



The Lighthouse BEACON

lcaed.com

2024



MADE ^{to} MAKE
DIFFERENCE

For we are his workmanship, created
in Christ Jesus unto good works....

Ephesians 2:10



The Vision of A.C.E.

(Adapted from an address to staff by Mr. Duane Howard at A.C.E.'s International Corporate Offices)

A.C.E. School of Tomorrow® was built upon a solid foundation when it started over 50 years ago. A.C.E.'s history is rich, and it is representative of God's good hand of blessing upon it. While we will not forget our history, we will adapt to the future. Recently I heard someone say, "We need to be anchored to the Rock and geared to the times." The ministry's original vision in 1970 was "a Christian school in every Bible-believing church." Since then, our vision has expanded, as expressed in our current motto, "Reaching the World for Christ . . . One Child at a Time®." We can generally relate A.C.E.'s vision to our motto.

Imagine Christ with His arms stretched out wide—**reaching** for children. Let us be reminded of our Lord Who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." (Mark 10:14) With Him as our example, we are **reaching** the world. That is what we do!

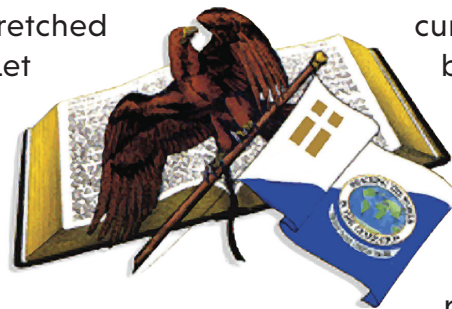
While A.C.E.'s curriculum was never designed to be an elitist program, it is accelerated and advanced. It was designed for everyone with its emphasis on individualization. It was created with every individual child in mind. And while our vision is focused on the individual, it is also broadened to encompass the world. "Reaching **the World** . . ." There are several ways by which we are working intently to do just that.

We are making changes to our distribution processes. Global Advancement works together

with different regions that have their own redistribution systems. They have their own customer service, school services, finance, and local curriculum development departments. We ship containers of PACEs to these entities who aid us in redistribution to more than 145 countries around the world.

While evaluating this arrangement, we have been looking for ways to increase our reach. These discussions led to the exploration of printing PACEs in some redistribution areas. About three years ago, we printed our first color 4th Edition PACEs in the Philippines. We did this not only to print within country but to create a new distribution hub with the intent to bring curriculum prices lower for countries beyond the Philippines. It was God-led as recent events in Russia have made it impossible to distribute curriculum from the United States to Russia. Subsequently, we have been able to get PACEs printed in the Philippines and delivered to Russia. It has been thrilling to watch the Lord open those doors for us and lead us in this path.

Another way we have been working to reach the world is through our ecurriculum. The primary reason we began developing ePACEs is for validation of the A.C.E. curriculum. We did not start producing aceconnect ePACEs so we could appear to be advanced or to show some exciting progress in technology. After all, technology is not what A.C.E. has been about since its founding.



We believe that the addition of ePACE testing gives us the best option to validate the paper PACEs.

The second reason we developed the ecurriculum was for global distribution. There are still some places where we cannot deliver the paper PACEs. These ePACEs allow us to reach one more child in the world with a Christian education.

A.C.E. School of Tomorrow is reaching the world **for Christ!** Our curriculum is unashamedly Christian. Nothing thrills us more than to hear that a child using the PACEs, whether in a homeschool or school environment, gets to a PACE page that asks, "Do you know Jesus as your Lord and Saviour?" If the child says "no," parents and supervisors have an opportunity to lead the child to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Nothing thrills us more than that!

We continually look at every avenue whereby we can reach the world for Christ by adding more Scripture and character building into the A.C.E. program. That is our vision—to continue looking for ways to incorporate the message of salvation into the A.C.E. program. Ultimately we want children to know Jesus Christ as their Saviour and reinforce in their lives the character traits of Jesus Christ.

