

Phoenix Christian Jr/Sr High School Social Studies Department Philosophy Statement

The truths of life are best illustrated through the stories of the past and the unfolding of what may be referred to as the “ascent of man.” Whereas the Epistles provide truths and precepts, it is the story of Jesus that fully communicates the revealed nature of God’s truth. It is the story of Jesus that communicates the factual, the emotional, the simple, and the complicated essential life lessons. Social Studies, with its focus on the story of human development, is a unique opportunity to use the story of life to teach about life in all its triumphs and tragedies.

For Christian educators, the realms of government, economics, history, geography, sociology, and psychology are to be used as tools to help students construct their Christian worldview. It is in this pursuit that the teachings of such paradigms of thought require critical analysis, evaluation, an appreciation for the complexity of the human experience, and an informed Christian perspective. In short, such pursuits of study are tools to help the developing Christian mind.

The God of the Bible, in taking human form and living among humanity, provides a mandate for the knowledge of human interaction within a historical or institutional context. In the book of teaching from scripture Solomon states, “I know that every good thing God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God does it so that men will revere Him. Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.” (Ecclesiastes 3:9-15)