

Preparing for a College Education: Advice for Parents and Their Children

Rev. Edward D. Seely, Th.M., Ph.D.

Many parents and their children are becoming increasingly aware of and concerned about the high cost of post-high school education. Moreover, these concerns are superseded for Christians when considering the very Left-wing, including anti-Christian, bias of the majority of professors on most secular campuses. These questions are of the greatest importance, for they can affect their children's eternal destiny. How can Christian parents and their children make the best decisions on whether college is necessary, and if so, what college the young people should attend, how to pay for that education, and how to mitigate as well as overcome the negative aspects? Here are some thoughts that should help which have come from over half a century as a student, pastor, parent, and college and grad school professor.

Begin Early.

As soon as they have children, parents should implement, or preferably add to, their family financial plan. Talk with a trustworthy financial advisor, who has a good reputation and a successful track record, and preferably one who is a Christian. A Christian will understand, be supportive of, and have the wisdom to advise you according to the principles in God's Word.

Establish a financial plan that includes a good life insurance policy for the main breadwinner in your family. Obtain sound investment advice that will include a savings plan to cover unforeseeable emergencies as well as college education and retirement.

Implement a family plan that will facilitate each member of the family maturing in Christ Jesus. (Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 4:11-16) Read a portion of God's Word and pray together each day as a family. Worship at least weekly in a church that faithfully teaches the Bible and proclaims Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, connecting with the eternal resources God provides in and through the church, the body of Christ, that enables each member of the family to grow in Christ Jesus

until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (Ephesians 4:13-16)

Thus, as each of us in our family matures in Christ in connection with the church, we will also help the church to accomplish God's purposes. We and our family will also develop a Christ-like worldview and mentality that enables us to discern right from wrong, good from evil, and

the strength from the Holy Spirit to choose that which is good, right, of God and pleasing to God rather than that which is demonic.

In that process, as parents we need to help our children to develop the ability to think with discernment. We need to regularly assist them to think critically, i.e., to not automatically accept what a teacher says, even in Christian colleges and universities,¹ but to compare and contrast what he or she says with what God says in his Word, the Bible. To think critically is not at all the same as to think negatively. Critical thinking is the development of the ability to naturally always hold God's Word as the criterion reference and subject all that is heard and read to God's standard: that which compares with the Bible is acceptable, and that which contrasts with God's Word is not acceptable. With this skill, our children become ready to serve God most effectively in the world when they leave our home to go off to work and have their own family or to go to college.

This skill frees our children, and ourselves, from the warped and unbiblical values of the world, and of our culture and society in particular. We will help our children, in fact God's children, whom he has placed in our hands for a brief period of time, but with eternal implications, to think clearly about money. As they think with a Godly perspective, they will be freed from the demonic cultural value burden that links a person's worth with his or her income. The common term, "What is he worth?" typically refers to the individual's monetary assets. Wrong! One's true worth is in his or her bearing the image of God, and that worth is infinitely and eternally enhanced by his or her being a believer in and follower of Jesus Christ, who in love helps others in obedience to the Lord.

Where applicable, welcome and invite Christian grandparents' involvement. God has given believing grandparents responsibility for teaching his Word and its applications to their grandchildren. Grandparents who are maturing in Christ have the wisdom and experience they have accumulated over many years that will be especially helpful. "Only be careful and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them." (Deuteronomy 4:9; cf. 2 Timothy 1:5)

See also Psalm 78:1-7. In this text we read that the LORD "commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so that the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands." (vss. 5-7) The same original Hebrew verb as in Deuteronomy 4:9, translated "commanded" in verse five, is in the Piel stem and the Perfect tense, indicating a real intensity and intentionality that is planned and all part of God's will.

