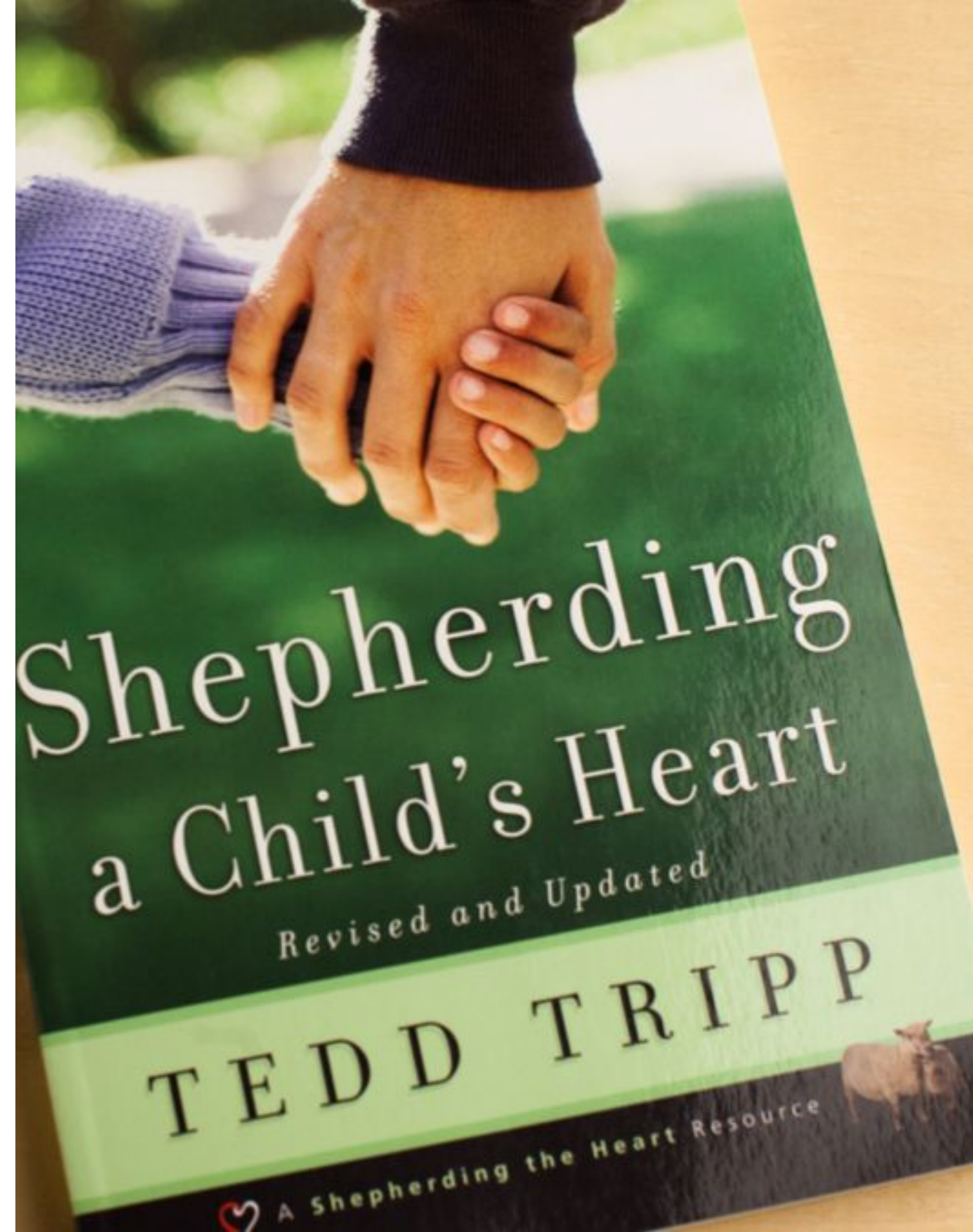


SHAPING ROUND PEGS IN A SQUARE-HOLED WORLD

Getting to the heart of our children through the heart of the gospel.



"If you miss the heart, you miss the gospel."



**Obey right away, all
the way, cheerfully
everyday!**

"If the problem with children is deeper than inappropriate behavior, if the problem is the overflow of the heart, then the need for grace is established. Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life and died as an infinite sacrifice so that children (and their parents) can be forgiven, transformed, liberated and empowered to love God and love others."



We often seek 'good behavior' with no concern for the heart and the driving force behind that behavior.



This means we are focusing on the heart
as the control center of our lives-but what
controls our hearts? Our students' hearts?





**Children are
easily influenced
by the presence
and people
around them.**

**Don't be so busy with all
that you need to convey to
them through the
curriculum that you lose
sight of the paideia.**

“...according to the Godward orientation of their hearts.”

- As educators, we need to look at what we are modeling for them.
- Do you go to church regularly? Where does God rank in your life? And is that clear to your students?

