PD by Design
Facilitator’s Guide 2021
Elevating Purpose
On-Demand, Digital PD for Teachers

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10
Opening Session
20 Minutes

NOTE: To adequately prepare for discussion, it would be helpful to arrange faculty into small table groups of 4-6 people at each table.

Welcome faculty and staff | Share a devotional | Encourage partner prayer

Begin the day by welcoming the participants and thanking them for investing in themselves for the sake of the students with whom you have been entrusted. The opening session is a time for you to give participants an overview of the day, so they know what to expect and get settled in to learn. You may wish to provide them with any relevant instructions regarding the morning sessions or schedule or other items as needed. You may also start the day with a devotional and prayer to prepare your hearts for learning and growth.

Session 1
“Reimagine Education”
presented by John Stonestreet [60 min]

When talking about the cultural moment as Christians, it is critical to begin in the right place. In this session John refocuses the role of Christian educators as “soul stewards” in a cultural moment that is taking place within a much larger story. He reminds teachers and leaders of the metanarrative that God is writing, and walks participants through a new framework of thinking about purpose. John encourages participants to focus on what Christian education is for rather than simply what it is. Moreover, he highlights the important role of teachers and leaders within Christian education. There will always be movements and undercurrents effecting the lives of students, but it is important to recognize a greater purpose and story than the current moment. This session outlines critical questions to help participants understand how the cultural moment impacts students and how to ground their work in the stability of God’s story.

Play Session 1 Video

Reflection/Discussion
Tech Note: There is no video content for this time, but it may be nice to have soft instrumental music playing in the background to help participants focus.

Lead participants in 5 minutes of personal reflection:

• Think about your own career. Do you see yourself in the light of a moment or of The Story?
• Do you find yourself focusing more on the challenges or the truth of the moment?
• Who do your students trust? Why?

Lead participants in 7 minutes of Small Group Discussions:
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• As a school, how can we cultivate a constant conversation between God’s word and God’s world?
• What does this look like in chapels, classes, and the school’s overall culture?
• What is my personal responsibility in cultivating this culture daily?

Large Group Share Out
Provide 3 minutes for popcorn sharing.

Facilitator Note: Remind attendees that they have a ten-minute break before the next session. You may want to inform them of restroom locations, snack/drink information, etc. at this time.

Break

Session 2
“What’s a Human Being?”
presented by John Stonestreet [60 min]

In this session, John walks participants through a view of humanity as seen throughout secular and religious history as well as through the biblical story. Posing the essential question, “What does it mean to be human?” John grounds the answer in Scripture and shows how culture has shifted its view of humanity as it has shifted its view of God. John reminds participants that the issues we see in culture are not just shifts in morality, these are shifts in the view of reality itself. The image of God provides participants with the theological framework of engaging culture and defining what it means to be human.

Facilitator Note: Welcome the participants back and remind them to consider the reflection questions in the participant notebook for each session. Let participants know that following this session there will be a 15-minute discussion/reflection opportunity.