¹ Professors, administrators, and students at Christian schools, colleges, and universities sometimes make statements and behave in other ways that are wrong to say and do. However, such occurrences are less frequent, typically less serious, and are done with different motivations from those in secular schools, colleges, and universities. In Christian educational institutions, the motivation of challenging comments and methods is to help the students carefully think through and grow in their faith and to always "be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks [them] to give the reason for the hope that [they] have [and to do so] with gentleness and respect...." (1 Peter 3:15 NIV)

Commitment to Christ and maturity in him does not occur automatically or by some kind of spiritual osmosis. Nowhere in the Bible is the extremely unwise and very wrong modern concept of not teaching but “allowing children to make up their own minds when they become adults,” especially when their young pliable minds are coerced by confused and misguided peers and anti-Christian teachers, professors, and other leaders with a professed agenda that is contrary to God’s Word and will. Maturity in Christ comes through the nurture described in the above and many other passages in the Bible, and it is very intentional, planned, and constantly supported by the Christian family and membership and regular involvement in a faithful church congregation. (Hebrews 10:25) This continual engagement with the church, the people of God, is especially important the older the children become and when they leave the home. Parents and grandparents: pray and stay in touch! Regularly!

The continuing contact and relationship with immediate and extended family is greatly needed. It was a part of everyday reality in Bible times, as it still is in many, especially non-Western, countries of the world today, where children, parents, grandparents, and even great grandparents all lived and still live in the same housing complex. Children had, and in those settings still have, the daily contact with their parents, grandparents, and other extended family members that enriches and strengthens their faith and other dimensions of their lives, not only by words that are spoken but by the children experiencing their older family members modeling their faith that helps them cope with and succeed in life in a Christ-like manner. The current Western mentality of pressuring children to leave home and live out on their own is counterproductive to their spiritual and other well-being, especially when they are not connected with a church that faithfully proclaims and lives the Word of God. The longer our children and grandchildren can stay close to and connected with their Christian family and extended family, the stronger they will be in their faith in Christ and in their service to the Triune God. Where it is not possible to all live together, use the means available to remain closely connected, e.g., through regularly using the phone, texting and especially voice; video conferencing technology such as Zoom; social media venues the grandchildren prefer; email; regular mail and packages; and multiday in-person visits.

Grandparents can help in other ways. When college is needed, it would be good for grandparents, who have the financial means, to consider helping with tuition and other expenses now rather than leaving money for an inheritance after they die. With the high cost of a college education, and housing at all times, now is when the younger people need the help. Such assistance as can be given now will reduce the staggering debt load that has many counterproductive effects. For those grandparents whom the Lord has enabled to have surplus financial well-being, and thus have enough to provide for themselves for the rest of their lives, it would be good for them to give their children and grandchildren as much as they can now out of that surplus. Of course, it is necessary for them to make these decisions very carefully, considering all aspects of their lives, e.g., their health at present and in the foreseeable future, and that they will have enough to live on, give for the Lord’s purposes in their tithes and offerings, and the provision for unanticipated expenses, and it is good to consult with respected and trustworthy financial planners and trust attorneys. When it is observed that grandparents and

other older family members can give some of their wealth away now, that would be a great blessing.

Thus, as we help our children set goals for what is most important in their lives, raise key questions. For example, entertainment industry actors and actresses as well as professional athletes earn incredible amounts of money each year, far more than firemen, EMT personnel, police, electricians, plumbers, HVAC and sanitation workers, but who helps you the most? When you lose your power, your drainage system backs up, you or a loved one have a health emergency, or your furnace fails on a below subzero night, who will come through for you? Not the actor who earns 28 million or the football player who earns upward of 80 million in just one year! Which occupation is most important and serves God's people in the most helpful ways?

Of course, all the above requires knowledge of God's Word. That means daily reading the Bible. Develop the desire to stop and study certain words and passages. It means reading the whole Bible. Great and continuing blessings will result!

Consider Whether a College Education is Necessary.

Many occupations today do not require a college education. Not a few hire good students right out of high school and offer them on-the-job training and/or the opportunity to attend seminars and other learning experiences when needed to help their employees learn specific information and develop essential skills to upgrade their ability to function as desired in their work.

Certain types of employment are called "middle-skill jobs," which are those that require some education beyond high school but not as much as a baccalaureate (BA) college degree. Middle-skill jobs grew by 29% between 1991 and 2016. Such jobs and their annual incomes in 2020 include wind turbine technician (\$54,370); electrical power line installer (\$70,910); nuclear power reactor operator (\$94,350); power distributor and dispatcher (\$86,410); commercial pilot (\$82,240); elevator installer and repairer (\$79,780); detective and criminal investigator (\$81,920); plumber (\$53,910); occupational therapy assistant (\$60,220); and power plant operator (\$83,020).²

Consider, still today most employed people do not have a college degree. David Harsanyi, writing in *The Daily Signal*, reports that "around two-thirds of people in the American workforce have no college degree. Some Americans have no interest in higher education. Many don't need university degrees for the vocations they pursue."³

² Kathleen McCleary, "What People Earn: 2020," *Parade*, April 5-12, 2020, p. 11.

