

August 04, 2006

### Are You Excited About Our New Arrival?

Now before you get excited and start congratulating us, Lisa and I are not expecting. The new arrival I am talking about is Cornerstone Christian Academy. In just 2 weeks, our Christian school will be in its first week of classes, and I am so excited about how God has blessed us by bringing together all the details.

First and foremost, I am thankful for our board of directors and our principal, Priscilla Stewart. They have worked very hard to ensure that our school has high standards, the most qualified and loving teachers, and a solid biblical foundation for all aspects of the curriculum. I am thankful for the many families and individuals who have freely given their time and resources to help with administrative needs as the school prepares to open. People have donated furniture, electronic equipment, books, office supplies, and even scholarship money to help the school as it prepares to open. I am also thankful for the families God has brought to Cornerstone. Our enrollment for the first year will be over 50 students, which is an incredible blessing as most new schools start with far fewer students.

As we consider all the blessings of our new arrival, it is a good time to consider how Cornerstone will be a vital partner to our ministries here at Morningview Baptist Church. First, we are offering through our school a true Classical Christian Education. This is a highly successful, highly challenging historical approach to education that teaches students more than just facts; it teaches them critical thinking and reasoning from the basis of a biblical world view. Some of the greatest Christian scholars of our age have been educated through the classical method. This school will become one of the key ways through which our congregation will raise up steadfast disciples of Christ that are prepared to engage our culture with the Gospel.

Secondly, the school provides yet another opportunity for us to reach out to families in the Montgomery area and invite them into the life of our church. We have already been privileged to see families visit our church because we have a Christian school. Furthermore, through scholarships, we will be able to help families who would not have otherwise had the resources provide a high-quality Christian education for their children.

Thirdly, the school provides yet another way that we are able to be an example in our community. Our hope is to lift up the banner of Christ in Montgomery by being a church that is thoroughly biblical, passionately evangelistic, and focused on building mature disciples of Christ. Cornerstone is now another arm of our ministry that helps us to do just that.

I hope you will join me in praying for the school as the academic year gets underway. We need to pray for God's continued provision, protection, and blessings to be upon the directors, the faculty, and the students. Rejoice with me as we celebrate the birth of this new ministry!