

LIFE IN THE TRUTH: CAREER CHOICES

"Now this I affirm and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds..."

EPHESIANS 4:17



Life in the Truth CAREER CHOICES

1. Biblical principles.
2. Humanism in education.
3. Making faithful choices.
4. When things go wrong.



What your careers counsellor will never tell you!



1. BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

"Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth:
unite my heart to fear thy name."

PSALM 86:11

God is our teacher

- Psalm 25:4-5 – "Show me thy ways, O Lord; **teach my thy paths.** Lead me in thy truth, and **teach me.**"
- Prov. 8:10-11 – "**Receive my instruction,** and not silver; and **knowledge** rather than choice gold. For **wisdom** is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it."
- Prov. 9:10 – "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom."
- Isa. 7:14-15 – "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may **know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.**"

Maintaining a Biblical perspective...

- **Matt. 6:24-25, 30-34** – “You cannot serve God and money ...But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...”
- 1Cor. 7:23 – “**You were bought with a price;** do not become slaves of men.”
- **Deut. 14:28-29** – Those who have, to **provide for those who were unable to provide for themselves** (the stranger, orphans and widows). Also ch. 24:19-22.

Maintaining a Biblical perspective...

- **2Thes. 3:7-13** – “For even when we were with you, **this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.**” – should not be lazy depending on welfare.
- Paul an example: see Acts 18:2-3 “by their occupation they were tentmakers”; and 1Thes. 2:9.

Maintaining a Biblical perspective...

- Phil. 4:11-14 – “I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.”
- Do our expectations for our standard of living follow this Godly spirit?
- Ecc. 5:10-12 – “He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver...” Also Prov. 27:20.
- What matters: “...your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” 1Cor. 15:58.

Our Career Choice made at Baptism.

“We need to have an education to get a job, but that’s the only reason. What really matters is an education in the things of God, because this gives us wisdom and understanding.”

Bro. Leen Ritmeyer.

- **Luke 2:40,49,52** – Jesus is our example: “I must be in the things of my Father”.
- Rev. 1:9-10; 2Tim. 2:11-12; Rom. 8:17 – Called out of the gentiles for his name, to be kings and priests; suffering must come before glory. Not called to be CEOs!
- Eph. 5:15-17 – “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”
 - Jewish saying: “The day is short and the work is great!” – sign above Elieazer Ben Yehuda’s desk.

Faith in practice

- By God's appointment, **the father to be the provider** and head of the family.
 - **Gen. 3:17,19** – "And unto Adam he said... In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread..."
 - **Gen. 18:19** – "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him..."
- **The mother to watch over the home:**
 - **Titus 2:5** (YLT) – "...keepers of *their own* houses, good, subject to their own husbands"
 - **Prov. 31:27** (YLT) – "She *is* watching the ways of her household..." etc.

οἰκ-οὐρός, -οῦ, ὁ, ἡ, (οἶκος, and οἶρος a keeper; see θυρωρός and κηπουρός); a. prop. *the* (watch or) keeper of a house (Soph., Eur., Arstph., Paus., Plut., al.). b. trop. *keeping at home and taking care of household affairs, domestic*: Tit. ii. 5 R G; cf. Fritzsche, De conformatione N. T. critica etc. p. 29; [W. 100 sq. (95)]; (Aeschyl. Ag. 1626; Eur. Hec. 1277; σῶφρονας, οἰκουροὺς καὶ φιλόανδρους, Philo de exsecr. § 4).*

Faith in practice

- Sisters to be **busy with the Lord's work**, their family (Phil. 4:3; Rom. 16:1-2).
- 1Tim. 5:13-14 – "...**marry, bear children, guide the house...**" rather than idle "gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not."
- c/p Col. 2:8 – "Beware lest any man spoil you **through philosophy and vain deceit**, after the tradition of men, the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

2. HUMANISM IN EDUCATION

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

PSALM 14:1

What is humanism?

"Humanism is a rational philosophy informed by science, inspired by art, and motivated by compassion. Affirming the dignity of each human being, it supports **the maximization of individual liberty** and opportunity consonant with social and planetary responsibility. It advocates the extension of participatory democracy and the expansion of the open society, standing for human rights and social justice. **Free of supernaturalism**, it recognizes human beings as a part of nature and holds that values—be they religious, ethical, social, or political—have their source in human experience and culture. Humanism thus **derives the goals of life from human need and interest rather than from theological** or ideological abstractions, and **asserts that humanity must take responsibility for its own destiny.**"

Humanist Association of Canada

Humanism in Education

"...a worrying aspect of the Brotherhood today is the way in which children appear to be *encouraged* to pursue educational objectives. Parents naturally want their children to do well. **But should parents who follow Christ want their children to be successful in the ways of the world?** Although we are largely a middle-class community, we cannot afford to look on educational achievement as a status-symbol, either for ourselves or for our children. In God's eyes, academic achievement in itself is at best no more worthwhile than any other human achievement. At worst, it involves a prolonged exposure to godless ways of thought and conditioning.

