

The Concurrently Companion



Episode 38: Discipling kids through the news (with Rebecca Cochrane)

Topic introduction

Today, we take a deep dive into what makes God's WORLD News distinct and how we at GWN seek to come alongside you in your discipleship efforts with the kids and teens in your life.

Discussion

Key terms and ideas: developmental psychology, discover/explore/discern, attune/attunement, domains of learning, learning @ challenge, worldview

Reflection questions

Where does your news come from? What is distinctive about your news sources?

How are you interacting with the news? What challenges you as you interact with the news and think about what it means to disciple your children in this age? Why is it important for kids and teens to be aware of current events, and to learn how to interact with the news?

How appropriate would your sources be for children? How do you navigate current events with your children? What do you observe in your peers' practices in this area?

How do you make developmentally appropriate decisions for the children in your home (activities, curricula, etc.)? What informs your thinking and action?

How do the key themes we use in the God's WORLD News publications—discover, explore, discern—fit with or shape the way you think about child development?

Why do we ask our children questions, even from the earliest stage of childhood development?

What does it look like to attune to the needs of children in each of the domains of their learning: mentally, emotionally, physically, spiritually, socially, morally?

How does challenge relate to learning and growth?

Trick question: What part of the world or man's existence falls outside of God's authority?

How does answering the question above prompt you to reflect on your discipleship efforts with your kids and students?

What does it mean for Christians to have “the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other”?

What scripture passages help us understand that fiction also has a role in the shaping of our minds, hearts, and our actions in the world?

One of Rebecca Cochrane’s mentors advised, “You don’t need to study the darkness. Study the light.” What does that thought mean to you? Where do you agree? Where might you differ?

How is your handle on the idea of “worldview”? How are you developing “worldview” awareness in your children and students? Do you encourage a “robust and well-rounded Christian worldview” with your children? If so, how?

What does it mean constantly to be raising up the generation that’s following yours?

Scriptural anchors/provision

You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. — from Hebrews 5:12-14

Additionally for this week, I recommend studying Habakkuk 3 with your children and students. Look for the themes of the Lord’s authority, provision, and calling for His image-bearers in His world.

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