³ David Harsanyi, "The Injustice of Canceling Student Debt," *The Daily Signal*, June 30, 2019, https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/06/30/the-injustice-of-canceling-student-debt/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=the-injustice-of-canceling-student-debt?utm_source=TDS_Email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=MorningBell&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWldFd01ERm1ObU16TIRkaCIsInQiOiJkS3dTSUdteWJucFIFbEFPK0FORGo2Kzg4TFBQazR3VmtHV1dITVwvcHhKZTNrTHI4eFNVclwvaEpCNEluMWR2N3FmYzZRVDhUWFJRTGxycVJXY2VmSDloUDVCTG54QTFGOHBjdGtYbHFoTDAzMUE5bm1WVEVIdFRSbG9oak1KMGxCIIn0%3D. (Accessed 7/1/19 and 4/13/20)

In March 2019 Boulder County, Colorado, announced that it removed the requirement of a college degree from 81 of its 375 job classifications. Examples of county government positions no longer needing a college education include agricultural resources specialist, budget analyst, communications specialist, geographic information systems manager, human resources administration, human services program manager, law enforcement records manager, volunteer coordinator, web applications developer and wildfire mitigation specialist. The government is now specifying that additional experience can qualify people for positions that formerly required a college degree. “From now on, job descriptions for the 81 positions will instead state that applicants should have ‘any combination of education [including just ‘a high school diploma or equivalent’] and experience in specified skill sets,’ officials said.”⁴

Quoting *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Dallas Morning News* reports that in November 2022, “41% of U.S. job postings required a college degree. That’s down 5 percentage points from 2019.”⁵

Talk with your son or daughter a lot about what he or she is interested in doing, and then talk with fellow church members, neighbors, relatives, and friends who are already employed in that work; seek their advice and counsel as to how to prepare a successful application for such work. Set up meetings with leaders in that field for you and your child, and ask the leaders what is required for being hired. Many outstanding leaders will be willing to meet with you and your son or daughter. They view such help as a contribution to their company’s and country’s future; Christians will see such opportunities as a service to the Lord.

Consider a Community College.

When a college education is required, community colleges have a lot to offer over, and in preparation for transfer to, a four-year college. To begin with, they are much less costly, not only in their lower tuition than a four-year college or university but in the very significant savings due to your child(ren) being able to continue to live at home, thus saving room and board.

Another very helpful feature of a community college is that many, and usually most, of the professors are adjunct professors, which means they are not full-time professors. Typically, their full-time vocation is in a business, profession, or other occupation that allows them to have the time to teach at the college. Here the students are blessed to be taught by someone who can cite the principles, the following of which have made the professor successful in his or her field. The principles are not just theory, and the professor/practitioner is able to authentically demonstrate these keys to success in his or her work.

⁴ John F. Ryar, “Boulder County removes need for degree: Requirement being removed from 81 positions,” *Reporter-Herald*, March 29, 2019, p. 3A.

⁵ “The Dallas Morning News on how fewer jobs require a college degree, and that’s a good thing,” *Reporter-Herald*, December 7, 2022, p. A4.

This ability is superior to most full-time professors, many of whom have little or no actual experience in the field, who are simply espousing theories they've studied in their own college and university education. That education usually has been at the feet of liberal, even very liberal, often anti-Christian, professors who've let it be known their students have to subscribe to their theories in order to successfully pass their course.

The exposure to the liberalism of full-time professors on the college and university campuses begins early. A review of the summer reading books incoming freshmen and women were being asked to read reveals they are mostly liberal. *The New York Times* reported that the subject matters were largely on immigration, race, "transitioning genders," economic injustice, the perils of technology, diversity and tolerance, and social activism. Only one conservative writer was included in the readings, which even the *Times* admits, does "go against the liberal trend."⁶

The preceding is not to say that there are no liberal or anti-Christian adjunct professors. There are, but in my opinion not as many as on four-year colleges and universities. Since the community college adjunct professors' primary occupation is off campus, they are not so ensconced in the biased, elitist, and heavily enforced liberal milieu of the major colleges and universities. Many are members of and active in a local church, often a church committed to the faithful teaching of God's Word, which helps to keep their perspective more aligned with their Biblical theology in both their workplace and on the community college campus. Their primary identity and the source of their economic and professional reputation and other well-being is not at the mercy of and shaped by conformity to the peer-judging political correctness of academe.

