

Example of outcome 1 and 2

Session 2 – Lutheran education is centred in the belief that God invites all people to join God in ongoing creation and care for the universe.

<https://padlet.com/LuthEdAus/connectsession2>

Reflections of learning and practice.....

How does creation theology inform the why and how of Lutheran education?

It informs the “how” of our teaching strategies that we put in place for each individual student. A range of different resources and activities are used with the knowledge that students each have their preferred learning style. Relationships are important to enable teachers to best cater for the individual needs, interests and talents in their class. Lutheran educators also acknowledge that learning is important academically but also spiritually, emotionally and physically and that each individual will be at a different stage in their learning journey. Lutheran teachers make an effort to get to know the strengths and weaknesses of individual students. Bartsch (2013) states that theology of creation teaches that each person is created as a unique individual with distinctive characteristics, gifts and abilities, strengths and weaknesses. No two human beings are identical. Each person, therefore, has individual worth and value in the eyes of God (Bartsch, 2013). I believe that this statement reflects the why and how of Lutheran education. Lutheran educators make an effort to modify programs to suit individuals so that all can experience success. I know that in my classrooms I am always conscious of using a range of learning experiences, particularly in Science. I get to know the preferred learning style of individuals in my class and modify what I do each year to suit the individuals in that particular cohort. This is even important at a senior level. I am bound by the external state-wide curriculum but modify my delivery based on individuals. For example, I have made gap-fill notes throughout the course this year for one particular Year 12 student. He has found that this helps him to read and summarise information more effectively whereas other students at present can do this independently without my scaffolding.

How does creation theology shape an aspect of your work with students? How does recognizing people as God’s unique creations guide teaching and learning in Lutheran Schools?

Realising that God created us as unique individuals can guide Lutheran education communities. This includes teachers and their relationships with students and the need to cater for individual needs and abilities. All members of the community are valued as individuals with a unique set of skills and knowledge. Students are always encouraged to do their best, no matter what level that may be. This also links to the community being non-judgemental and accepting of all.

It enables us, as teachers to recognise each student as an important individual. It can help us to realise the importance of differentiating our classes and cater for individual abilities and learning styles. This is important to ensure that our lessons are engaging and that each student strives to achieve their best. It also guides us in creating individual pathways for students and realising that each individual has their own unique journey and goals.

Students and teachers are also encouraged to be lifelong learners not only academically but also spiritually and in other areas of life.

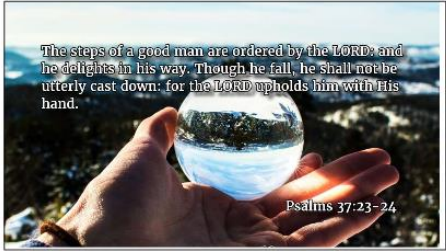
Creation theology shapes the themes that I aim to be the focus for staff and student devotions. For example, the following devotion was based around the message of learning from failures and believing that each and every student has the ability to be successful.

Invocation:

L: Let's begin with the invocation.

C: We begin today's devotion in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit

L: Amen



Learning from Failure

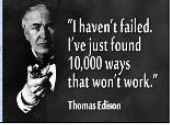
<https://www.worthydevotions.com/christian-devotional/learn-from-failure>

Failure is never a pleasant feeling. It isn't enjoyable to lose a job, see a relationship fater, or fail a test. But the disappointment we feel when we face defeat can be turned to joy if we look at it in a different way.

Thomas Edison was busy working in his laboratory at 2am one morning when an assistant came into the room and noticed that the inventor was smiling.

"Have you solved the problem?" he asked.


"No," replied Edison, "that experiment didn't work at all. Now I can start over again." Edison could have such a confident attitude because he knew that the road to success is often paved with disappointments that serve to extend the road — not to block it. Each failure brought him a little closer to success.



Living a successful life is not about being perfect — because we are human — and will always make mistakes. The key is learning how to get up after each fall. It's natural to make mistakes — but it's supernatural to learn from those mistakes and move forward.

Failures should be celebrated as an opportunity to lead to growth. We should live by **2 Corinthians 12:10**: *I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

The world is full of so many famous "failures" that have ultimately lead to a "success"



IF YOU FAIL, NEVER GIVE UP BECAUSE FAIL MEANS FIRST ATTEMPT IN LEARNING.

10 Famous "Failures"



Think about a time where you were unsuccessful, but came back and improved.

How did the initial "failure" help you?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahmmA35C0v0>

Lord, we thank you for all that you have given us to have a chance to succeed. We are grateful for the opportunities our students have in education, sport and other areas and give trust in you to help guide them in the right direction. Help our students to believe in themselves and view failure as a chance to grow, learn and improve.

Amen.

Creation theology shapes how my lessons are planned and delivered. This includes developing modified programs to suit different abilities. It enables me to appreciate difference and uniqueness while at the same time having the belief that each and every student is capable of success. I encourage students to reflect on their learning and take on the belief that they are all capable of success.