While A.C.E. continues to add Scripture and character building, there is no room in the materials for critical race theory or the gender ideology that is being promoted in the world today. Instead, we are "Reaching the World for Christ . . . **One Child at a Time.**" We are reaching the world with Biblical individualization. Our desire is to help each child understand that he was created as an individual, in the image of God, as a child of God, but not as an independent thinker separate from God.

The A.C.E. program has a number of hallmarks, such as mastery-based learning and individualization. Anyone affiliated with A.C.E. has heard those terms. They are part of our vision to reach each individual child for Christ. We are going to remain focused on reaching both the mind and the heart of every child for the Lord.

Back in the 1980s, A.C.E.'s co-founder Dr. Donald Howard was invited to come to the White



House in Washington, D.C., to meet with President Ronald Reagan. They and some others discussed education in the United States of America. A few months after that meeting with President Reagan, a new educational report was released called *A Nation At Risk* (a term Dr. Howard used often). It is possible that A.C.E.'s influence, through the Holy Spirit, later led to the authorization of No Child Left Behind under President George W. Bush.

A.C.E. has influenced America and the world with individualization. While we build on our foundation, know that the vision continues. A.C.E. was built on the foundations of Scripture and Jesus Christ. Individualization and mastery-based learning are hallmarks of A.C.E., but we are first and foremost Biblical.

A.C.E. has another motto—"Where the Scriptures Reign Paramount." It is our vision to make sure that the Scriptures remain paramount in everything that we do. We are going to provide a Biblical education. Graduation is important, but salvation is more important. That is the underlying aspect of our vision here at A.C.E., and we are going to continue adding Bible and character building throughout the materials. Reaching the world for Christ . . . one child at a time is not just **what** we do, but reaching the world for Christ . . . one child at a time is **why** we do what we do.



Character Counts: Affectionate

What a great privilege our young people have to serve the Lord by helping where needed in their church and community! It gives them an opportunity to learn and grow spiritually as well as be a huge help to others. Miriam has such an opportunity as shown in this character strip. Miriam is volunteering to help with younger children by telling them a Bible story. She shows a love and compassion for the children and is even commended for her work. She deflects praise to herself by giving thanks to the Lord for the opportunity she has to serve and share the love of Jesus with others. She demonstrates a genuine affectionate spirit toward the children.

Affectionate is defined in the PACEs as demonstrating the same Godly love and compassion for others as Jesus Christ exhibited. The character traits affectionate and loving are very similar traits with different origins. Affectionate comes from the Greek word *phileō*, which means a friendship love. Loving comes from the Greek word *agapaō*, which means a Godly love.

Scripture commands us to have the right kind of affections. *Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love [phileō]; in honour preferring one another.* (Romans 12:10) *Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.* (Colossians 3:2) *So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also*

our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. (I Thessalonians 2:8)

There are many examples of affection in the Bible. King David exhibited this when he restored all of the land of King Saul to Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth. While the common practice of worldly kings was to eliminate the heirs of deposed royalty, David showed Christlike affection by saying, *Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table.* (II Samuel 9:10) David's affection for his friend was evident through his actions toward Jonathan's son.

Another example of affection in Scripture is found in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Not only had the wounded man been robbed, badly beaten, and left for dead, but those who hailed from the realm of religion and prestige passed him by. The Samaritan, who had the least amount to gain and the most to lose, showed true affection. How much more has our Saviour's affection impacted our lives and countless others throughout history!

If we reflect a small fragment of Jesus' love and compassion, it can be a testament of what He has done for us to a world in desperate need of His affection. May we be Christlike examples to all we encounter as we demonstrate affection for God's Word, God's work, God's house, and God's people.

Merit Incentives Reimagined

One of the driving forces of student success in the A.C.E. program is motivation. Unlike many other educational systems, students using A.C.E. take personal responsibility for their learning. By training them to take ownership of their work, students develop good work habits that they will need in the future. Parents face the challenge of how to best encourage this motivation. One tool available is A.C.E. Character Counts Merit Certificates.

