



The New Old Way Conference in Africa with Ravi Jain

Plenary Presentation
by Ravi Jain

Outline:

The Gold Belongs to the Church

- Christian classical education seeks to transmit the culture of the Church

Why does Christian classical education make sense for Africa?

- Guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life.
 - Our hearts represent what we believe at our core.
 - Love is the chief virtue and virtue is ordered loves.
 - Heart and head must be held together.
 - Faith precedes understanding. Faith is the only real foundation for reason.
 - Education is part of discipleship within the body of Christ.
 - All education is religious education.
 - Christian classical education trains students to guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life.
- Pursue excellence and success will follow
 - What is more important, true understanding or just good grades?
 - What is more important, being good or only seeming good? (Socrates)
 - Universities have become bad at fostering wisdom and virtue.
 - Virtue and wisdom prepares students for all kind of jobs.
 - Certifications need to certify real learning.
 - Virtue is a term for human excellence. This excellence is oriented toward Jesus Christ.
 - Living out a virtuous life is its own reward. Knowing Christ is its own reward.
 - Liberal arts are about persuasion. You cannot force someone to believe something against their will. The liberal arts are about liberty.
 - The liberal arts are the seeds of all later learning. The students attain the ability to learn anything in every subject.
 - For Christians the disciplines had to be governed by theology. Courage, temperance, and wisdom were all trained.
 - Christians kept together the head, hearts, and hands.
 - Education is about human formation, not just information. The liberal arts teach students to think.