

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*The mission of
Cypress Christian School
is to honor the
Lord Jesus Christ
by providing students
an education based upon
academic excellence
and biblical values.*

mission

*The vision of
Cypress Christian School
is to positively impact
culture by promoting
truth, advancing the
Christian faith, and
equipping students
to serve and lead
with excellence.*

vision

Hope and Purpose in Christ

Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch woman famous for hiding Jews from the Nazis during World War II, was fond of saying, "There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still." These were originally the words of her sister Betsie, spoken while they were in the Ravensbruck Nazi concentration camp during World War II. Betsie ten Boom would not make it out of that concentration camp alive, but Corrie would, and she would tell their story. One part of their extraordinary experience is that in the midst of those darkest of times, Betsie ten Boom found God's love.

Just a few years after the war was over, Corrie was in Germany giving talks on her war experience. At the end of one of those talks, a former Nazi guard at Ravensbruck approached her and asked for forgiveness. It's one thing to speak of God's love for us, but quite another to be asked to forgive one who was cruel and who contributed to the death of a beloved sister. As she wrote in her book "Tramp for the Lord," Corrie

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struggled – battling her feelings, not wanting to forgive – yet she prayed for God to help her move past her hatred, and she told her former captor that she would forgive him. She said, "For a long moment we grasped each other's hands, the former guard and the former prisoner. I had never known God's love so intensely as I did then." It seems that in the middle of confronting personal pain and hatred, Corrie ten Boom also found God's love.

It's somewhat paradoxical that in the course of going through some of the most trying of conditions and human suffering, Corrie and Betsie ten Boom found love, hope and joy. In contrast, and also paradoxically, it is not uncommon to hear of those with seeming great luxury and comfort in their lives who are most miserable. Sometimes trials and difficulties allow us to see realities that are deeper than the circumstances being experienced. Perceiving these deeper realities – truths more enduring than the events which pass in time – seems to also produce a deep sense of joy. It stands to reason that God may allow difficult times in our lives precisely because He knows those things can bring about greater good, and indeed may be necessary for our greatest good.

At CCS we train children to have a hope in Christ and a purpose that transcends the momentary circumstance of poverty or prosperity, peace or difficulty, health or sickness. It is power for life and courage in the face of death. The CCS community has experienced its share of difficult times affecting the lives of individuals and families. The ten Booms suffered in circumstances more difficult than most of us could imagine in our comfortable lives today. Yet they – and we – also experienced joy and a profound sense of God's love. Perhaps that is why James once said, "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials..." (James 1:2) While good things in life should be pursued and enjoyed, it is wise to remember that hard times may indeed be the doorway to even greater good and greater joy. Through it all, we are reminded to keep our eyes on the ultimate provider of lasting comfort, peace and joy – the Lord Jesus Christ.



Mr. Stephen Novotny
Executive Director