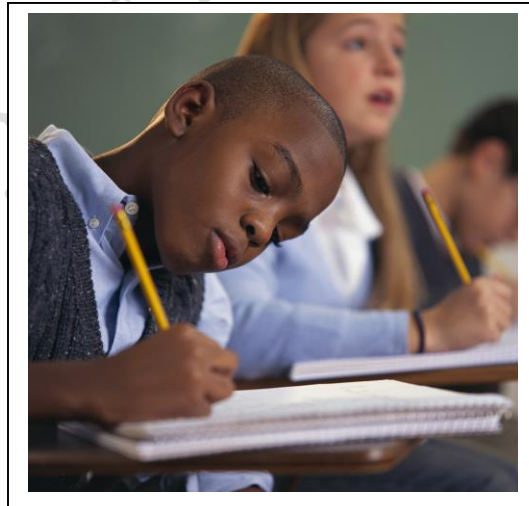


## Taking Care of God's Children

### Module 6: **The Purpose and Value of Your School**

What is the Purpose of Education?

What is the Purpose of Your School?



**Produced by:  
Raise Up Global Ministries**

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## Introduction

Through the power of God's Spirit, this course will help you bring good changes where you live and lead. It is different from other courses. It is not meant to be worked through alone. It should be used in a group. One person will lead the lesson, but each one in the group should have a written copy of the lesson and should actively participate.

The course is divided into six modules, each with lessons addressing a particular question.

## The Lessons

Four things happen during each lesson:

1. **Report:** At the beginning of each lesson (except for the first) each participant reports on what was accomplished since the last lesson.
2. **Discover and Discuss:** Participants read the Bible and discuss the questions together. Group discussion teaches participants to listen carefully to each other and to present their ideas clearly.
3. **Plan for change:** Toward the end of each lesson, participants write a plan to put into practice what they have learned. They report on that plan at the beginning of the following lesson.
4. **Pray:** At the end of each lesson these plans are brought before God for His guidance and blessing.

***The training is for those who are prepared to make plans, to put their plans into action between the lessons and then report on them during the next lesson. Most learning takes place between the lessons as participants work their plans.***

## Training Sessions

The training sessions are sometimes held for several days, for example during a series of training weekends. Training sessions can also be held over a week, for example during morning, afternoon, or evenings. The group will work through several lessons during the training sessions. In this case, each participant will make a plan at the end of each lesson and these plans will be discussed, but participants will actually write up only **one plan at the end of the training session**. That plan will be reported on when the group meets again. The course leader will explain all this to the participants.

Educational Care (EC) was prepared by John DeJager, Julie Ebels, Albert A. Hamstra, Tim Steenstra, Stephanie Sytsema and Munyiva Wa Kitavi and was produced by the Promoting Christian Education Globally Project of Christian Reformed World Missions.

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SAMPLE: NOT TO BE REPRODUCED

## LESSON 1

# Who Benefits from Your School?

1. **Action Plan Reports** – each participant should report on their Action Plan from Module 5 (to the large group or to small groups):
  - Did you carry out the Action Plan you made at the end of Module 5?
  - Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing your Action Plan?
  - Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
  - Did any unexpected Kingdom changes happen in your school or community?

Write the most significant changes which this training produced:

- In your school, village or neighborhood
- In your family

2. Schools benefit many people.

*As a group think together about all the people who benefit from your school and how they benefit from it.*

Have one individual record the thoughts of the group so that everyone can see them.

*What did you find?*

3. Break into small groups of 4-5 people. Read and discuss the following verses.

### **Deuteronomy 10:12-13**

*Does the Lord benefit from your school? Is His kingdom advanced through your work? If so, how? If not, why not?*

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

*How does your community benefit from your school? How is your school like a 'city on a hill'? What light do you bring to your community?*

### **Matthew 25:31-40**

*How do the 'least of these' benefit from your school? What are you doing as a school to address the needs of those who are typically overlooked and underserved?*

### **1 Corinthians 15:57-58 and Colossians 1:9-12**

*What encouragement do these verses offer you in your work?*

4. Come back to the large group and discuss what you have found after reading these verses. Then discuss these questions:

*Are there any groups who should benefit from your school but currently don't?*

*What happens when some groups in the community do not benefit from the school? Give some specific examples of this from your own experience.*

*How could God's kingdom be advanced by reaching out to groups that have not yet benefitted from your school?*

5. Get together in groups of 2-3 people.

Think together about how your school could benefit individuals/groups of people who it does not currently benefit.

Record your top five ideas to share with the large group.

6. Return to the large group and have each small group share their ideas.

## 7. MY PLAN

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Based on this lesson, write down a Kingdom change you would like to see occur before the next lesson.

For example: In the next year our school would like to enroll 5 new students who would normally not be able to afford school fees to go to school.

*How will you know this change has occurred?*

**Activity:** Write a plan that reflects specific action(s) that you will do before the next lesson to enable this change.

For example:

- In the next 3 months, I will identify potential sponsors willing to support 5 disadvantaged students.
- In the next 6 months, I will research what micro businesses the school could begin in order to raise money to off-set the tuition for the 5 new students.

Finally, in writing, specify when you will do this activity.

8. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray about it together.