

PECULIAR TREASURES LESSON

EDUCATION 2 – ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL

TEXT Daniel 1:3–20

CENTRAL TRUTH We need to have a good academic and vocational education.

MEMORY VERSE Luke 2:52 NIV “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”

OR

Luke 2:52a NIV “And Jesus grew...”

WORD

Today we will be considering academic and vocational education. When we consider the life of Moses, we know that he had some form of academic education while he was in Pharaoh’s palace. He learnt the things that children of kings would be taught since it was expected that they would grow up to rule if not the whole nation, part of the nation. He also learnt how to take care of sheep. (*Exodus 3:1*)

Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah already had an education as all Israelite children had. King Nebuchadnezzar besieged Judah and desired to have more wise men working for him. For this reason he told Ashpenaz to get children who were good in stature and academics. These children were to be trained on the bill of the king for three years. It’s like a child doing well in secondary school and somebody saying that he wants to send the child to university and that he will pay for it. One of the reasons the adult would be willing to sponsor the child’s education is that the child did well in secondary school.

Daniel and his three friends had done well and they were among the ones that were chosen. There was even a possibility of them being employed after the training if they did well. One thing that Daniel and his friends did was to watch the food they ate. They knew that the food they ate would have an impact on the learning process. Another thing they did was that they kept a close relationship with God. As a result of this, God helped them to learn quickly.

When the three years was over, the king spoke with the various students including Daniel and his friends. He was amazed at the way they spoke, speaking so much better with more wisdom than the astrologers and magicians and other people in his court. Of course, Daniel and his friends got automatic employment.

You need to do well in your academics, firstly reading, writing and arithmetic. As you grow older you learn more and you begin to move towards the areas of your strengths and interests. When you get to the SS classes you can make a choice on the subjects you want to do. In addition to the usual subjects, you can learn to do at least one of the vocational subjects such as tailoring, barbing, baking, photography, and carpentry.

QUESTIONS

1. Where did Moses learn his academic subjects?
2. Name four of the people who were given scholarship by King Nebuchadnezzar.

3. How many years did the academic program last?
4. Mention two things that helped Daniel and his friends with their academic pursuits.
5. Which two group of people were Daniel and his friends much better than?
6. Mention four vocational courses.
7. When you are planning on what subjects to take in the second part of your secondary school, what two things should you consider?
8. Mention at least four types of occupations that are involved in a school.

CONFESSION

I am a child of God. I am a lifelong learner. I learn at home. I learn in school. I learn in church. I learn wherever I am. I understand what I am taught in school. I do my assignments well. I am in the top quarter of my class. I am a student teachers love to have in class. I grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding. God loves me and I love him too.

ACTIVITIES

Levels 1 and 2 – 1) The children will take turns to write on the board, two or three of them at a time. The teacher will tell them to write letters or numbers. Each child will have two or three things to write before sitting down. For example the teacher will tell the children to write letter F or figure 7.

2) The children will take turns to touch various colours around the room, two or three children at a time.

3) The children will do various action words, for example, stand, clap, jump, sing, wave and shake your body.

Levels 3 and 4 – The students will be grouped into three, four or five groups for a quiz. The quiz will involve questions from mathematics, English language, and as many other subjects as the teacher likes.