BIHER has partnered with RightNow Media and MTM Training to provide enhanced learning opportunities, offering both students and faculty greater access to valuable resources and training benefits.

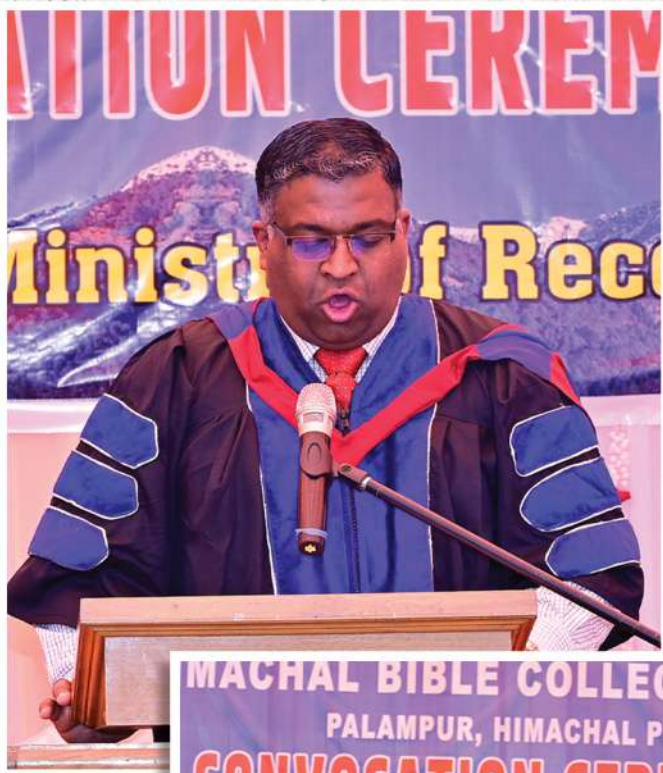
This year, we are embracing the theme "Reflecting Christ's Love in Scholarship," which underscores our commitment to integrating faith with learning. It emphasises the importance of embodying Christ's love and values in academic pursuits, developing an environment where intellectual growth and spiritual development go hand in hand. Through this theme, we aim to inspire both faculty and students to not only excel in their fields of study but also to serve others with compassion, integrity, and a Christ-centered approach to scholarship.

BIHER



GRADUATION

2024



Practicing Christ's love

Dr. Amruta Bag
Dean of Academics



Love is beyond the description of words. It is understood as attraction, attachment, and affection, considering one's own part. People are lacking the practice of real love. In these days, the genuine nature of love, its rhythm, purpose, aim, and goal is ambiguous. There is a way to love other beings. Human love is losing its real essence and attracting towards other beings beyond God's intention of love. There is a way to love. The parameter of love must be understood by mankind. Lest the nature of love culminate as against nature. Nowadays we see the prevalence of unnatural love. Jesus' love is amazing and beyond measure.

However, the statement 'I love you' must not become just a mere saying in Christian life. When a Christian says I love you, it requires Christ's love, and it must be seen in its reflection. One of the good examples of reflecting Christ's love is very much seen in the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

It is essential for a believer that he or she must understand the love of a being that is not seen in human eyes, i.e., God. However, God has manifested in Christ and mankind. His earthly ministry extremely witnessed immense love in the form of healing, compassion, deliverance, instruction, provision, etc., the finest exemplary demonstration of His love on the cross of Calvary. God loves sinners. Christian anthropology must be centralised with loving sinners (Mark 2:15-22), neighbours (Mark 12:30-31) and enemies (Matthew 5:144). Jesus' life replicates the best way of reflecting love to others. Education (theological or Christian) is meaningful when Christ's

love is practised in a learner (disciple, scholar, and believer) rather than just being engaged in sharing the word of God for the sake of ministry. Missionaries throughout the centuries have practiced it in different contexts. The pure religion practices the love towards the poor, destitute, widows, and others (James 1:27).

Those are rejected from home, workplace, society, etc. Christians must encourage them to be found in Christ's love. If such people are brought into the fold of Christ, they can experience the love of God in life. People need the love, the true love, which provides consolation and peace in them. We are the agents of demonstrating Christ's love to others. Whether you are a graduate or a Christian believer, I would like to let you know that we are to stand for true love that is found in Christ. Our speech, attitude, and actions must show the love of Christ. People should know that Christians are loving and caring people. People may entitle us as per our way of appearance and work.

People need to recognise us as followers of Christ and reflect his attitude to others. Otherwise, we are not real Christians, and Christ's love is not in us. The practice of love must also include the quality of love, which is not selfish, no envy, etc. (1 Corinthians 13). May God help us to reflect Christ's love in this world where there is so much heartedness.

Living the Light : 5 Daily Habits to Reflect and Radiate Christ's Love

Dr. P. Abey Thomas
Principal



For the 2024-2025 academic year, our theme is "Reflecting Christ's Love in Scholarship," inspired by John 13:34-35: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... By this, all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." This theme reflects our mission of equipping and empowering people for effective service.

"Reflection" can be defined with two ways

1. **Character Reflection – Demonstrating Christ's love and values through our actions, words, and attitudes.**
2. **Personal Reflection – Taking time to evaluate and learn from our actions, decisions, and experiences.**

Radiation refers to spreading energy, light, or influence. When we say someone "radiates Christ's love," it means they express that love in a way that positively impacts others. Our theme calls us to represent and express Christ's love in all we do, reflecting it in our actions and radiating it to those around us.

The theme calls every disciple of Christ to not only reflect but also radiate His love in a powerful way, fulfilling the Great Commission. To achieve this, disciples must live in a manner that allows the light of Christ to shine through them, influencing and impacting those around them. Aligned with this theme, this article highlights 5 daily habits that will help you live as the light and reflect Christ's love in your everyday actions.

1. **Authenticity** – In a world focused on appearances, authenticity reflects Christ's love through steadfastness and integrity. It means staying true to your beliefs and values across all settings, exemplifying Christ's consistency and compassion. A biblical example is Daniel, who remained faithful in Babylon despite immense pressure. He refused to defile himself, worship false idols, or abandon prayer, living out his commitment to God regardless of the consequences. His integrity influenced even King Darius, who acknowledged God's greatness (Daniel 6:26-27). Authenticity isn't about over-sharing but aligning your actions and words with your beliefs, even when challenging. By living authentically, we reflect Christ's truth and love, inspiring others to draw closer to Him.
2. **Humility** – Humility is recognizing our limitations, learning from others, and admitting when we're wrong. It involves prioritizing others without diminishing ourselves. True humility is strength under control, not weakness. Moses exemplified humility by acknowledging his limitations and seeking God's guidance throughout his leadership (Exodus 3:11, Exodus 4:10). Despite being chosen by God, he remained humble and relied on God's strength (Numbers 12:3). Jesus, though divine, humbled Himself by serving others and sacrificing His life (Philippians 2:6-8). To reflect Christ's love, humility must be central to our lives. By practicing humility daily, we radiate His love, fostering deeper relationships and mutual respect.
3. **Forgiveness** – Forgiveness is essential for reflecting Christ's love, benefiting both our spiritual and physical well-being. Research shows that forgiving can lower blood pressure, boost

immune function, and reduce heart disease risk. Joseph exemplified forgiveness when he chose to forgive his brothers, despite their betrayal, saying, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good” (Genesis 50:20). Jesus, even on the cross, prayed for those who crucified Him, setting the ultimate example of forgiveness (Luke 23:34). Forgiveness isn’t about forgetting but releasing others from their debt, as Christ did for us. It’s challenging but transformative, bringing healing, peace, and stronger relationships. Let’s make forgiveness a daily practice to reflect Christ’s love.

4. Generosity – Generosity is giving selflessly without expecting anything in return. It extends beyond money to include time, talents, and resources for the benefit of others. Christ demonstrated generosity through acts like feeding thousands with a small offering (John 6:1-14) and ultimately giving His life for our salvation (John 3:16). The widow of Zarephath also exemplified generosity, offering her last food to the prophet Elijah during a famine, trusting God would provide (1 Kings 17:7-16). Her faith and selflessness were rewarded by God’s provision. In a world that often values personal gain, practicing generosity sets us apart. Small acts of kindness, like lending a hand or offering a word of encouragement, can make a big impact. Generosity reflects Christ’s love and brings joy, as Jesus taught, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

5. Compassion – Compassion is empathising with others’ suffering and taking action to ease it. It goes beyond pity; it’s stepping into someone’s

pain and offering help. Christ’s ministry was filled with compassion, from healing the sick (Matthew 14:14) to comforting the grieving (John 11:33-35). The story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) highlights compassion, as the Samaritan went beyond societal boundaries to care for a wounded man. In our busy lives, we must cultivate compassion, whether by listening, providing a meal, or offering presence. Every act of compassion reflects Christ’s love and brings light into the world. Let’s make compassion a daily habit.

Living the Light and Reflecting Christ’s Love

Living out Christ’s love is a daily commitment to represent His teachings through our actions, words, and attitudes. The habits of authenticity, humility, forgiveness, generosity, and compassion help us radiate His transformative love, drawing others to Him. By practicing these consistently, we fulfil Christ’s command to love one another as He has loved us (John 13:34-35).

In the mission field, these habits guide effective service and ministry. Authenticity builds trust, humility improves a servant’s heart, forgiveness promotes peace, generosity makes a lasting impact, and compassion reflects Christ’s love in action. Whether in your area, workplace, or beyond, let these habits guide you to be a beacon of Christ’s love, transforming lives and glorifying God in all you do. Together, let’s embrace the call to reflect and radiate His love.