Keep in mind the very important difference between knowledge and wisdom. I know personally professors on the university campus, and know of many others, who possess extensive knowledge, especially on certain subjects, but they don't have a shred of wisdom! Why? Recall this teaching from God's Word: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10) Remember also, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." (Proverbs 1:7)

Your children who are attending a local community college, will recall your teaching over many years to think critically, and especially as you talk with them about what they're learning, they'll be able to discern when professors err. Since they'll still be living at home, they'll have your additional help in discerning and thinking through those errors and arriving at a correct evaluation and conclusion. This parental help is especially valuable for younger college students as they make the transition from high school to college.

Another reason to consider a two-year community college is that the first two years of college are when students make up their minds about what they want to do in their working life. Statistics show that over 80% of college students change their minds about what they want to do between the time they enter college and the end of their second year. This is why colleges and universities typically do not require students to declare a major until the end of their sophomore year. Why not let them do this sorting out of courses (and thus careers—e.g., if they find they

⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/01/us/college-summer-reading.html>

don't like the course, "Fundamentals of Accounting," they can likely rule out a career as business manager or banker) in a college where the courses are significantly less expensive?

Also, many courses can be taken online and all while living at home—a lot less expensive than at a dorm or any other living accommodation hundreds or thousands of miles from home. Living at home also saves the cost of such transportation. It's also safer, especially when teenagers and twenty-somethings try to drive all that distance, sometimes with faculties that are challenged by lack of sleep, alcohol and other drugs, to say nothing about inclement weather being navigated by inexperienced and easily distracted drivers, including those who are also on the road with your son or daughter.

Community colleges offer a lot of other advantages. Since many fine occupations do not require a four-year college education, many community college students can learn what they need at the local college and then go directly into a job, often near home. Parents may want to keep in mind research showing that about 80% of students tend to live within 100 miles of the college from which they graduate. That can be a long way from home. If it is necessary in order to accomplish what your son or daughter understands to be God's will for his or her life, that may be what he or she should do, but that decision does affect family time together and the development of family relationships. Since family is so important, the closer the college is to home has many benefits.

Students can come to know the respected and successful business man or woman who is teaching a course they like and develop a relationship with that professional. Such a relationship has many benefits, including a valuable reference for the résumé, a respected name for connecting with others in the field, and a possible job with the adjunct professor's company or firms the professor knows.

My daughter, Janet, reminds me of the importance of using social media for developing such relationships. LinkedIn is especially designed to provide and facilitate these valuable connections. In an email message she said,

I would add one more point to the community college choice and having a professor who is also in the work force—networking!...[I]n the case you are taking classes and getting to know someone in the workforce, he or she can become a good contact for networking for jobs in the industry in the future. Even if you don't get a job through them, potential employers will see you are connected to them in your LinkedIn account which can be helpful.

Community colleges provide valuable experience in learning the skills required for success in college level course work. Some community colleges have an exceptionally good reputation among the colleges and universities. As such, having an acceptable two-year record of course work in a community college facilitates acceptance into a four-year college or university for the remaining two years of baccalaureate education.

Consider also that community colleges typically have smaller class sizes.⁷ Having fewer students enables professors to spend more time with, and give special attention to, their students.

Carefully Select a Four-Year College or University.

Whether transferring from a community college or planning to go directly from high school, much care should be given to the choice of the college or university. First consider a Christian college. Advantages include teaching from a Biblical perspective, and, if the college is part of a Christian denomination the teaching will typically include instruction from that denomination's theological perspective. Depending on the denomination, and if its theology is well-grounded on the Bible and in historic Christian theology, a superior education will result.