When you see your child demonstrating Godly character—such as hard work, kindness, or a servant's spirit—you can immediately point out the trait exhibited and present a Merit Certificate. All children appreciate someone noticing their good character. If you look for the good in your child and then give recognition for good behavior, you help reinforce the behavior, which in turn builds good character. What you encourage and make a priority in your child today is what will become a part of his character tomorrow.

The front of the Merit Certificate lists many of the character traits of Christ. The back is blank to allow space for your child's name, date, and a written reason for the recognition. You should show your child the direct correlation between his action and the trait of Christ that he exhibited. For example:

- When your child overcomes a challenging PACE or gets his goals done for a full week, issue a certificate for "diligent," "faithful," or "responsible."
- When your child shows a good attitude toward a challenging rule or policy, issue a certificate for "submissive," "flexible," or "longsuffering."
- When your child willingly volunteers to assist with a task, issue a certificate for "ready," "committed," or "available."

- When your child tells the truth while knowing that there will be consequences, issue a certificate for "honest," "integrity," "righteous," or "pure."

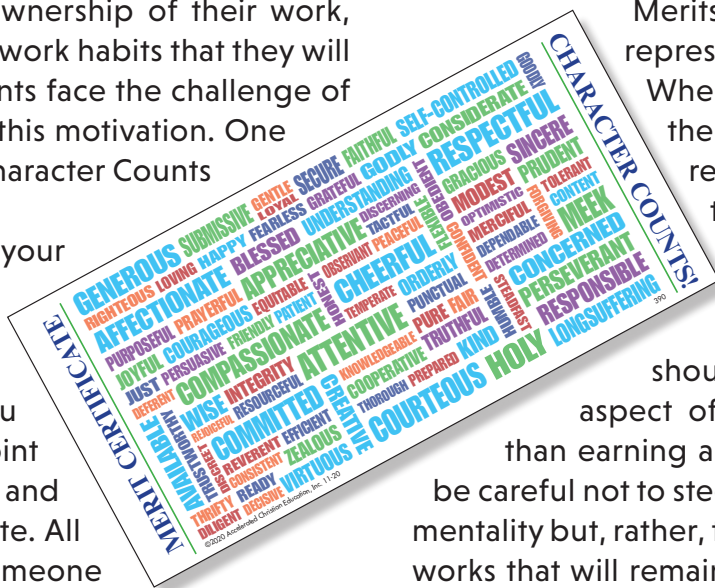
Merits serve as a tangible representation of eternal rewards.

When earthly goods are not the motivation, children are reminded that honoring the Lord should drive their character. When recognizing your child with merits, the emphasis

should be on the spiritual aspect of what he has done rather than earning a prize or honor. You should be careful not to steer him toward a materialistic mentality but, rather, to admonish him to produce works that will remain. *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.* (Matthew 6:19, 20)

It is without question that each parent as a Biblical educator must also be a person of Jesus' character—a living epistle, an open book, the type of person after whom children should pattern their lives. As your children see Godly character in your life, they will be motivated to display those traits in their own lives. The things you do, say, or leave undone will have an eternal effect on their lives.

In addition to Merit Certificates, other character-building resources include the *Character Counts: A.C.E. Handbook for Success* devotional book and the Character Traits of Jesus flashcards. Parents can incorporate these materials to help their children see Who Jesus really is and how they can be more like Him. These materials and several other Character Counts items can be found at aceschooloftomorrow.com/store.



The logo for aceconnect, featuring the word "ace" in a stylized yellow font and "connect" in a dark blue font, with a registered trademark symbol.The logo for Readmaster, featuring the word "READMASTER" in white capital letters on a red rectangular background.The logo for Typemaster, featuring the word "TYPMASTER" in white capital letters on a dark grey rectangular background.The logo for Mathbuilder, featuring the word "MATHBUILDER" in white capital letters on a yellow rectangular background.The logo for Wordbuilder, featuring the word "WORDBUILDER" in white capital letters on a purple rectangular background.