Illuminating Scholarship with Christ's Love

Lect. Mordicai Phaomei
Librarian



Introduction

Scholarship the pursuit of knowledge and understanding has always been a cornerstone of human advancement. For Christians, however, this endeavour transcends intellectual exploration, taking a deeply spiritual dimension rooted in the love of Christ. The transformative power of Christ's love provides a framework for the scholarship that transcends personal ambition and aligns academic endeavours with God's divine purpose. This article examines how Christ's love illuminates scholarship, highlighting biblical principles and practical applications for academic life.

1. Christ's Love as the Foundation of Scholarship

Christ's love is the defining characteristic of the Christian life. In John 13:34-35, Jesus commands, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this, all people will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another." This love extends beyond personal relationships and into aspects of life, including scholarship.

In the academic context, Christ's love motivates humility and service. Philippians 2:3-4 urges, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others." This

perspective encourages scholars to approach their work with a selfless attitude, seeking to contribute to the common good rather than pursuing personal glory. Christ's love also fosters a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect in an era where competition often dominates academia, embodying Christ's love can transform academic communities into spaces of encouragement and support. By prioritizing relationships over rivalry, scholars can create environments where knowledge is shared freely and constructively.

2. Biblical Examples of Illuminated Scholarship

The Bible provides numerous examples of individuals who exemplified Christ's love and wisdom in their intellectual pursuits. Daniel and his companions stand out as models of faith-integrated scholarship. In Daniel 1:17, it is noted that "God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams." Despite being in a foreign and hostile environment, they used their God-given knowledge to serve both God and their community, demonstrating humility, integrity, and reliance on divine wisdom.

The Apostle Paul is another example. His writings reveal a profound integration of theological insight and practical application. In 1 Corinthians 2:13, Paul describes his teaching as "not in words taught by human wisdom but in those taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are

spiritual.” Paul’s scholarship was deeply rooted in his relationship with Christ, enabling him to address complex issues with clarity and grace.

3. Practical Implications for Modern Scholarship

Illuminating scholarship with Christ’s love has profound implications for contemporary academics.

First, it calls for an ethic of love in interactions with colleagues, students, and the broader community. Scholars can embody this ethic by mentoring younger academics, promoting inclusivity, and using their expertise to address societal challenges. Second, it demands intellectual humility. Recognizing that all knowledge ultimately comes from God encourages scholars to approach their work with a sense of wonder and gratitude. This humility fosters openness to learning from others and a willingness to revise one’s views in light of new evidence or perspectives. Third, it emphasizes the importance of pursuing truth with integrity. Proverbs 4:7 advises, “The beginnings of wisdom are this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.” Christian scholars are called to seek truth diligently, avoiding shortcuts or compromises that undermine the credibility of their work.

Finally, it invites scholars to view their work as an act of worship. Colossians 3:23-24 encourages, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” By dedicating their academic pursuits to God, Scholars can experience the joy and fulfillment that comes from aligning their work with His purposes.

Conclusion

Illuminating scholarship with Christ’s love represents a transformative approach that integrates faith and learning. Grounded in biblical principles, it challenges scholars to pursue knowledge with humility, integrity, and a spirit of service. By embodying Christ’s love, scholars can create collaborative and supportive academic communities. Drawing from Christ’s love, they are equipped to navigate the complexities of their fields with wisdom and grace. Ultimately, this approach not only advances human understanding but also glorifies God, fulfilling the higher purpose of scholarship.



CULTURAL NIGHT

Learning

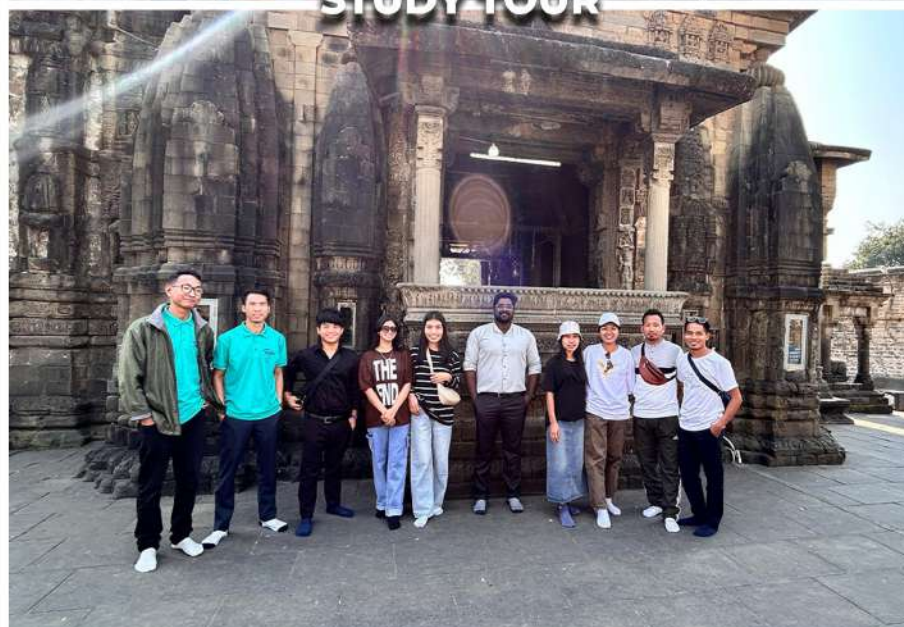


Fresher's Night

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



STUDY TOUR



Mentoring the Next Generation to Embody Christ's Love

Rev. Robin C. Varughese
Registrar & COE



In the modern era, guiding young and adolescent generations along their spiritual path is of the utmost significance. Mentors are extremely important in the process of moulding the minds and hearts of young people by educating them via the example of the love that Christ has for them. Not only does this type of mentoring impart knowledge, but it also serves to transform, cultivating qualities such as compassion, generosity, and a robust moral compass.

The Essence of Mentoring

Mentoring someone is more than just giving them wisdom; it also connects them with them on a deeper level and teaches them essential life lessons. Mentors in these types of partnerships serve as role models, exemplifying Jesus' teachings and aiding mentees in putting them into practice in their own lives. Mentors encourage young people to "act justly and love mercy," as the Bible instructs in Micah 6:8. They show young people the importance of having integrity and compassion.

Mentors provide children and adolescents with a secure environment in which they can investigate their spirituality and talk about the most important questions in life. In the course of their interactions with others, mentors illustrate how to spread love and forgiveness by modelling their behaviour after that of Jesus. Luke 10:25–37, which describes the narrative of the Good Samaritan, is an excellent

illustration of this, as it teaches us to care for other people regardless of their history or the situations in which they find themselves.

The Bible is an essential resource for mentoring. It teaches us how to act and make decisions by providing us with guidance in the form of stories and teachings. Philippians 4:6-7, for instance, instructs us to not worry but to pray about everything. This helps both mentors and mentees deal with stress and uncertainty by relying on the peace that God provides. Regular prayer is essential as a major component of a healthy mentoring relationship. God is invited into the connection between the mentor and the mentee, and a request is made for His direction and wisdom. Serving the community together, as Jesus encourages in Matthew 20:28, "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve," enables both mentors and mentees to experience the joy and fulfilment that comes from serving others and living a life that is not motivated by self-interest.

The process of mentoring might be difficult because of the possibility of misconceptions or differences in perspectives. On the other hand, these instances present opportunities for significant learning. They teach us how to manage disagreements and conflicts with grace and forgiveness, which is in line with Ephesians 4:32, which encourages us to be kind and compassionate, forgiving others as God forgave us through Christ. They teach us how to do this.

In conclusion, being a mentor is a role that offers a great deal of personal fulfilment to the individual. Those who can view the development of a young and adolescent generation's faith and knowledge of the teachings of Christ can experience a great deal of satisfaction as a result of their having the

opportunity to witness this progress. The completion of this journey leads to the establishment of a legacy of love and faith that endures for a lifetime, which in turn enhances the spiritual lives of both the mentor and the mentee. This legacy will endure for the rest of one's life.

Love that was but not there now

Love, Love, where are you?
I cannot see you, I never knew
That I long lost you.

Love, Love, have you vanished?
I could not find you in any mansions,
Once you lived in manors,
Once I found you in the hearts,
Once you were invited in carts,
To live in life of mortals.

You are the one who filled people,
With joy and happiness illegal,
You brought kindness and compassion,
As they are your brother and companion

Love, Love, Why are you so broken?
So contrite and as a taken token
Love, Love, Why are you so much hurt?
You look lost and toast in heat of hut
Once you brought light then,
Why are you today in fight?
Love, Love, come back,
Please do not go,
Though I reach the peak of success
But without you, I'm calm,
In the forest of knowledge
Without you I'm just carnal,
In the darkness tunnel.

Love, divine gift of God, Eternal attribute of God,
Come back, light me again with the love of Lord,
Fill my life with happiness once again,
Let it carry others in joy as a train,
Changing my darkness to lightness.

My heavenly Abba, this is my prayer,
Fill our hearts with love,
So, I can fill other life with a ton of fun,
As a bread kept in burner to become a bun.
And together we, as your people will have fun.



Lect. Janet Johnson
Warden for Girls

Reflecting Christ's love by displaying humility

Lect. Gaiphiuguang Gonmei
Deputy COE



What is the biblical definition of humility? In the Bible, “humility is not just about modesty or lack of arrogance; it is about acknowledging our need for God and submitting to His will. It involves trusting in His sovereignty and walking in obedience to His commands” (according to Google).