"If we are to participate in education, we must be aware of its dangers..."

Humanism, the Subtle Delusion; Education – life-blood of humanism, p. 25, Bro. Andrew Walker.

A Religion for a New Age – John Dunphy

I am convinced that **the battle for humankind's future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly perceive their role as the proselytizers of a new faith: a religion of humanity** that recognizes and respects the spark of what theologians call divinity in every human being. These teachers must embody the same selfless dedication as the most rabid fundamentalist preachers, for **they will be ministers of another sort, utilizing a classroom instead of a pulpit to convey humanist values in whatever subject they teach, regardless of the educational level—preschool, daycare, or large state university. The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new—the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism, resplendent with its promise of a world in which the never-realized Christian ideal of "love thy neighbor" will finally be achieved.**

The Humanist, January-February 1983



Published by the North American Council for Humanism (NACH) in 1997

"To manage change in state education we need to become a political force, not to engage in full scale warfare which only mobilizes the opposition, but to **do battle with specific infringements on rights and curriculum materials within the system.** We must take issues to the public, educate it about our position, and try to win its assistance in our campaign. We must demand education which teaches children to think critically about facts and issues. There will be no creative transformation of society for the good until we do. Like Mark Twain says, 'Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre **but they are more deadly in the long run.**'"

3. MAKING FAITHFUL CHOICES

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore **choose life**, that both thou and thy seed may live."

DEUTERONOMY 30:19

Making faithful choices

Be clear on your principles and objectives from the beginning

- Dan. 1:8 – “**Daniel purposed in his heart** that he would not defile himself...therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs...”
- Also ch. 6:10 – “...and gave thanks before his God, **as he did aforetime.**”
- c/p Psa. 52:7 – “Here is **the man who did not make God his strength,** But trusted in the abundance of his riches, And strengthened himself in his wickedness.”

Making faithful choices

Desire for financial gain clouds judgement

- Matt. 16:26 (RV) – “For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or **what shall a man give in exchange for his life?**”
- 1Tim. 6:10 (NKJV) – “For **the love of money** is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

Making faithful choices

Desire for financial gain clouds judgement

Commandments of Christ:

- #58: **"Labour not to be rich:** having food and raiment, **be content.**—(1Ti. 6:8; Joh. 6:27; Mt. 6:19)."
- #59: **"Riches are dangerous;** if they come to your hand, turn them into safeguards and friends by **using them liberally in the Lord's service,** whose stewards we are.—(1Ti. 6:10, 17-19; Lu. 12:18-21; 16:9-13; 1Pe. 4:10)."

Making faithful choices

Desire for financial gain clouds judgement

- Deut. 16:19 – "You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for **a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise** and twists the words of the righteous.
 - Achan (Josh. 7:20-21); Gehazi (2Kn. 5:22,25-27); Judas (Matt. 26:14-15); Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)
- 1Sam. 8:3 (NKJV) – Samuel's "sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside **after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.**"

Making faithful choices

Desire for financial gain clouds judgement

- Psa. 49:18 (NKJV) – "...men will praise you when you do well for yourself." c/p Deut. 8:17,18
- Matt. 6:1-2 – "...that they may have **glory of men**. Verily I say unto you, **They have their reward.**"

Making faithful choices

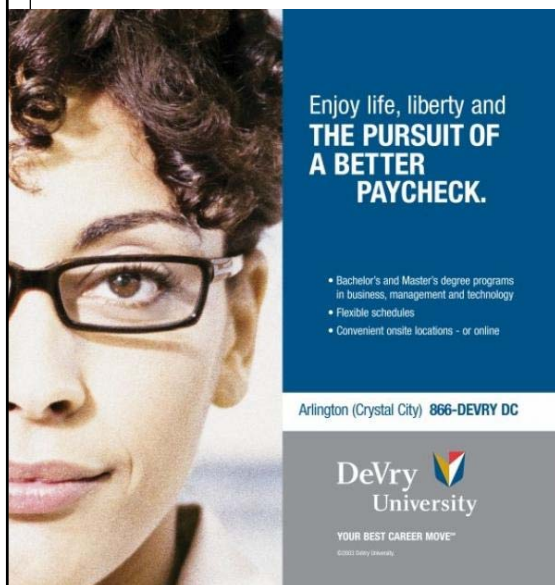
Think about your future work situation

- Moral & social pressures
- Impact on family or ecclesial life, for example:
 - Will your work follow you home?
 - Shift work, on call, working on Sunday, commute
 - Travel requirements (ex: pilot or consultant)
 - Vacation
- Union membership: based on dissatisfaction; support of causes we could not agree to

Making faithful choices

Think about your future work situation

- Consistent with Biblical standards
 - Doctrine to be rejected: "That we are at liberty to serve in the army, or as police constables, take part in politics, or recover debts by legal coercion."
- Future impact regarding military service (alternate service versus essential service).



