

# The Biblical Story in More Detail

**CREATION:** The biblical story tells us that God created and sustains all things. God gave life and controls all things. He made mankind to have a special relationship with Him and gave mankind His creation mandate that directs human life. The creation is good and this not only refers to the physical and biological creation, but also to the cultural strands that God has woven into its fabric. Here the focus is on what God intended things to be like, the way it ought to have been.

**FALL:** The biblical story tells us that all things have fallen as a result of sin and that every facet and part of the world is twisted by evil. The consequence is pain and suffering, brokenness and idolatry. Therefore all things, human life and culture, have become distorted and shaped by idolatry. The widespread effects of sin are obvious but God is still faithful and promises liberation from this bondage to decay.

**REDEMPTION:** The biblical story tells us that although mankind fell into sin, God had a plan of redemption through the sacrifice of His Son. Christ came to earth to restore creation from the distorting influence of sin and redeem all things so that we could get back on track with God's original design/purpose. Through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, who holds all things together, the power of sin has been dealt with. Now, as redeemed people, we look forward to and participate in, the restoration of the whole creation.

**RESTORATION:** The biblical story tells us that we are called to live in the light of this coming restoration as faithful redemption agents responding to God's invitation to work towards ongoing redemption - as we fulfil our original mandate to take care of and develop His creation. God is sovereign in His ongoing work of redemption and He calls us to join Him as His redemption people - His agents of renewal. In response to Christ's past and ongoing redemptive work, and with the active presence of the Holy Spirit, we can gratefully respond by living a life of service and partnership as all things move towards complete restoration. This will not be fully realized until Christ returns when all things will be fulfilled. One of the tasks of the Christian school is to call students to be involved with God's redemption and transformation of His world and to set up signposts to the coming kingdom.

*Source: Transformation by Design: A Curriculum Development Resource for Christian Schools, National Institute for Christian Education, page 45.*

# Throughlines

## **GOD WORSHIPPING**

Learners extend, both in daily tasks and in deliberate times of praise, their words, actions, talents, and thoughts in awe and celebration of God, who is worthy.

## **IDOLATRY DISCERNING**

Learners recognize stories that invite them to seek truth and participate with the truth by aligning learning with the knowledge and person of God.

## **CREATION ENJOYING**

Learners delight in God's qualities—his eternal power and divine nature exhibited in what he created.

## **BEAUTY CREATING**

Learners engage in beautiful work that enriches the world and reflects God's heart for diversity, complexity, and creativity.

## **ORDER DISCOVERING**

Learners seek and find God's fingerprints in the intricate, purposeful design of what he has created.

## **JUSTICE SEEKING**

Learners pursue restorative transformation, seeking to bring wholeness where there is brokenness.

## **SERVANT WORKING**

Learners follow the example of Christ's selfless love through exercising kindness, empathy, and compassion.

## **EARTH KEEPING**

Learners steward, locally and globally, all God has created by pursuing and practicing new ways to tend and care for his creation.

## **COMMUNITY BUILDING**

Learners build communities of grace and purpose, making space for the belonging of others.

## **IMAGE REFLECTING**

Learners mirror God's goodness through who they are and what they do, and delight in the image of God inherent in all people.