If you think you are hard, strong, and tough like the iron. Ask the smith, how they soften the rough and tough iron. They will tell you exactly how they melt the iron. If you are arrogant and hard to handle in the church, community, society and institutions or Bible colleges? Do you think God is going to be soft on you? Does the court show a soft corner to the criminal? I don't think so, know that He is also just, holy and righteous, he demands the same result or price. His justice does not allow the criminal to go free but to punish and give him equal punishment. Remember that “iron is sharpened by iron” (Proverbs 27:17) not by sponge. In order to make you gold or refine you, you must go through with fire. When God humbles us it is not going to be easy, He will not be as soft, as kind, as gracious or as you assume, the Bible says in Hebrews 10:31, “It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

When our earthly father disciplines, it is quite painful and hard, and we remember the pain for the rest of our lives. Imagine, you and I fall into the hands of just God. This is going to be unimaginable. That is going to be hard. If you don't want to be refined by the fire of God, be humble, don't be arrogant and proud. God hates such attitudes, but God loves the sacrifice of humble spirit (Psalm 51) rather than burnt offerings. This is the best moment we can humble ourselves and display Christ's love. Wherefore, from now on, let us walk in humility. Let us reflect the love of Christ by displaying Humility in our day-to-day life. By nature, we are proud people. We would never say ‘I am a proud man or woman.’ But our actions, our attitudes, our language, our nature reveals. Let us put those pride aside and come to God and submit to the sovereign will of God. So that we represent Christ. Remember, Christ humbles himself for his creation (Philippians 2). Did He deserve to be humbled? God forbid. It was out of his Love. Let us reflect on this hardcore lesson by displaying his love through Humility. Let us not wait to learn this lesson in a hard way while we have the right moment. Let us not wait for another moment. This is the time to display his love through our humility.

“True humility is not weakness but surrender—yielding to God's refining fire before He humbles us the hard way. Just as iron is shaped by fire, our hearts are transformed by submission to His will. Let us choose humility now, reflecting Christ's love before we are forced to learn it through trial.”

-Gaiphiuguang Gonmei



Love ... as I have loved you!

Lect. Emmanuel Basumatary
Extra-Curricular Activity Coordinator



Jesus instructed his disciples and future adherents to love one another as he loved them (John 13:34). Hence, we must examine closely how Christ manifested his love for his disciples. This necessitates meticulous observation from the moment of his selection of a student until his departure from the earth, illustrating Christ's authentic love for his students. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John indicate that from the moment he selected his disciples, he exhibited love and compassion for them, fostering their transformation in thought, speech, and behavior within society.

Jesus' choice of disciples was not influenced by social status. In the context of the first century, Rabbis would not accept a fisherman or a tax collector as their pupil. They anticipate pupils to excel academically and also commit the Torah to memory. They must exhibit exceptional discipline in academics. Moreover, in Roman culture, children from affluent households were afforded numerous educational opportunities. The curriculum emphasized rhetoric, philosophy, and governance, and was formal in nature. This strategy established a hierarchical relationship between student and teacher. At this point, Christ predominantly selected fishermen and a tax collector, who were considered lower-class individuals in the Mediterranean world. This indicates that God's

divine understanding is not confined to philosophers, rabbis, or the highly educated. This established a sphere of learning within Jesus' school founded on love rather than hierarchy because in the first century, the connection between teachers and students was predominantly formal, resulting in a significant gap between them.

Jesus instructed his followers both formally and informally to prepare them as future educators. He instructed them with parables, narratives, and pragmatic lessons to facilitate their comprehension of the kingdom of God. At numerous instances, the disciples failed to comprehend Jesus' teachings; yet, in private, they could approach Him without fear and enquire freely. Jesus would answer to them with patience and politeness to facilitate their understanding. He established a network of relationships rather than acquiring plain knowledge. He was acquainted with his disciples and diligently instructed them. He consistently taught the kingdom of God through parables and narratives, and he did not dismiss them. Jesus guided people via his outstanding existence. He exemplified the essence of life as a humble and dignified individual, demonstrating love and compassion via his care for the needy and impoverished people, and encouraging them to practice forgiveness, especially towards their

adversaries. This illustrates Jesus' desire to reform them and establish a new community before his departure from Earth.

Jesus stated, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13). This phrase was ultimately realized when Christ sacrificed his life for his disciples and for humanity. The same author employs this principle in 1 John 3:16, stating, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters." The principle is affectionate brotherhood necessitates sacrifices when necessary.

Ultimately, Jesus did not abandon them; he assured them of his perpetual presence. He informed them that he would not abandon them as orphans but would send the Holy Spirit to remain with them eternally (Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:16-17). Although Christ is not here today, his teachings remain with us. His words are pertinent to us now. Irrespective of our backgrounds, we must love one another. Regrettably, numerous churches today are fragmented due to caste distinctions, resulting in divisions within caste-based churches and congregations. In the school of Christ, everyone who wishes to be disciples is considered brothers and sisters, with no discrimination based on caste or creed.



Dr. Bennet Lowerence, Regional Secretary of ATA India, presents the ATA Accreditation Certificate to Berachah Institute of Higher Education and Research for its Diploma in Theology, Bachelor of Theology, and Master of Divinity programs, recognizing its commitment to academic and theological excellence.





BIHER SPORTS DAY



Bringing Christ's Love into Modern Education

Naowang
M.Div II



Introduction

In today's world, education plays a powerful role in shaping the minds and hearts of young people. While schools and colleges primarily focus on teaching subjects like math, science, and history to prepare students for a successful future, one essential aspect of education is often overlooked: the teaching of values such as love, compassion, and kindness. Incorporating Christ's love into modern education can help create a more caring and understanding environment for students. His teachings, which emphasize love, empathy, and humility, provide valuable lessons that contribute to students' academic, emotional, and spiritual growth. This article explores how integrating Christ's love into education can foster a nurturing atmosphere within school and college campuses, positively impacting the overall development of students.

1. Building Compassion and Kindness

One of Christ's central teachings is the commandment to "love your neighbour as yourself." This simple yet powerful message encourages us to treat others with respect, patience, and kindness. In schools and colleges, teachers and administrators have a unique opportunity to model and promote these values. By creating activities that foster empathy, teachers can help students understand the feelings and perspectives of others. For example, a teacher might organize group activities where students practice active listening or engage in role-playing exercises to

help them put themselves in someone else's shoes. When students practice compassion in these ways, they become better equipped to build strong, positive relationships with their peers.

These experiences not only enhance students' emotional intelligence but also help them become more understanding and caring individuals. Furthermore, students who learn to practice kindness are more likely to carry this compassion into adulthood, creating a ripple effect that benefits society as a whole.

2. Promoting Forgiveness and Understanding

Another essential lesson from Christ's teachings is the importance of forgiveness. In any school environment, conflicts, misunderstandings, and mistakes are inevitable. Instead of holding grudges or fostering resentment, students can be taught to approach one another with a spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation. This can be as simple as teaching them how to apologize sincerely or listen to others without judgment. By understanding the value of forgiveness, students learn to resolve conflicts in a healthy and productive way. Teachers can lead by example, demonstrating that making mistakes is part of learning and growth. For instance, if a student behaves inappropriately, instead of focusing solely on punishment, the teacher can help the student understand the impact of their actions and find ways

to make amends.

This approach not only resolves conflicts but also fosters a supportive and safe environment where students feel free to learn, grow, and make mistakes without fear of harsh judgment.

3. Encouraging Service and Helping Others

Christ's love is evident through acts of service and helping those in need. Schools can instil this value by encouraging students to participate in service-oriented activities such as food drives, visiting elderly care homes, or supporting local charities. These experiences teach students the joy of giving back, helping them see the positive impact they can have on others' lives. By serving others, students develop a sense of purpose and fulfillment beyond personal achievements, learning that success is not just academic but also about making a difference. This sense of community and care can leave a lasting impact, shaping values that endure well beyond their school years.

4. Developing a Sense of Purpose and Belonging

In any school, it is essential for students to feel valued and have a sense of belonging. Christ's love reminds us that every individual is valuable and has a unique purpose. Teachers can reflect this love by recognising each student's strengths and talents, helping them see their worth. Creating a supportive classroom atmosphere where students feel free to express their

opinions and embrace their individuality fosters inclusion and respect. When students feel valued, they are more likely to participate in learning actively and engage positively with others. Group projects that encourage collaboration and acknowledge each student's contributions further enhance this sense of belonging. A welcoming classroom where everyone feels appreciated builds students' confidence, resilience, and self-worth. This sense of purpose supports their personal growth and inspires them to approach life with hope, kindness, and a desire to contribute positively to society.

Conclusion

In any school, it is essential for students to feel valued and have a sense of belonging. Christ's love reminds us that every individual is valuable and has a unique purpose. Teachers can reflect this love by recognising each student's strengths and talents, helping them see their worth. Creating a supportive classroom atmosphere where students feel free to express their opinions and embrace their individuality fosters inclusion and respect. When students feel valued, they are more likely to actively participate in learning and engage positively with others. Group projects that encourage collaboration and acknowledge each student's contributions further enhance this sense of belonging. A welcoming classroom where everyone feels appreciated builds students' confidence, resilience, and self-worth. This sense of purpose supports their personal growth and inspires them to approach life with hope, kindness, and a desire to contribute positively to society.





Leading with Love

Mai Virgin Pettra
M.Div II



Leading with love is not forcing yourself to have feelings or emotions towards someone, but you begin behaving in a loving way. When we do this, we will increase our authority through influence, leading to higher engagement and better performance.

Serve:

They serve God first, then the people. To serve is to perform a role or function. While your co-worker is out sick, you gladly serve as his replacement until he gets better. Serve comes from the Latin word for servant or slave, but you can serve people without being subordinate to them. They serve their teams without any expectation or murmuring. They did not serve themselves; they never cared for themselves; they focused on their teams, and they knew that Jesus was coming for us not to be served but to serve in different situations.

Faith:

They believe that the team will act the best. Faith means believing in something even when you can't see it. As leaders, knowing that faith has guided us through good times and bad, we owe it to ourselves and each other to celebrate our success. Effective leadership requires trust, generosity, compassion, and empathy from employees, while also ensuring team wins belong to the leader.