Some cautions need to be taken into account in the decision as to choosing a Christian college. Many colleges that began as fine Christian institutions have lost their original Biblical and theological moorings as their subsequent boards of trustees and the administrations have lost sight of or rejected the founders' principles and have become lax in the hiring of their professors. Standards have been lowered or ignored, which has resulted in the hiring of professors who do not adhere to the standards, who have and thus teach a liberal worldview, and depending on the college, some of these professors are not even Christians. Parents and students need to remember also that even professors who are conservative theologically can and do hold liberal social and political views that can conflict with what the Bible teaches, e.g., abortion, homosexuality, transgender issues, climate change, immigration. Thus, parents should advise their children to always employ their ability to think critically even on a Christian college campus.

Many Christian colleges are expensive, but scholarships and other financial aid is available. Yet, if cost is a factor, rather than put oneself in a financial situation that is an unnecessary and counterproductive burden that will remain so for many years, it may be wiser to choose a secular college or university. But do so carefully!

Consider that state universities are typically less expensive than their more private counterparts, e.g., the University of Michigan costs more to attend than Michigan State University, and the University of Colorado is more expensive than Colorado State University. State universities usually receive more state funding than the other schools. In either case, don't forget to exhaust all possibilities for scholarships. The admissions office at the schools you are considering will be glad to help you identify these sources.

Many colleges and universities offer student employment either for pay or for credit against their tuition. Off campus jobs are often available. To the extent your son or daughter can manage a part-time job in addition to his or her course load (be careful to not put him or her under too much stress, which is unhealthy), such a job plus summer and other vacation work, does look

⁷ See, e.g., the advertisement for Aims Community College in the April 22, 2019 issue of the *Reporter-Herald*, p. 5A.

good on a curriculum vitae when applying for a full-time job upon graduation. One executive with whom I talked on several occasions emphasized how he carefully examined the résumés of his job applicants to see what percentage of their college education they paid for themselves! The ones who paid for most of their education had his attention and an advantage in the application process. Employment with a reduction in course load is one reason many students are now taking five and six years to complete their baccalaureate education.

The secular college or university should offer the course work that will enable your son or daughter to have the academic credentials required for being hired by the business or profession in which he or she wants to work and which will enable him or her to succeed in that work. In the process of deciding upon which school you, or depending on who's paying, your son or daughter, want to "hire" (a good perspective to have, for academe has lost its original sense of being a public servant, that concept having been replaced with the current expectation to be served—contrast Matthew 20:28—losing the understanding and appreciation that they wouldn't even exist if it weren't for their students) be sure to inquire as to which Christian organizations are strongly represented on that campus. Once accepted by that four-year school, even before arriving on campus, contact the Christian organization(s), e.g., InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Cru, Young Life, on campus and obtain contact information. As soon as possible attend chapter meetings, decide on which organization to be a part of, and commit to meeting regularly with that Christian ministry in order to have strong Christ-centered support to help withstand the negative and demonic non- and anti-Christian forces at work on the secular campus, in the administration, on the faculty, and in the student body.

From this Christian organization find a close-by church, that faithfully teaches God's Word, with which to meet and worship each week. Encourage your son or daughter to participate in one of the church's Bible study groups. If that is not feasible, suggest also that he or she invite Christian friends to form a Bible study group of their own. When well-established with Christians who are maturing in their relationship with Christ Jesus, invite non-Christian friends to join the group. Engaging in weekly worship and in at least one of these other Bible studies, will help your son or daughter to maintain and develop his or her relationship with the Lord, which will be his or her most vital and important source of strength to withstand the demonic influences that will both subtly and overtly be attacking him or her on a secular campus. (Read again Ephesians 6:10-18 and discuss it with your son or daughter.)

In the college selection process, ask local Christian business persons and teachers (high school, community college, members of your church) to advise you as to what college offers the courses your son or daughter needs in his or her chosen field and if they know any professors on that campus who are Christians. Try in this and any other ways you can, e.g., from Web searches, to find a professor on the campus you are considering who is a Christian, especially one who is a strong and maturing Christian. Ask to meet with him or her. Ask if he or she will become at least a temporary advisor for your son or daughter. Using the principle on secular campuses of taking people more than courses, ask the Christian professor which professors he or she advises

your son or daughter to take. Of course, include your son or daughter in this search, even asking him or her to make these inquiries.

