



FROM THE  
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2013 Eighth Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.

# The WATCHMEN on our WALL

In ancient times, those who lived in walled cities were considered blessed individuals. Living inside a city with walls provided citizens with two important forms of protection. One was the wall itself. It stood as a barrier between that which was acceptable and that which was not. A second form of protection those in walled cities possessed was the watchman. The watchman stood upon the wall and kept watch over the surrounding countryside. When invading armies or other dangers came into his view, he sounded the warning and those inside the wall knew to prepare. Both the watchman and the wall were essential to the survival of the city itself. Without the watchman, those inside the wall were blind and without the wall, the watchman would have been unnecessary.



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In 1978, a small group of Christian families joined together to create a school that would provide an excellent education grounded in the reality of God as the Creator of life and the Bible as the authoritative standard of truth. Interestingly, the first students at Cypress Christian School were middle schoolers! Those founders understood that young teens need an environment that challenges them to take ownership of their relationship with Jesus and then discover what God desires of them as they live out a life fully yielded to Christ. Those Christians in 1978 valued the importance of providing a solid wall around the sacred trust of their children. This wall was built not to shield from life, but to provide a holy place to live a life that honored God and equipped children to become warriors for the Kingdom. So today, we continue to uphold the foundational blocks of the wall that was begun thirty-five years ago. For middle school aged children, we must make sure they understand why we do what we do; they need to value the worn blocks that build the wall of CCS.



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Who are the watchmen on the wall? Our teachers, as the living curriculum, have been entrusted to communicate daily the truth of God's Word, the facts of the subject matter that they teach, and the importance of living out a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. These watchmen are called to be vigilant as they look out for those ideas, those philosophies, and those pressures that insidiously pull young teens away from a life that glorifies God. Teachers in the middle school at CCS understand that they must raise their voice when danger is present. Daily, as I walk through halls, visit classrooms, and interact with teachers, I am awed by the watchmen that God has placed on our wall at CCS. It is clear that they love the students in their care and are willing to create a loving, positive learning environment where each child can grow in self-discipline according to God's Word.

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Isaiah 62:6 reminds us of the task of the watchmen: "On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You, who put the Lord in remembrance, take no rest." For over three decades, the walls of Cypress Christian School have provided a place of challenge and preparation for children of Christian families. The watchmen have been faithful to their call to "never be silent." It is my prayer that on subsequent birthdays in years to come, the family of CCS will look back to us and say that we protected the wall and were vigilant to the task given to us. We, who put the Lord in remembrance, have "taken no rest" during our time on the wall.