Listen:

Listen and listen to the team, not respond. They were eager to listen to the team, and they were slow to

speak. They listen to advice from their team members. They listen more than they speak. Effective leadership relies on active listening, which involves being present and understanding others' perspectives. Great leaders foster open communication, trust, and respect within their teams. Listening also helps leaders understand their strengths and weaknesses, enabling them to make more informed decisions and foster collaboration. Therefore, great leaders are great listeners, as it leads to knowledge and overall organizational growth.

Patience:

They avoid rushing and pushing others. A leader with love and patience is able to accept delay, suffering, and annoyance without complaining or becoming angry. Patience is crucial for success in leadership, as it sucks energy and stresses out. According to Mahatma Gandhi, he said that "To lose patience is to lose the battle." A leader who demonstrates patience builds trust among team members, fosters stronger working relationships, and increases team unity. Leaders have to model patience in their day-to-day behaviors. The team will often follow the path the leader sets.

Support:

Support simply means to help somebody by saying that you agree with him/her/it and sometimes giving practical help such as money or to give somebody the money he/she needs for food, clothes, etc. They are always looking for ways to help their team members. They always search for what their team needs and are always ready to support their team in good or bad

times. They never delay to support their team. They are always ready to support in different ways, such as encouragement, praying, teaching, leading, giving, and so on. Leaders looking to be more supportive of their teams should try to encourage teamwork, pay attention to members' relationships, and also show commitment.

Heart:

The heart is vital for the body's survival, pumping blood through arteries and veins and providing vital nutrients to all cells and fibers. The heart is the major organ in the whole body. The leader's heart is always filled with love. They always open their hearts for their team members. Their heart is always ready to accept bad or good responses. Open leadership involves being fully present, accessible, connecting, communicating openly, being a resource, focusing on missing aspects, affirming and encouraging, and creating a sense of freedom, leading to organizational growth and development.



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CREATIVE LEARNING

Reflecting Christ's Love through Scholarship in the Missionary Field: John 13:34-35

Longsenti Longkumar
M.Div II



The missionary field, sometimes used interchangeably with the mission field, refers to the global environment in which people and organizations work to promote religion, especially Christianity, while simultaneously attending to the social, educational, and medical needs of diverse groups. It is a multifaceted field where community development, humanitarian assistance, and theological commitment to evangelization meet. The mission field transcends all geographic borders, including urban centers, rural areas, isolated villages, and even politically or socially unstable locations.

In the missionary field, Reflecting Christ's Love through Scholarship combines the arduous pursuit of knowledge and service with the rich legacy of Christian teachings. Jesus gives the central directive in John 13: 34-35 "I give you a new command: Love one another." We, as followers of Him, have to love each other as much as we can because the word of God is clearly mentioned in the Gospel of John 13:34. This way if you love each other, everyone will know that you are the disciples of Jesus Christ. This command not only forms the basis of the Christian faith but also has a significant impact on how research and missionary activity are approached.

Missionaries embody Christ's love by demonstrating compassion, sensitivity to cultural differences, and humility in their work. They respect regional customs, fostering trust and life-changing connections. They assist in social services, healthcare, and education, demonstrating Christ's love in meaningful ways. Love-based approaches in academic and missionary

settings foster connections, improve health outcomes, and strengthen community resilience, requiring perseverance, lifelong learning, and dedication to others' well-being.

Missionary work is grounded in love and respect, focusing on humility, understanding, and trust, honouring local cultures and traditions while sharing Christ's love. Missionaries' effective work involves community needs listening, sustainable development collaboration, and tangible support like education, healthcare, and social services, fostering spiritual growth and social and economic development.

1. Missionary Care

We all know that missions are costly. Sacrifice and suffering are the frequent companions of missionaries. There are high risks and sometimes apparently low gains. World evangelization exacts a price on human resources that can only be balanced by the eternal result that it produces. Sensitive and continuing care is needed to support those called to this divine and demanding task.

2. Missionary must focus on the Poor and the Rich

Throughout church history, the work among the poor has often been regarded as the most 'spiritual' of mission enterprises. Numerous Scripture passages were used to substantiate such thinking; for example, Luke 4:18-19. Today the poor, the persecuted, the so-called 'voiceless' and 'faceless,' are often

marginalised, ignored, or forgotten. The mission still needs a host of servant-leaders like Mother Teresa to work among such people. The cry of the urban poor, for instance, needs more practical response than it is receiving today. Throughout church history, the work among the poor has often been regarded as the most 'spiritual' of mission enterprises. Numerous Scripture passages were used to substantiate such thinking; for example, Luke 4:18-19. Today the poor, the persecuted, the so-called 'voiceless' and 'faceless,' are often marginalised, ignored, or forgotten. Mission still needs a host of servant-leaders like Mother Teresa to work among such people. The cry of the urban poor, for instance, needs more practical response than it is receiving today.

3. The Significance of Love in Missionary Work and Academic Achievement

Academic institutions and mission organizations can embody Christ's love by creating environments that are nurturing, supportive, and respectful. For scholars, this means pursuing knowledge not just for personal gain, but to benefit society and uplift others. Missionaries can reflect Christ's love by engaging in service that respects and honours the cultures and traditions of the communities they serve.

4. Long-Term Dedication and Ecological and Sustainability

An essential element of successful mission work is sustainability. A sustained dedication to the people one serves is necessary to reflect Christ's love, making sure that projects are viable and have a lasting effect. This entails ongoing assistance, monitoring, and program modification to accommodate changing needs. It is imperative that missionaries and scholars strive to increase local competence their own. Maintaining the results of missionary and academic endeavours requires long-term collaborations founded on respect for one another and common objectives.



Christian Perspectives on Intellectual Humility and Love

A.S Shangreichan
M.Div II



Introduction

Intellectual humility, in its simplest form, is the recognition of our limited understanding and the willingness to learn from others. In Christianity, love is the foundation of faith, where believers are called to reflect Christ's love in every aspect of life. When combined, intellectual humility and love guide Christians toward living a life of grace, empathy, and respect for others. This article explores the Christian perspective on intellectual humility and love, and how these virtues shape a more Christ-centered life.

1. Intellectual Humility in Christian Teaching

In the Bible, humility is a fundamental virtue, one that God greatly values. Philippians 2:3 teaches, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves." This passage reflects the heart of intellectual humility acknowledging that our understanding is limited and that others may hold insights we do not possess. When we see in Proverbs 11:2 also states, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." Intellectual humility encourages believers to approach life with a learning heart, understanding that no one has perfect knowledge except God.

2. Jesus Himself embodied humility

In Philippians 2:5-8, Paul describes how Christ, despite being divine, "humbled himself" and became a servant. His example teaches Christians to adopt

a similar mindset of humility, recognizing that knowledge without humility can lead to pride. By following Jesus' example, Christians are called to be open to correction and growth, which nurtures a spirit of intellectual humility.

3. The Role of Love in Christianity

At the core of Christianity is love. Jesus commands His followers in John 13:34-35 to "love one another as I have loved you." This love is not just emotional or sentimental but is expressed through selflessness, service, and sacrifice. Paul emphasizes in 1 Corinthians 13 that love is the highest of all virtues, greater than faith or knowledge. Without love, even the greatest intellectual achievements are meaningless.

Christ's life demonstrated what it means to love deeply and sacrificially. His love was not dependent on others' worthiness or status. Instead, it was given freely to all, even to those who opposed Him. This kind of love calls Christians to embrace a selfless attitude, always seeking the best for others.

4. Interconnection between Intellectual Humility and Love

When intellectual humility and love intersect, they create an environment of respect, understanding, and openness. Intellectual humility helps Christians approach others with a teachable spirit, valuing their perspectives without arrogance. This humility encourages the Christian to listen more and speak less, fostering genuine relationships rooted in love.

Love, in turn, helps moderate knowledge, ensuring that it is not wielded as a weapon to assert superiority. In 1 Corinthians 8:1, Paul warns “knowledge puffs up while love builds up.” Love ensures that knowledge is used to edify, not to dominate, and promotes an attitude of service rather than pride.

5. Practical Applications in Christian Life

In practical terms, intellectual humility and love should shape how Christians engage in conversations, particularly in areas of disagreement. Rather than striving to win arguments or prove others wrong, believers are called to listen with empathy and respond with grace. Even in the pursuit of knowledge,

Christians must balance their intellectual pursuits with compassion, remembering that love is what defines a true disciple of Christ.

Conclusion

Intellectual humility and love are two essential virtues that, when combined, create a life of grace and wisdom. Christians are called to live in humility, recognizing their own limitations, while at the same time, practicing selfless love that reflects Christ’s heart. Together, these values help believers navigate life’s complexities with compassion, kindness, and an open heart. Through humility and love, Christians can truly reflect the image of Christ to the world.



FOUNDATION DAY

Embodying servanthood Leadership in scholarship

Dik Mai
B.Th. 3rd year



Introduction

Servant leadership, deeply rooted in biblical principles, emphasizes leading through serving others rather than exercising power or control. This model of leadership is distinct from traditional approaches, as it prioritizes the well-being, growth, and development of those being led. Jesus exemplifies servant leadership through His humility, compassion, and service, providing a powerful model for modern leaders, especially within the academic setting.

1. *Theological Foundations for Servant Leadership*

- ▶ Jesus as the Ultimate Servant Leader: Jesus's life and teachings reveal His commitment to servant leadership. In Matthew 20:25-28, He tells His disciples that true greatness is found in servitude: "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave." His words emphasize humility and selflessness, highlighting that He came to serve, not to be served. A follower of Christ should avoid seeking high positions to gain power and control over others. True influence is rooted in humility and serving others.
- ▶ Foot Washing as an Act of Service: In John 13:1-17, Jesus performs a humble act of washing His disciples' feet, a task usually assigned to servants. By doing so, He models humility and love, encouraging His followers to emulate this servant-hearted approach. This is one of the most challenging aspects of leadership because

human nature tends to be selfish. However, it can be achieved through a daily commitment to live according to the Word of God and to follow His will, learning to love like Christ. Sometimes, leaders may falter when they prioritize their own desires over the will of God.

