



October 2008

Dear Friends,

There has been a lot of talk about these turbulent times. The economy seems to bring one surprise after another. We will choose a new President soon and that brings some uncertainty to our lives. Hurricanes and storms ravage large areas. The world is changing quickly.

Two quotes come to mind that seem appropriate. The first is from Oswald Chambers, “Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God whose ways you may not understand at the time.” How true that is for me! The turbulent times are confusing, sometimes distressing, and God is very hard to understand. Yet confidence in the character of God surpasses that uncertainty. A life of faith allows for a degree of stability in the midst of chaos.

The other quote is from B.B. King, “The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.” I have no idea how B.B. King became an authority on education, but this quote always makes me smile. It reminds me that what we learn – either in or out of the classroom – cannot be voted out, is not vulnerable to a sub-prime mortgage, and does not need a government bailout plan!

The two quotes may seem unrelated. One is about faith, the other about education. But the mission of PathLight is integrating the two. There is a strong connection between faith and learning that causes a powerful transformation in a student. The process creates young men and women who not only have the skills to solve problems and change their communities, but also have the faith to withstand the times of doubt and turmoil. Faith forms their learning into character; learning forms their faith into wisdom.

To this I will add one more quote. In John 8:32, Jesus said, “...the truth will set you free.” This is the core of integrating faith and learning. Freedom in faith, freedom of thought, freedom to learn, freedom from the fear that uncertainty creates. Freedom in Christ.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. The students in the PathLight program may not understand this now, but they will grow into adults who deeply appreciate how the integration of faith and learning impacts them everyday.

You are the hero – the stability and certainty – that make this happen.

Blessings,

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