**"You make a grave mistake if
you conclude that
childrearing is nothing more
than providing the best
possible shaping influences
for your children."**

**Bless all yalls
hearts!**



"they are designed with a worship orientation...they are not simply the sum total of what you and I put into them, they interact with life either out of a true covenant of faith or out of an idolatrous covenant of unbelief."

Deuteronomy 6:6-8

"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

what does shepherding look like for a teacher?

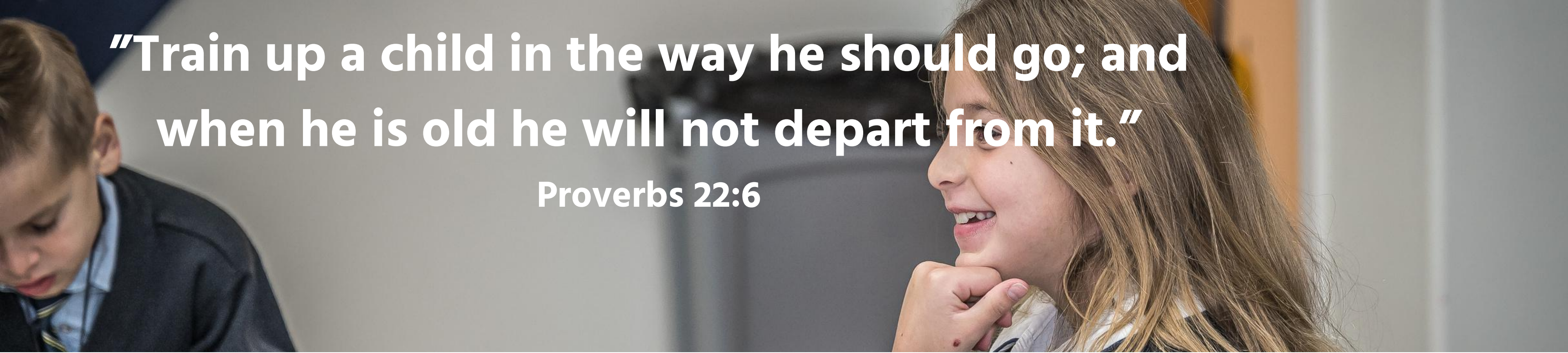
- Being intentional about how you teach.
- Thinking through your classroom routines, methods, foundations and disciplines-based in Scripture and carried out consistently.
- **Seeking to be faithful examples of what God has called us to.**

“No wonder we lose our kids. We lose them because we fail to think clearly about man’s chief end. The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever; therefore, your objective in every context must be to set a biblical worldview before your children. From their earliest days they must be taught that they are creatures made in the image of God-made for God.”

Teach them to work to the best of their ability-in all areas-but first and foremost to the glory of God.



...if you are teaching them that getting good grades in your classroom or school is the measure of that success, then you are also teaching them that it is their performance that defines and controls their happiness, goals and purpose in life.

A photograph of two children in school uniforms. On the left, a young boy with short brown hair is looking down. On the right, a young girl with long brown hair is looking towards the boy, resting her chin on her hand. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

**“Train up a child in the way he should go; and
when he is old he will not depart from it.”**

Proverbs 22:6

“God’s Word must inform not only our goals,
but also our methods.”

Classroom Communication

- Rules, Correction and Discipline
- Encouragement, Correction, Rebuke, Entreaty, Instruction, Warning, Teaching and Prayer.

**"Communication not
only disciplines, it also
disciples. It shepherds
your children in the
ways of God."**

"My son, do not make light of the lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son."

-Hebrews 12:5-6

**Have prayer be a constant and a
theme in your classroom.**



Classroom Management:

- Have it reflect the heart and culture of your school.
- Carry into your classroom a posture of leadership-one that carries with it continued guidance and discipleship over your students.
- Are your expectations and standards predictable? Are you seeking to help cultivate habits?
- The ultimate goal is to create an atmosphere where a student's heart and mind can develop.
- Seek ways to encourage even the most challenging individuals
- Remember-we are seeking to draw the hearts of children to Christ

Discipleship and Shepherding:

- Prayer. Pray for your students, your administration, your parents-pray.
- Think from the student's point of view: sit at their desk-look around the room-is it conducive for learning?
- What is the aesthetic of the classroom?
- Model yourself what you want to see in your students. Teach them through your actions how to love-Christ, each other, their work.
- Do you clearly show what you dislike to your students? Do they then dislike it too?
- Our overall goal should be to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

"Now this is the commandment-the statues and the rules-that the lord your god commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the lord your god, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long."

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

A photograph of two young boys in a classroom. The boy on the left has dark hair and is looking towards the camera with a slightly pouting expression. The boy on the right has light brown hair and is looking down with his mouth open as if speaking. Both boys are wearing dark blue school uniforms with light blue collars and have their right arms raised. The background shows a classroom setting with a whiteboard, a colorful map, and a bookshelf filled with books.

Do you have any questions?

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