2. *Servant Leadership in Scholarship Context*

Applying servant leadership principles in scholarship involves focusing on students' and colleagues' growth and success, fostering collaborative environments, and actively supporting their development. Some practical ways servant leadership can manifest in academics include:

- ▶ Mentorship and Guidance: Academic leaders prioritize mentorship, nurturing students' unique abilities and guiding them to become self-motivated and ethical contributors. This approach mirrors Jesus' mentorship of His disciples. Leaders must understand the feelings, needs, problems, struggles, and weaknesses of their members, as this helps foster a better life in academia. Good communication and praying with members can lead to growth and progress throughout the academic journey.
- ▶ Modeling Integrity and Ethical Behavior: Servant leaders empower students and colleagues, encouraging ownership of their learning and contributions. This is akin to how Jesus empowered His disciples, giving them

authority and responsibility to continue His work. Empowering requires mutual trust, which demonstrates the value of each team member and strengthens the team as a unified whole. If a leader does not trust their staff or members, that leadership is likely to fail.

Positive Impact of Servant Leadership on Scholarship

Servant leadership fosters a supportive academic environment that promotes personal growth, resilience, and ethical thinking. This approach not only prepares students to lead with integrity but also strengthens the academic community by instilling values of humility, compassion, and respect. In addition to the benefits of servant leadership, mentorship and guidance play an important role, as leaders must understand the feelings, needs, problems, struggles, and weaknesses of others to help them develop a better life.

Modelling Integrity and Ethical Behavior: Servant leaders act with honesty and integrity, setting a positive example that encourages open communication and creates an environment where people feel comfortable, accountable, and valued.

Empowering Others: Building trust, valuing each individual, and empowering others are essential benefits for future ministry work. This approach also aids practical ministry by fostering confidence, boldness, cross-cultural understanding, and effective decision-making.

Conclusion/ implication

By embodying servant leadership in scholarship, leaders can reflect the biblical principles taught by Jesus. Prioritizing the growth of others, creating inclusive environments, and demonstrating ethical behaviour bring lasting benefits, shaping future leaders who value service over power. In doing so, scholarly communities establish a foundation of compassion, humility, and service that aligns with the model of Christ.

Leaders must seek first the will of God and rely on His guidance. Many leaders exist, but only a few truly succeed, as most begin their work based on their own opinions and knowledge rather than putting God's will first. Remember, servant leadership is not about how one leads people; it is about serving others. By serving, a servant leader can be more effective in future ministry and bring glory to God.



Christian Academic Stewardship

Ram Ceu Thang Cangmah
B.Th 3rd Year



Introduction

Christian academic stewardship means using our knowledge, skills, and opportunities in school or university to honour God and serve others. As Christians, we must believe that education is a blessing from above God, because knowledge we can gain from reading books or from teachers, but wisdom is a blessing from God. However, this blessing gives us to help, grow, contribute positively to society, and live according to His will. Moreover, Academic stewardship is not just about achieving good grades but also about how we use our education to fulfil God's purposes in our lives and in the lives of others. However, this article will explore three main points that can help Christians practice academic stewardship effectively.

1. Recognising Education as a Blessing from God

The first step in practising Christian academic stewardship is to understand that education is a blessing from God. Not everyone has the chance to attend school or university, and having the opportunity to learn is something to be grateful for. When we see our studies as a blessing, it changes how we approach learning. Rather than seeing school as a burden or focusing only on getting high grades, we begin to see learning as a way to develop the abilities God has given us. When we view education as a blessing, we become more motivated to study with a sense of purpose. We are reminded to do our

best, knowing that we are growing in knowledge and skills to serve God in various ways. This perspective encourages us to be diligent and appreciate the learning process, recognizing that each subject can be valuable in God's plan for us.

2. Using Academic Abilities to Serve Others

Christian academic stewardship also involves using our knowledge and skills to benefit others. As we grow in learning, God calls us to apply what we know to help and uplift people around us when we see in (Hebrews 13:16) and (Ephesians 4:29). For example, students can use their understanding of subjects like science, technology, or literature to volunteer in their communities, tutor other students, or support church projects. Serving others with our academic abilities teaches us humility and compassion. It reminds us that education is not solely for personal gain but also for sharing God's love and wisdom with others. By using our talents to benefit those around us, we become stewards of God's gifts, living in a way that reflects His love.

3. Maintaining Integrity in Our Studies

Academic integrity is a vital part of Christian stewardship. Integrity in academics means being honest and truthful in all areas of study. It includes avoiding dishonest practices like cheating, plagiarism, or misrepresenting one's work. As Christians, we are called to be a light in the world, and one way

to do this is by upholding high standards of honesty in academics. When we maintain integrity, we show respect for God, ourselves, and our peers. We trust that God values our efforts more than just the results. This honest approach allows us to grow with humility, knowing that we are truly learning and developing rather than taking shortcuts. Practising academic integrity also sets a positive example for others, showing that success achieved through honesty is more fulfilling.

Conclusion

Therefore, as I conclude Christian academic stewardship means viewing education as a precious blessing, using our knowledge to serve others, and practising integrity. By keeping these principles in mind, we can honour God through our studies and make a positive impact on the lives of others. Stewardship in academics teaches us to use our blessings such as guiding others and leading in the right direction so, it helps us grow not only in knowledge but also in faith and character. Through these efforts, we fulfil God's calling to be faithful stewards, reflecting His love and wisdom in all we do.



GIVING AWAY COAT OF ARMS



Demonstrating Love Through Action

Khawang Konyak
B.Th 3rd Year



Being a Christian isn't just about attending every church service. It goes beyond that it's about demonstrating love to others through our actions. Loving others is not merely a command; it is an opportunity to reflect God's love for the world. There are countless ways to express this love. This topic explores how to reflect Christ's love to others through our actions. These are simple yet impactful steps that anyone can take, regardless of their faith.

1. Acts of Kindness

Kindness is a universal language that resonates with everyone, regardless of faith or background. As Christians, we are called to love our neighbours as ourselves, which means extending kindness even when it feels inconvenient or is not reciprocated. Simple acts of kindness like offering a helping hand, giving up your seat on the bus, or simply listening to someone who needs to talk can make a significant impact on someone's day. Though these gestures may seem small, they are powerful expressions of love. They demonstrate that you value and care for others' well-being. Remember, it's not about grand gestures or extraordinary sacrifices; it's about showing love through your everyday interactions.

When the opportunity knocks to help someone arises, don't hesitate. Take it as a chance to reflect God's love through your actions. Just ensure that your acts of kindness are genuine, without ulterior motives or pretence. In doing so, you can truly reflect Christ's love in an authentic and meaningful way.

2. Forgiveness

A vital aspect of being a Christian and showing love to others is through forgiveness. I once faced a situation where I was deeply hurt by a close friend. Initially, my heart was filled with resentment and anger, and forgiving them felt impossible. However, I was reminded of the countless times God has forgiven me. How could I cling to bitterness when I had received such abundant mercy? I prayed for the strength to forgive, and while the process wasn't quick or easy, it was transformative. Over time, I was able to move past the pain and forgive my friend. This act of forgiveness not only released my friend from guilt but also freed me from the burden of resentment. It brought healing and peace that I could not have experienced if I had held on to my anger. Through this personal experience, I've come to understand that forgiveness is a powerful way to express love. It's not about forgetting the wrongs done to us but about choosing love over bitterness. Let's strive to forgive as we have been forgiven and reflect Christ's love through our actions.

3. Sharing Resources

In the early Christian church, sharing was a fundamental way of life. The book of Acts recounts how believers would sell their possessions and goods, distributing the proceeds to anyone in need. While we may not be called to give up everything we own, we can certainly draw inspiration from their

example. Sharing our resources whether it's our time, talents, or material blessings is a practical and meaningful way to demonstrate love to others. When we share, we do more than meet someone's needs; we acknowledge that everything we have is a gift from God, entrusted to us for His glory. The next time an opportunity to share arises, embrace it as a chance to put love into action. A simple act of generosity can have a profound impact, often far greater than we realize.

4. Encouragement

Life can be challenging, and we all face difficulties that can sometimes feel overwhelming. As Christians, one powerful way we can show love to others is through encouragement. Encouragement can take many forms: a kind word to someone who is struggling, a note of appreciation to someone who has done well, or even a simple smile to brighten someone's day. Encouragement not only uplifts others, but it also reflects the love and hope we have in Christ. Keep in mind that everyone is fighting their own battles, many of which we may not be aware of. Your words of encouragement might be just what someone needs to keep moving forward. Let's make it a habit to encourage one another and build each other up, as Scripture teaches us to do.

5. Expressing Empathy

In a world where it's easy to become consumed by our own needs, taking the time to empathize with others can be a powerful way to show love. Empathy goes beyond simply understanding another person's feelings; it's about sharing in their emotions, whether joy or sorrow, and assuring them they're not alone. When we show empathy, we reflect the compassion Christ has for us. It involves stepping outside our comfort zone and entering someone else's world, even if only for a moment. I've found that one of the most meaningful ways to express empathy is through simply listening. By doing this, we validate the other person's feelings without judging or attempting to fix their problems. While showing empathy may not solve the issues at hand, it provides comfort and reassurance that they are seen, heard, and valued. This in itself is a powerful demonstration of love.

6. Living Out the Gospel

At the core of Christianity is the Gospel the good news of Jesus Christ. There is no better way to show love to others than by living out this message in our daily lives. Living out the Gospel means loving others as Jesus loved us. It involves setting aside our own needs and desires for the sake of others and showing grace, mercy, and kindness, even when it's not deserved. Remember, the world will recognize us as Christians by our love. So, let's aim to live out the Gospel every day, demonstrating love through our actions and reflecting Christ in all that we do. The essence of Christianity is loving a love that is selfless, sacrificial, forgiving, and enduring. This love was perfectly exemplified by Jesus Christ, and it is what we are called to reflect in our daily lives.