Enjoy life, liberty and
**THE PURSUIT OF
A BETTER
PAYCHECK.**

- Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in business, management and technology
- Flexible schedules
- Convenient onsite locations - or online

Arlington (Crystal City) 866-DEVRY DC

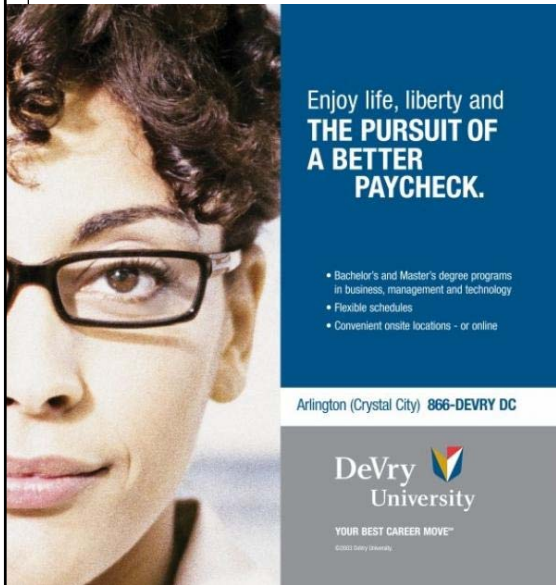
DeVry
University

YOUR BEST CAREER MOVE™

©2012 DeVry University

"There is one who makes himself rich, yet *has* nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet *has* great riches."
Proverbs 13:7.

"Until half a century ago, Christadelphians in North America, especially the Unamended community, also **tended to discourage pursuit of higher education at a college or university.** The rationale was largely the same as that which brings apprehension about the character of public education in general. Simply put, **higher education would necessitate exposure to ideas and theories perceived as false...**



Enjoy life, liberty and
**THE PURSUIT OF
A BETTER
PAYCHECK.**

- Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in business, management and technology
- Flexible schedules
- Convenient onsite locations - or online

Arlington (Crystal City) 866-DEVRY DC

DeVry University
YOUR BEST CAREER MOVE™

"There is one who makes himself rich, yet *has* nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet *has* great riches."
Proverbs 13:7.

...More recently, **as a college degree became a cultural passport to many kinds of employment, there has been less of an aversion to higher education,** and many Christadelphians now boast of graduate degrees in numerous disciplines."

Christadelphians in North America, Charles H. Lippy (1989), p. 260.



CBCnews | Manitoba

Home Opinion World **Canada** Politics Business Health Entertainment Technology & Science Video

OPINION | University vs. college: Why pressuring your kid to go to university is a big mistake

By Ken Coates, for CBC News Posted: Sep 04, 2014 5:00 AM CT | Last Updated: Dec 03, 2014 4:18 PM CT



Just as Canada's universities rank well internationally, other post-secondary institutions also perform at a high level, writes Ken Coates. (Shutterstock)

343 shares

The sign-in page of a major Canadian bank's online banking site flashes a simple message: "See how \$25 a week can grow into a \$50,911 university fund."

Stay Connected with CBC News

Mobile Facebook Podcasts Twitter Alerts Newsletter

Weather

Severe weather warnings or watches in effect for:

Altona Deerpark Grange Melita Morden Morris Pilot Mound Turtle Mountain (Provincial Park) Winkler

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
-18°C	-20°C	-13°C	-6°C	-7°C

More Weather |

Latest Manitoba News Headlines

University vs College – CBC 2014

Assess options, abilities, and realistic job opportunities.



"It is vital that Canadians **consider all of the options available to them.** For some young adults and mature learners, universities are the ideal option. **For others, they can be an expensive waste of time, money and effort. There are many people who would be much better off going directly to a college or polytech...**

Far too few Canadian families **take time to examine the alternatives and to figure out the best match between abilities, resources, and realistic job opportunities.** They have, instead, accepted the mantra about the extraordinary value of a university degree and do not examine all of the possibilities before them...

University vs College – CBC 2014

Assess options, abilities, and realistic job opportunities.