Supplemental Enrichment Programs Now Available!

Do you have a child who needs extra work in a certain subject? The suite of programs offered by aceconnect™ may have the tools needed to help him master what he is learning. Readmaster®, Typemaster®, Mathbuilder™, and Wordbuilder™ have been revised to enhance each user's experience. Whether your child needs extra work in reading, typing, math, or spelling, these programs are the perfect supplement to PACEs.

Readmaster is the ultimate reading comprehension aid for students using the A.C.E. program. It helps improve reading speed and comprehension. Students are introduced to vocabulary words on their reading level, read engaging stories at an automated speed, and answer questions for comprehension. Readmaster covers Levels 1–12.

Typemaster is an all-in-one typing program that helps students learn to type and improve keyboarding skills. Once they learn how to position their hands and fingers on the keyboard, the program works to increase speed and accuracy. The program is split into two categories. Sections 1–3 are ideal for young students. Sections 4–6 feature drills to strengthen the skill and speed of older students.

Mathbuilder is a fun, challenging program that sharpens students' math skills. The program allows the parent to choose the specific skill on which his

child may need drill. Activities include adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, decimals, fractions, telling time, and counting money. This program is ideal for students in Levels 1–6.

Wordbuilder is far more than a spelling program. It is the perfect companion to Word Building and focuses on improving vocabulary, word usage, and spelling skills. Students in Levels 2–8 encounter drills aimed at mastering definitions, evaluating proper spellings, and avoiding misspellings. Activities throughout the program also focus on character values.

Parents have the ability to follow up on progress as well. All of these programs have reports that can be viewed or printed. Each drill is automatically scored, saving the parent time. An unlimited number of users in your homeschool can use these programs for a \$99 annual access fee. Learn more at aceconnect.com.



2024

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION

University of Central Missouri

MAY 25-30

Where else can one week last a lifetime?®

International Student Convention (ISC) is a premier event that is the highlight of the school year for hundreds of schools and homeschools using the A.C.E. School of Tomorrow program. Approximately 4,000 young people worldwide qualify in regional conventions to compete in the categories of music, oratory, art, athletics, academics, and numerous aspects of service.

For more information visit
aceschooloftomorrow.com/about-isc.



ISC

Philippines

Service Adventure 2024
July 9-23

**LCA STUDENTS 16 AND OLDER ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO ATTEND
A SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIP THAT CHALLENGES THEM TO
EXPERIENCE SERVICE AND MINISTRY ON A WHOLE NEW LEVEL.**

**THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS SOON.
PLEASE VISIT ACEM.ORG/ABOUT-SA FOR DETAILS.**





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LCA, ACEM, and A.C.E. Web Changes

You may have noticed some changes have been made to the websites affiliated with Lighthouse Christian Academy. Several sites have been reorganized and have new URLs. These changes should assist users in finding important information across all sites.

The curriculum provider for LCA, A.C.E. School of Tomorrow®, now uses the URL **aceschooloftomorrow.com**. The launch of this new web address included the relocation of Regional Student Conventions and International Student Convention web pages. Visit the pages to learn more about these conventions, see the event categories, and register for these events. A.C.E.'s web store

also has a new URL—**aceschooloftomorrow.com/store**.

Another change involves the launch of LCA's parent organization Accelerated Christian Education Ministries (ACEM®). The URL **acem.org** now hosts ACEM's programs such as BLESS®, Educational Assistance, Service Adventure, LCA, and Accelerated College of the Bible International (ACBI). The new site will make all of ACEM's programs accessible from one web page. ACBI has a new direct URL as well—**acbi.org**.

A.C.E. and ACEM continue to offer programs to supplement each child's academic journey with opportunities to grow and minister to others.