Conclusion

The six ways we've explored are not just actions; they are expressions of this divine love. While they are not exhaustive, they offer a starting point for actively demonstrating our faith. Whether it's extending kindness, offering forgiveness, sharing resources, encouraging others, expressing empathy, or living out the Gospel, each act of love has the power to profoundly impact a life. As the Apostle Paul wrote in his first letter to the Corinthians, "And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love." As we go through our days, let's aim to show this greatest gift through our actions. At the end of the day, actions speak louder than words. Love is more than just a feeling; it's a choice, a commitment, and an action. For Christians, showing love through actions is not just about improving the world; it's about becoming more like Christ. This is what being a Christian truly means becoming little Christs in this world. Therefore, let's choose to love, not just in words, but in deeds.

"True Christianity is not just about attending church but about living out God's love in our daily actions — through kindness, forgiveness, generosity, encouragement, empathy, and embodying the Gospel."

Spiritual Formation and Academic Excellence

Cang Mai
B.Th 3rd Year



Introduction

Spiritual formation and academic excellence are essential aspects of personal growth. Spiritual formation involves aligning with one's beliefs, values, and sense of purpose, while academic excellence emphasizes achieving strong results in education. Many people recognize that both spiritual and academic development are vital for leading a balanced and meaningful life.

1. Spiritual Formation Builds Self-discipline

Spiritual formation fosters self-discipline, which is essential for academic success. Spiritual practices, such as prayer and meditation, encourage regularity and intentionality in daily life. Similarly, in academics, self-discipline is crucial for studying consistently, completing assignments on time, and preparing effectively for exams. Students who develop discipline are less likely to fall behind or be distracted. Since spiritual practices instill the value of regular, dedicated effort, they help students maintain consistency and focus in their studies. In this way, spiritual formation directly supports academic achievement by cultivating self-discipline.

2. Spiritual Growth Reduces Stress: Making Academic Challenges Easier to Handle

Another benefit of spiritual formation is that it helps reduce stress. Many students experience pressure to excel academically, which can lead to stress, anxiety,

and even burnout. Spiritual practices, such as prayer, mindfulness, or meditation, help students relax and feel more at peace. When students are less stressed, they can make better decisions and approach challenges more effectively. By reducing stress, spiritual practices enable students to face academic demands with a calm mind. For instance, if a student feels overwhelmed by an upcoming exam, a few moments of meditation or prayer can help them regain focus and confidence. Spiritual formation provides tools for managing emotions and staying centered, which ultimately enhances academic performance. When students are emotionally balanced, they are better equipped to handle the challenges of school.

3. Spiritual Formation Encourages Integrity: Leading to Honest Academic Efforts

Spiritual growth often involves embracing and practising values such as honesty, kindness, and integrity. In academics, integrity is crucial for meaningful learning and genuine success. Students guided by spiritual values are more likely to approach their studies with sincerity and respect for the learning process. For instance, students who value honesty will avoid cheating or plagiarizing and instead focus on putting in their best effort to learn and understand the material independently. This ethical approach to academics fosters authentic learning, which paves the way for lasting success. By adhering to spiritual values, students recognize the importance of hard work and respecting the academic process. This mindset not only motivates them to achieve success

with integrity but also lays a strong foundation for their future endeavors.

4. Spiritual Formation Helps: Students Find Purpose, Motivating them in School

A sense of purpose is a powerful motivator, and spiritual formation helps students discover deeper meaning in their lives, including their academic pursuits. When students have a clear sense of purpose, they view their education not merely as a series of tasks but as a pathway to achieving their broader goals and making a positive impact. For instance, a student who believes their studies can enable them to serve others or contribute to society is more likely to remain focused and dedicated. Spiritual formation provides students with the resilience to overcome challenges and setbacks in school. Understanding that their efforts serve a greater purpose motivates

them to persevere and strive for academic excellence. Students who align their spiritual and academic goals often feel more fulfilled and driven to succeed.

Conclusion

Spiritual formation and academic excellence are deeply interconnected, complementing and reinforcing each other in various ways. Through spiritual formation, students cultivate self-discipline, learn effective stress management, uphold integrity, and discover a sense of purpose. These qualities significantly enhance their academic performance. As students grow spiritually, they develop into well-rounded individuals equipped for academic success and prepared to contribute positively to their communities. Striking a balance between spiritual growth and academic achievement fosters a fulfilling and meaningful life, nurturing both the heart and the mind.



Christian Scholarship and Public Engagement

Zingpar
B.Th 3rd Year



Today's world is full of big questions about justice, technology, climate, and more that affect us all. Christian scholars have a unique role to play beyond the walls of classrooms and churches. They're called to engage with society, bringing faith-based insights and compassion to today's biggest issues. This means more than sharing personal beliefs; it involves addressing important public topics in ways that are thoughtful, relevant, and grounded in faith. Let's look at some ways in which Christian scholarship can make a difference in the public sphere. In today's world, Christian scholarship has a meaningful role to play in public life, bringing the light of the Gospel into real-world issues. Christian scholars are called to do more than study theology for its own sake; they are invited to connect faith with the pressing concerns of society, like justice, ethics, and community well-being. Rooted in a belief that all truth points to God, Christian scholarship offers perspectives that are not only intellectually solid but also deeply compassionate. It stands as a unique witness in a time when society is hungry for wisdom and direction.

Christian scholars help bridge faith and knowledge, showing that Christian beliefs and reason can work together to bring clarity and hope. By participating in public conversations, they can model Christ's love and humility, especially in a world often divided by differences. In areas like technology, bioethics, and care for the environment, they remind society of the importance of ethical responsibility. Their work also equips the Church to respond wisely to current

challenges, providing guidance on how to live out biblical principles in ways that make a real difference and to shed light on some of today's most complex challenges. Their work emphasizes that theology is not an isolated or abstract pursuit but something that shapes real lives and offers answers to real questions. Especially in a world often divided by differing beliefs and ideologies, their presence in these spaces promotes understanding and offers a voice of unity and respect.

As new developments in technology and science emerge—such as artificial intelligence, bioethics, and environmental concerns—Christian scholars bring ethical perspectives rooted in respect for human dignity and care for creation. Their engagement reminds society that progress should always be guided by responsibility and respect for others. In doing so, Christian scholars help set a moral compass, encouraging practices that honor both people and the planet.

In addition to impacting the public sphere, Christian scholarship also strengthens and equips the Church. Scholars provide guidance to pastors, leaders, and laypeople alike, offering insights on how to respond to contemporary issues through a biblical lens. By addressing topics like justice, peace, and stewardship, they empower the Church to be a thoughtful and effective presence in the world. This work encourages believers to think deeply about how to live out biblical principles, showing that faith is not only personal but also socially transformative.

Applying their knowledge to bring healing and hope. By engaging with society's. Through Christian scholarship, believers are reminded of the call to love and serve others as Jesus did. By engaging with the world's needs and issues, Christian scholars help society envision a more just, compassionate, and hopeful future a vision aligned with God's kingdom. In this way, Christian scholarship is both a form of worship and a witness to the transforming power of the Gospel, offering God's truth and love to a world that deeply needs it. of worship and a witness to the

In a world that deeply needs both truth and grace, Christian scholarship brings a light that can guide and uplift, offering a vision of what life can look like when it is aligned with God's purposes. By engaging thoughtfully, Christian scholars reflect God's love and wisdom, becoming a blessing to society and a reminder of the hope that faith brings. Through their work, they reveal a Gospel that not only speaks to individual hearts but also offers answers to the big questions facing our communities, cultures, and world today.



Mess hall



Reflecting Christ's love in our student life

Susanto Narzary
B.Th 3rd Year



What do you see when you look in a mirror? Or what do others see about you when they look at you? So today we are going to talk about reflecting Christ's love in our student life. When we look into a mirror we know what to expect to see. We see the reflection of our own face or Body. When we look in social media at pictures of ourselves we see the activities we participate in and the places we go along with the people we spend time with. This is a reflection of our life. But today we are talking about Christ's reflection in Student life. Let's begin by Reflecting Christ's love as a student involves a living out of kindness, patience, humility, and genuine care for others in every interaction. The Bible calls us to let our light shine Matthew 5:16. So, those others may see God's love through us. In our studies and friendships reflecting Christ has to do with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, (Col. 3:12-14) all qualities we have to practice daily in our student life. This love is an action that speaks louder than words, especially in a learning environment.

For students or young people reflecting Christ's love in daily life is a powerful witness to the world. Jesus commanded in John 13:34-35 Love one another as I have loved you, as a student we must also love one another, are all about Actions to others not only words. It's very hard sometimes to love each other as a student or young people but Christ commands us to do that. In a busy school or college environment this has to do with patience, obedience towards classmates, teachers or staff and by also honouring, respecting and being obedient. And helping friends to those in need, and showing grace to those who may not always treat us kindly. In Romans 5:8 we have

learnt Christ's love is unconditional while we were still sinners Christ died for us. As students, we are called to reflect this love to others without expecting anything in return. As a student, a powerful way to reflect Christ's love in school or college is through small acts of service helping a classmate, supporting a friend through tough times, or speaking words of encouragement not only that but also we have different ways. In 1 John 4:7-8, we're reminded that God is love, and as His followers, we are called to embody that love in every interaction. As a student you and I can be a living testimony of Christ's love by putting others first, sharing hope, and letting our actions speak louder than words. In doing so, you not only reflect Christ's love but also inspire others to experience it for themselves. In every classroom, there is an opportunity to reflect on the love of Christ. We have to reflect the love of Christ in everything we do especially in how we treat others. Being good, Integrity, Obedience, patience and spending time in the word of God are very important in student life.

