

Moreau

Volume SIX

Christian Education

Those who teach justice to many will shine like the stars for all eternity

--Daniel XII: 3

Pedagogy derives from two Greek words—that for *child* and that for *leading*. It is the art of helping young people to completeness. For the Christian, this means that education is helping a young person to be more like Christ, the model for all Christians. From the word's roots, we can interpret pedagogy to mean “leading a young person away from ignorance and disorder.” In this

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way it consists precisely in the reforming of human nature, which has been weakened by original sin. This reforming involves restoring to rational processes the light that existed before the fall of our first parents and then restoring to the heart the kinds of feelings and sentiments that ought to reside there. This notion of pedagogy is founded on the

principles of Catholicism and makes educating young people a most important work for those who try to perform it—it truly makes education the art of arts.

It is very important that educators in our schools be trained in the art of education before trying to exercise the skill. It is an obligation of those in charge of the schools with which we are associated to help anyone who teaches at them. The educators will need direction to complete their preparation, because they will usually be unprepared to educate in the way I am describing. It is also important that those in charge of the schools with which we are associated understand the importance of this unified effort. Educators must also know what is involved in operating a school according to these principles. This belief, more than anything else, is what has inspired this document.



Christian Education, By Basil A. Moreau
June, 1856