



Greenleaf Friends Academy Desired Graduate Outcomes¹

“No education is complete without a personal knowledge and acquaintance with God. The highest intellectual attainment is of little value unless that attainment is controlled by Him, who is the source of all knowledge².”

—Dilla Tucker Winslow, Greenleaf Historian

As a Christ-centered school, Greenleaf Friends Academy recognizes that “the glory of God is man fully alive³,” and seeks to inspire and empower every student to discover his or her identity and purpose in Christ and His creation in order to effect change in the world now and for eternity.

Successful graduates will possess:

1. Sound reason and sound faith⁴

We expect students to think clearly and listen carefully with discernment and understanding⁵. We expect students to realize a unified Christian worldview⁶ with Scripture as the measure of all Truth⁷. We expect students to exhibit the wisdom to recognize complex issues and to follow the consequences of ideas⁸. We desire that our students have the mind of Christ⁹, the hands of a joy-filled servant¹⁰, a heart for the lost¹¹, and the courage to seek to dissuade those who are stumbling toward destruction¹².

2. Virtue and mature character¹³

Acting responsibly is the outcome of a mature character, which includes heart-obedience¹⁴ (rather than mere rule-following), good manners¹⁵, honorable relationships¹⁶, self-control¹⁷, and Christian leadership¹⁸. We help students rightly order their affections¹⁹ (the definition of virtue²⁰) through the study of great literature and the Bible. We expect students to be socially graceful and spiritually gracious. Above all else, we teach students to live in accordance with *Coram Deo*²¹—as though they were in the presence of God at all times—that they may be equipped to act out the spirit of the law, not just the letter of the law²².

3. A masterful command of language²³

Since language enables us to know things that we have not directly experienced, nothing is more important within Christian education. Without a strong command of language, even scripture is silent. As people of “the Word²⁴,” Christians should be masters of language. We expect our students to master uncommon vocabulary, grammar, usage, and translation through our study of English, Latin, and Greek²⁵.

4. Well-rounded competence²⁶

We believe the education of children is essential to serving passionately and accomplishing the Great Commission: to go out and make disciples of all nations²⁷. Educated people have competence in a variety of areas including the humanities, the sciences, and the arts²⁸. We expect our graduates to be well-rounded and understanding in all the scholastic disciplines in light of God and His truth²⁹.

5. Literacy with broad exposure to books³⁰

Educated people are well-read and able to discuss and relate to central works of literature, science, art, architecture, and music. We expect our graduates to be well-read in the important literature and ideas of Christian theology and the West. We recognize that real standards of truth, goodness, and beauty exist³¹; through the written word we can engage in the ongoing conversation concerning the great ideas³². These ideas are “basic and indispensable to understanding ourselves, our society, and the world in which we live.”^{33, 34}

6. An established aesthetic³⁵

In conjunction with sound reason and faith, virtue, maturity, a command of language, well-rounded competency, and a broad literary base, educated people develop a recognition of and appreciation for the beautiful, formed as they are exposed to great aesthetic masterpieces, particularly at a young age. We expose our students to the great artists to develop their aesthetic and cultural appreciation³⁶.

We measure the success of our Mission Statement by looking at the finished product, and we are continually evaluating the effectiveness of our programs and practices to ensure our graduates are equipped. With the end in mind of seeking to inspire our students to think clearly, act responsibly, and serve passionately, we build our program upon the following:

- We place Christian truth at the center of all learning.
- We graduate thinking, compassionate, and articulate students whose chief end is to glorify God.
- We challenge students with a rigorous educational experience.
- We prepare students to shape culture and society.
- We are a close community that encourages Christian living.
- We support the standards and values of Christian families.