As we have talked about Christ's reflection in Student life. Let's remember those powerful words and commands that Christ has given us. Let's be a great light and reflect his love in student life as we are called to live with integrity, compassion, and humility in every interaction, regardless of who's watching. As students we have a unique opportunity to show kindness, understanding, and patience, making the love of Christ tangible to those around us. By respecting others and embracing diversity and lending a helping hand without expecting anything in return we echo the selflessness of Christ. Living this way we become beacons of hope and encouragement and demonstrating a love that uplifts and unites.

Reflecting Christ's love in Academic Relationship

Kampha Konyak
B.Th 3rd Year



Introduction

Reflecting Christ's love in academic relationships means approaching others with kindness, respect, and humility. In our interactions with peers, teachers, and mentors, we can embody Christ's compassion, creating a supportive environment where everyone feels valued. By showing grace and understanding, we not only strengthen our connections but also serve as a witness to Christ's love, and light to shine through our attitudes and actions, and make a positive impact in our academic relationships.

1. Be kind and thoughtful

Being kind and thoughtful toward others reflects God's love and helps create a supportive, uplifting environment. When we approach others with gentleness and empathy, we demonstrate the heart of Christ in our everyday interactions. The Bible reminds us, "Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32). This verse encourages us to embrace kindness and forgiveness, showing compassion to others just as Christ has shown to us. By treating people with thoughtfulness, we spread God's love and contribute to a world that values understanding and respect.

2. Putting others first

Putting others first is a core principle in the Bible, emphasizing love, humility, and selflessness. Philippians 2:3-4 says, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look

not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others." This verse encourages us to prioritize the needs of others and serve them with humility and compassion. Following this teaching nurtures empathy and strengthens relationships, as it reflects the love that God shows us. When we put others first, we embody Christ's example and spread kindness and grace in our daily interactions.

3. Love sacrificially

The ultimate example of love is found in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins. As followers of Christ, we are called to love others as Christ loved us, with a love that is selfless, unconditional, and sacrificial. In this blog post, we will explore the profound implications of Christ's love for us and how we can reflect that love in our relationships with others. The apostle John captures the essence of Christ's love in 1 John 3:16, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters." The sacrificial love of Christ serves as the ultimate example of selflessness and humility, as He willingly gave up His life to redeem humanity and reconcile us to God. This act of love demonstrates the depth of God's love for us and sets a high standard for how we are called to love others.

4. Build real relationships

Building real relationships requires sincerity, kindness, and a foundation rooted in love and trust. The Bible encourages us to form genuine connections, as

seen in Proverbs 17:17: “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.” This verse highlights the importance of being present for one another, especially in difficult moments. True relationships are not superficial, they are built on mutual support, honesty, and compassion. By nurturing real connections, we create bonds that can withstand life’s challenges and reflect God’s love, building a supportive and encouraging community around us.

5. Seeking reconciliation

Christ’s love is transformative and redemptive, and as His followers, we are called to embody that same love in our interactions with others. Reflecting Christ’s love in our relationships requires a willingness to step out of our comfort zones, extend grace to those who may not deserve it, and seek reconciliation and restoration in broken relationships. It means being patient, kind, and compassionate, even when faced with difficult circumstances or challenging individuals. As we strive to love others as Christ loved us, we become vessels of God’s love and bear

witness to the transforming power of His grace in our lives. In a world filled with division, hatred, and selfishness, the call to love others as Christ loved us stands as a powerful testament to the redemptive and transformative nature of God’s love. By embodying Christ’s sacrificial love in our relationships and interactions with others, we reflect the light of His love and draw others closer to Him. May we be inspired by the example of Christ’s love for us and seek to love others with the same selfless and sacrificial love that He has shown us.

Conclusion

Reflecting Christ’s love in our academic relationships enriches both our personal growth and the learning environment around us. By showing kindness, respect, and compassion, we create spaces where others feel valued and supported. This approach not only strengthens our connections but also serves as a powerful testimony of Christ’s love, inspiring others and bringing light to our academic relationships.



The Role of Love in Christian Higher Education

Khin Ya Hmung
B.Th 3rd Year



Introduction

Love is a central theme in Christianity and plays an important role in Christian higher education. The foundation of Christian teaching is based on the belief that God is love and that He calls His followers to show love to others. In a Christian educational environment, love is not only taught but is also an important part of how students and teachers interact with one another. Christian higher education aims to promote academic excellence, personal growth, and spiritual development, all rooted in love. This article will discuss three main roles of love in Christian higher education: creating a caring community, encouraging service to others, and inspiring a love for learning.

1. Love Creates a Caring Community

One of the most important roles of love in Christian higher education is to build a caring and supportive community. Christian schools and universities aim to create an environment where students feel safe, respected, and valued. In a Christian community, love is the foundation of all relationships, from the connection between teachers and students to friendships among classmates.

Teachers and staff members in Christian higher education institutions strive to show God's love in their interactions with students. They are encouraged to listen, offer guidance, and support students during difficult times. This creates an atmosphere where students feel encouraged and understood. When students experience this kind of love, they are more likely to become academically and emotionally. The

caring community allows them to feel confident in expressing themselves, asking questions, and learning from mistakes. Love helps everyone in the community feel like they belong and are valued, which contributes to their overall well-being.

2. Love Encourages Service to Others

Christian higher education also emphasizes the importance of service, teaching students that love should be shown through actions. Jesus taught His followers to love their neighbors and serve others selflessly. In Christian institutions, students learn that true love goes beyond words; it is about serving others with kindness and compassion.

Many Christian colleges and universities encourage students to volunteer in their communities, participate in service projects, or even engage in mission trips. These opportunities allow students to put their love into action, learning the value of giving and helping others. Service activities teach students empathy and the importance of using their education to make a positive impact on the world. By encouraging service, Christian higher education helps students understand that their learning is not just for personal gain but should be used to help others. This focus on service reflects the heart of Christian love, which is about putting others before oneself.

3. Love Inspires a Passion for Learning

In Christian higher education, love is not only about relationships and service but also about developing a deep love for learning. Christian schools and universities believe that seeking knowledge and

truth is a way to honor God. They teach that God has given everyone unique abilities and talents and that learning helps to develop those gifts.

When students view their education as a way to grow closer to God and serve His purposes, they are often more motivated to learn. Teachers in Christian institutions aim to inspire students to explore their interests, ask questions, and think critically. This approach promotes a love for learning that goes beyond grades or achievements. Students are encouraged to see their studies as a way to grow spiritually and intellectually. A love for learning also helps students to appreciate the beauty and complexity of the world that God created. Christian education teaches students that knowledge can be a way to worship and serve God, making learning a meaningful and joyful experience.

Conclusion

Therefore, love plays an important role in Christian higher education, shaping how students learn, grow, and interact with others. Through love, Christian institutions create caring communities where students feel supported and valued. Love also inspires students to serve others and teaches them that education is a way to make a positive difference in the world. Finally, Christian higher education encourages a love for learning, helping students view their studies as a way to honor God and discover their purpose. By joining love into education, Christian schools and universities prepare students not only to succeed academically but also to lead lives that reflect God's love and make a meaningful impact on the world.



Demonstrating Christ's Love in The Classroom

Sai Aung
B.Th 2nd Year



Introduction

First of all one needs to understand that Christian life has the mission to reflect Christ's love in both education and interpersonal relationships in and out. When we really know God and practice His love the classroom becomes not only a place of education but also spiritual formation has been developed. Teachers, as representatives of Christ, are called to create spaces where students experience care, respect, patience, and humility of Christ-like love. Therefore, this paper gives very clear knowledge of demonstrating Christ's love in the classroom.

1. Theological Foundation of Christ's Love

The love of Christ is most clearly revealed in the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Central to Christian theology is the belief that Jesus's life was marked by self-sacrifice, service, and compassion. In John 13:34, Jesus commands, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." This command speaks to a love that is in humans are limited but true followers of Christ are characterized by grace, forgiveness, and a deep commitment to the well-being of others. So, this biblical mandate challenges us to embody these attributes within our teaching classroom which will not only grow in intellect but also our hearts.

2. Creating a Loving Classroom

Demonstrating Christ's love in the classroom starts with having a compassionate attitude toward each

student. As we are theologians we know that Jesus' ministry was filled with examples of compassion towards those who were struggling or needy, such as his healing of the sick or his encounter with the woman at the well (John 4:1-26). This teaches us that in a classroom we should pay attention to the needs of our classmates, recognise their individual challenges, and provide support that is not only for academic but emotional and spiritual needs. Christ-centered teachers and students in class strive to meet each student their weakness and needs, knowing that Christ's love in us involves patience and kindness (1 Corinthians 13:4).

► A. Forgiveness and Grace

Christ's love is rooted in forgiveness, so when we follow this principle in our classroom, there is a transformation taking place. As I used to experience in learning classroom mistakes are unavoidable. Rather than arguing and fighting, we should encourage and forgive each other as we grow through grace. Understanding the mistakes is part of the learning process. Just as Christ forgave freely (Matthew 18:21-22), we practice forgiveness, help classmates, and understand that everyone is valued even when we fail. This approach encourages a happy environment so that everyone in the class can happily learn without fear of harsh judgment.

► B. Promoting Justice and Fairness

We have learned that Jesus' ministry was characterized by a concern for justice, particularly for the oppressed

and despised (Luke 4:18-19). So, this has taught us in our classroom, that we must have a commitment to equity and fairness not mistreating anyone. That is why a teacher demonstrating Christ's love is very important and ensures all students are treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their background or ability. This might involve differentiated instruction to meet diverse learning needs or advocating for students who may not have the same opportunities as others. By promoting justice, we reflect the inclusive nature of Christ's love, ensuring that no student is overlooked or mistreated.