When the decision has been made, as parents, pray in Christ Jesus daily and earnestly for your son or daughter. (Ephesians 6:18; James 5:16) When classes start, keep in close contact via text, video or audio phone, email, other Web-based communication, however he or she prefers. Discuss with him or her how often you'll visit in this manner and in person, then faithfully follow through on your agreement. That loving, prayerful, and regular contact he or she can count on (and truly desires, even when not admitting it), will provide a solid support to help him or her encounter and overcome the spiritually negative and destructive forces on campus.⁸

The Dallas Morning News, quoted Cardinal John Henry Newman, who wrote in his book, *The Idea of a University*, that “the goal of a university education should be the pursuit of knowledge in search of truth. That’s an ennobling purpose, but one disconnected from what many universities have become: jobs training in specific fields with...politically charged instruction...”⁹ To its partial credit, the Dallas newspaper mentioned the “politically charged instruction” that is occurring on especially secular campuses, but it deceptively played down this reality which is actually intentional, extensive, and often hostile. The majority of the faculties on secular college and university campuses stand for, espouse, and promote a Left-wing worldview and values.¹⁰ Contrary to Cardinal Newman’s well-articulated philosophical basis for higher education, these faculties and their like-minded administration on many campuses prohibit conservative speakers on campus, fail to protect those who are allowed to speak from all too-

⁸ Maintain this close, careful, and continual communication even if your son or daughter goes to a community college and is living at home, and if he or she is attending a Christian college. Some, originally conservative, Christian colleges and seminaries have hired liberal, immature, and knowledgeable but unwise professors who are teaching untruth and even heresy that is contrary to historic, Christian, Bible-based theology and other subjects, as well as intentionally and unintentionally omitting truthful, important, valuable and even vital information. Checking into the background of, and current articles and books written by, key administration personnel, especially the president and members of the institution’s board of directors, can yield significant information. Also, consult a trusted pastor about these matters.

⁹ “The Dallas Morning News on how fewer jobs require a college degree, and that’s a good thing,” *Reporter-Herald*, December 7, 2022, p. A4.

¹⁰ Many studies and articles document this significant reality and its progression. For just a few citations, see John Bickley, “How Politically Biased Are Colleges? New Study Finds It’s Far Worse Than Anybody Thought, May 3, 2018, DailyWire.com, <https://www.dailywire.com/news/how-politically-biased-are-universities-new-study-james-barrett>. (Accessed 12/7/2022) Christopher Ingraham, “The dramatic shift among college professors that’s hurting students’ education,” *The Washington Post*, January 11, 2016, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/01/11/the-dramatic-shift-among-college-professors-thats-hurting-students-education/> (Accessed 12/7/2022) Jon Shields writes, “When the Carnegie Foundation conducted its faculty survey in 1999, it found that a mere 12% of professors were conservatives, down from 27% in 1969. Using a different dataset from the Higher Education Research Institute, political scientist Samuel Abrams discovered a similar decline. Overall, Abrams estimated that the ratio of liberal to conservative professors has increased by about 350% since 1984, even though there was no equivalent change among the American public or college students.” Jon A. Shields, “The Disappearing Conservative Professor,” *National Affairs*, Number 53, Fall 2022, Fall 2018 article, <https://nationalaffairs.com/publications/detail/the-disappearing-conservative-professor> (Accessed 12/9/2022)

common cases of violent opposition,¹¹ and fire faculty who uphold and teach traditional conservative values. Notably, when such cases result in lawsuits, the conservatives typically win them, the verdict vindicating and sometimes compensating, usually on the basis of the violation of the victims' First Amendment rights.¹²

Here we see another benefit and application of the admonition of the Bible, e.g., Hebrews 10:25, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." The strong continual connection with the Spirit-filled and faithful church that adheres to and truthfully proclaims God's Word, will help your sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, nephews and nieces, and other loved ones—loved by us and by God—grow "in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

¹¹ Such violence ranges from left-wing activists shouting down the conservative speaker so he or she cannot continue, to physical abuse where the speaker has had to be escorted to safety and leave the campus, and to physical assaults upon conservative student sponsors that have required hospitalization. See these accounts documented at organizations such as, but not limited to, Alliance for Defending Freedom, Leadership Institute, Students for Life of America.

¹² See, e.g., Alliance for Defending Freedom.