"...As the first step in the process, students going to post-secondary education and their parents need to take stock. They need to **do a realistic assessment of the individual's interests and abilities.** A young adult who rarely reads, hates writing and doesn't like mathematics is unlikely to discover many options at university. A young person who tinkers with electrical equipment, likes to work with their hands and enjoys practical problems could be exceptionally well-suited to a technical program in a college."

Counting the financial cost...

The Globe and Mail, Canadian University Report (Updated Jan. 27, 2017)

- "Tuition is just the start. **Add in the price of student housing, which varies depending on the university, books and school supplies,** food and recreation, a phone plan and return trips home, and the cost of university soon adds up exponentially."
- "And graduating Canadian students carry **an average debt burden of about \$27,000,** according to the 2015 graduating student survey by the Canadian University Survey Consortium, which **takes on average 10 years to pay back,** according to the Canada Student Loan program."
- Average cost of university tuition in Ontario (projected 2016-17): \$8,114
- Compulsory fees in Ontario: \$930
- For many undergraduate university programs, \$800 to \$1,000 /yr is a reasonable range for planning for the cost of books and other materials. *

* Source: Financial Consumer Agency of Canada



Anticipated earnings for our simulation.

#1 University graduate, 4 year social sciences degree

- New research shows that the average earnings of social sciences bachelor's graduates start at around \$40,000 immediately after graduation...
- Equivalent full time for year 5 = **\$19.25/hour** (based on 40 hrs/week x 52 weeks)
- Annual raises; by year 14 annual salary **increased to \$80,000**

#2 High school graduate

- Ontario minimum wage (Oct. 1, 2016) = **\$11.25/hour**
- Works 8 months/year, years 1-4 (**#1 may work summers**)
- Full time from year 5 at minimum wage with no increase for 10 years

Note: #2 has the income tax advantage, not factored into the simulation.



Counting the cost...

"the borrower is servant to the lender." Prov. 32:7

Person 1 – 4 year university degree

- (23.5K) 4 yr Bachelor of Arts, Wilfred Laurier OSAP, parents \$60K income
- Payment, 10 yrs@3.5% var. 262/mth
- Year #8 accumulated = \$152.6K
- Year #9 accumulated = \$206.2K
- Year #10 accumulated = \$264.2K
(4 years of loan payments remaining)

Person 2 – high school graduate

- 65.7K = 8 months full time per year for 4 years at min wage
- Year #8 accumulated = \$160.9K
- Year #9 accumulated = \$184.7K
- Year #10 accumulated = \$208.5K

How does person #1 respond to the pressure from: less favourable **interest rates**; finding a job which **does not provide the expected income**; or as a sister deciding to marry and wanting to **start a family**?

Research, pray and choose wisely.

Choices that leading toward an ideal situation...

- Does not require too much education (virtual learning); affordable.
 - Should be complementary with: life in the truth; your direction in life; and aptitudes.
- Your mind is left free to meditate during your work day; work stays at work (no smartphone?); minimal overtime.
- Your work or training does not require compromise.
 - What will you be required to take/learn?
- Is complementary with family and ecclesial life.
- There is demand in the market.
- Does not require ongoing retraining or learning?



4. WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

Circumstances which compromise our life in the truth?

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God..."

PHILIPPIANS 4:6 (NKJV)

Unemployed, or
Work is getting in the way of life in the truth...

- Cannot find work:
 - Educated, but no demand for skills
 - Did not go to college or university
 - Unrealistic expectations?
- Work hours preventing us from being with family or ecclesia
- Bad work situation
- Servant to debt...

A good time for a change?

City jobless rate lowest in Ontario

"Brantford was called the "leader in jobs in Ontario" on Friday as Statistics Canada pinpointed the city as having the lowest jobless rate in Ontario during January.

The city's rate hit a three-year low of 4.2% last month after three straight months of substantial job creation...

And manufacturing continues to be a main growth area. Other top sector jobs are public administration, sales and service, health care, and trades and transportation."

Brantford Expositor – Feb. 10, 2017

* Rate higher for ages 15-24

Brantford & Area	↓ 4.2%
Hamilton	↑ 5.9%
St. Cath/Niagara	= 6.4%
Waterloo Region	↑ 5.2%
Guelph	↑ 5.5%
London	= 6.9%

When cannot find work, or it is getting in the way of life in the truth...

- Trust in God, not self
- Prov. 3:5-6 – "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Also Deut. 8:3-4; Psa. 37:3; 118:8...
- Take steps to change your situation.
- Neh. 4:9 – "we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night..."
- Seek help if needed.

"But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,** and
all these things shall be added to you."
MATTHEW 6:33