► C. Servant Leadership

Jesus has laid the greatest example for us to be a true servant by washing His disciples' feet, this exemplifies true servant leadership (John 13:1-17). So, today in our classroom, we must demonstrate Christ's love by adopting a humble service, viewing classmates with a helping mind not as one of authority and control but as one of service to our dear brother and sister. We are to consider it as a call of duty for God's service. A servant-leader in the classroom prioritizes the needs of others over our own interests, and modelling humility and selflessness in all interactions is what

makes us true followers of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we theological students need to draw on spiritual disciplines such as prayer, meditation on Scripture, and participation in a faith community to remain spiritually nourished and capable of giving love in the classroom.

Conclusion

I want everyone to understand that demonstrating Christ's love in the classroom is profound and transformative and it is done only by a genuine follower of Christ. It is also another great call for teachers to go beyond the transfer of knowledge, embodying the sacrificial, compassionate, and relational love that Jesus modelled. In doing so, they not only contribute to our intellectual growth but also help our spiritual and emotional development. Encouraging each other in the classroom is always characterized by our care, justice, and service towards fellow friends, reflecting the heart of Christ, and creating a classroom where all students can feel comfortable and experience the love of God in blessed ways. This task is the greatest challenge for us and is central to the mission of Christians and the call to live out the gospel in every area of our lives.



YET, HIS GRACE

Life is not sure where it drives away, and worries in our minds are full.

Yet His grace wipes away each trace of fear.

Sometimes life is not pious, and hardships seem so hard to endure.

Yet His grace comes like a steam, taking away all the nightmares from us!

We are repellent; we are not trustworthy; we are demoralized.

Yet His grace stands firm and strong. Carries us with love along.

Moments are a temporary world, and we feel alone; we feel rejected;
our happiness and joy seem turned to stone.

Yet His grace brings joy and happiness;

grace will softly guide us and hold us close to His inner hearts!

When adversities come, the path of our lives seems filled with dark despair.

Yet His grace, forward the way, gives us strength for every blessing day.

Through every trial, every fall, when we feel broken by it all. Yet

His grace restores our soul and makes us once again feel whole.

Great is your faithfulness; make us excited to follow the eternal highway.

Stuck by the intangible imaginers things middle in the nowhere.

Yet His grace alone is enough for us to bring purpose.

Our dreams and purpose are not working in us,

thinking that we are nobody and thinking that we are not loved by Him.

Yet His grace and love always ignite the flame for us and life anew.

Trials and tests will try to put us down or pull us down.

Yet His grace stands in the valley of victory.

Every grin and every tear, His grace walks with us every step of the way.

Nevertheless, His kind care is always there for us.

His grace ultimately provides us peace when our adventures come to an end,

but it also ensures that our hearts will continue to sing and our spirits will soar forever.



Longsenti Longkumar
M.Div III

AMEN

Reflecting Christ's Love Through Scholarship

Harold Trujillo



Reflecting Christ's Love Through Scholarship

As we gather to celebrate our graduation, it is a moment ripe for reflection—not just on our personal achievements, but also on the deeper values that have guided us throughout our journey. In John 13:34-35, Jesus imparts a profound commandment to His disciples: “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” This scripture not only calls us to embody Christ’s love in our daily lives but also challenges us to reflect that love through the pursuit of knowledge and scholarship.

The Essence of Christ's Love

At its core, Christ’s love is selfless, unconditional, and transformative. It is a love that seeks the well-being of others, encourages growth, and fosters a sense of community. As scholars, we are given the unique opportunity to reflect this love through our academic pursuits. We are called not just to excel individually, but to uplift our communities through the knowledge we acquire and share.

Scholarship as a Means of Service

Scholarship is more than the accumulation of knowledge; it is a tool for service. As we have learned, education empowers us to think critically, analyze deeply, and engage thoughtfully with the world around us. When we approach our studies with a

mindset of love and service, we recognize that our education is not solely for personal advancement but also for the betterment of society.

In practical terms, this means using our skills and knowledge to address injustices, advocate for the marginalized, and support those in need. It means mentoring younger students, volunteering in our communities, and finding ways to apply our expertise for the common good. Each act of service is an expression of Christ’s love, demonstrating that we are indeed His disciples.

Building a Community of Love

Scholarship thrives in a community that values love and mutual support. As we have journeyed through our academic years, we have experienced the power of collaboration. We have relied on one another for encouragement, shared resources, and celebrated each other’s successes. This environment of love fosters not only academic achievement but also personal growth.

In our future endeavors, let us carry this spirit of community forward. Let us create spaces where love and learning coexist—where we lift one another up, recognizing that our individual successes contribute to a collective achievement. By doing so, we reflect Christ’s love in our interactions and relationships, showing the world what it means to be a true disciple.

A Call to Action

As we step into the next chapter of our lives, let us commit to reflecting Christ's love through our scholarship. Let us be intentional in our pursuit of knowledge, ensuring that it serves a greater purpose. Whether we enter the workforce, continue our education, or engage in service, let us carry the essence of John 13:34-35 in our hearts.

Let us ask ourselves: How can we use our education to love others more deeply? How can we inspire those around us to pursue knowledge with a heart of service? How can we ensure that our achievements contribute to the flourishing of our communities and the world?

Conclusion

In closing, as we celebrate our accomplishments today, let us remember that the true measure of our success lies not in our degrees but in how we reflect Christ's love through our scholarship. Let us be known by our love for one another, embodying the teachings of Jesus in every aspect of our lives. Together, we can make a difference, contributing to a world that mirrors the love of Christ—a world that is transformed through knowledge, compassion, and service.

Congratulations to the graduating class! May we go forth, empowered by love, to impact the world for good.





GRADUATING BATCH



M.Div II



B.Th III

Class Photos





CHRISTMAS PROGRAM





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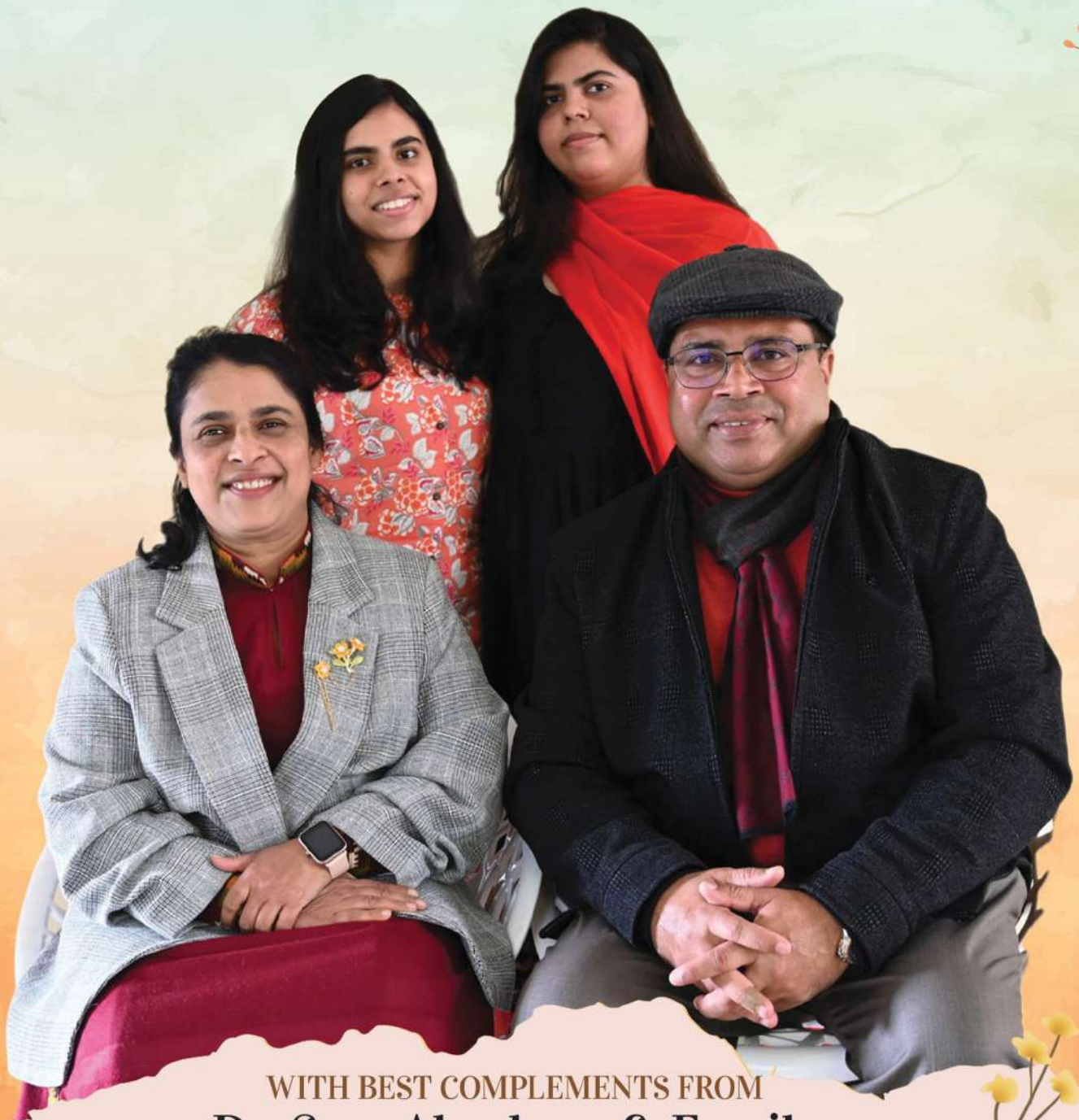
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Admin Secretary



Hephzibah Mary George
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CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

We are proud of you!
Go forth and Shine bright in all you do.



WITH BEST COMPLEMENTS FROM
Dr. Sam Abraham & Family



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