Notes

1. Content adapted and modified in part from the “Greenleaf Friends Academy History, Mission, Core Values” (written in 2016), and recommended outcomes, or goals, written by the Association of Classical Christian Schools. Outcome defined: our aims and desired results.
2. Dilla Tucker Winslow. *From Sagebrush to Green Fields*. 1984.
3. St. Irenaeus of Lyons. *Adversus Haerese*, book 4, chapter 20. St. Irenaeus “refers to the life of the Word Incarnate. That is to say, the ‘living man’ intended by Irenaeus is Christ himself, in whose life we believers contemplate the Father’s glory revealed in the Son. ‘*Vita hominis visio Dei*...the life of a man is the vision of God.’ In the life of the man Jesus, believers behold the glory of God shining on the face of his Son.” [translated and explained by Patrick Henry Reardon in “The Man Alive,” *Touchstone Editorial*.]
4. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to think clearly...and serve passionately.”
5. Romans 12:2
6. “Worldview” includes our way of understanding the world of ideas and cultural expressions, as well as how we respond to these ideas. A “Christian worldview” is a way of interpreting and understanding the world through distinctively Christian presuppositions. [Nancy Pearcey, *Total Truth* and Harry Blamires, *The Christian Mind*] We believe
 - Mankind’s origin is found in the work of God, who created man in His own image to live in fellowship with Him, even though man chose to walk away from God’s plan.
 - Our identity is that of a lost race, redeemed only by Jesus Christ’s redemptive work on the cross.
 - Our purpose is to glorify God by proclaiming His truth in word and deed.
 - Our destiny is eternal fellowship with the Lord.
- Ephesians 5:26-27
- Colossians 1:23
7. 2 Timothy 3:16
8. Proverbs 8:12
- Proverbs 9:10
- Colossian 2:2-3
9. 1 Corinthians 2:16
- 1 John 3:24
10. Philippians 2:12-18
11. John 3: 15-18
12. Proverbs 4:18
13. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to...act responsibly, and serve passionately.”
14. Deuteronomy 8:2
- John 15:14
- 1 John 2:3-6
15. Proverbs 23:1
- Luke 6:32
- Ephesians 4:29
16. Psalm 89:14
- Micah 6:8
- Philippians 2:3
17. 1 Corinthians 9:25
18. Matthew 20:26
- Luke 22:26
- Proverbs 29:4
19. Deuteronomy 6:5-6

- Exodus 20
Deuteronomy 5
Colossians 3:2
Colossians 3:10-12
Philippians 4:8
20. 2 Peter 1: 5-7
Virtue is a mindset that is initiated by God (1 Cor. 1:30); furthered by His gifting (Eph. 4:11); ministered by His calling (Rom. 11:29 and 1 Cor. 1:26); and cultivated in us, then others (Luke 6:19 and 2 Peter 1:2-5). Virtue includes the power of God in our lives, upright moral character, intellect—a “[zeal] for knowledge, skill and wisdom” (James Sire, qtd. in “An Introduction to Classical Education,” by Christopher A. Perrin), and a knowledge of the Holy One (from Joe Carson’s comments 22 May 2017).
21. Deuteronomy 6:15
1 Kings 8:27
Psalm 139: 7-8
Revelation 1:8
22. Isaiah 29:13
Mark 7:9-13
23. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to think clearly…”
24. Deuteronomy 8:3
Matthew 4:4
John 1: 1,14
John 3:11
Hebrews 1:-1-3
James 1:22
25. Psalm 19: 2-4
26. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to…serve passionately.”
27. Matthew 28:18-20
28. 1 Corinthians 9:19
29. John 3:19-21
Romans 12
30. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to think clearly…”
31. Truth, Goodness, and Beauty are symbols, every dimension of which point directly to God and are perfectly embodied in the Lord Jesus Christ.
32. A common thought that two or more individuals can discuss and either agree or disagree about; an “object of thought” (Mortimer Adler).
33. Mortimer Adler
34. Psalm 107: 23-31
35. from Greenleaf Friends Academy’s Mission Statement: “Inspiring students to think clearly…”; aesthetic: concerned with the appreciation of beauty; a set of principles underlying and guiding the definition of beauty.
36. Exodus 36
Psalm 27:4
Isaiah 28:5
Isaiah 52:7