

Dear Parents,

*Jesus hope of the nations
Jesus comfort for all who mourn
You are the source of Heaven's hope on earth
Jesus light in the darkness
Jesus truth in each circumstance
You are the source of Heaven's light on earth*

Christmas day is almost upon us even though the Christmas season has been present for quite a few weeks already. I consider being involved in Christian education at this time of the year a real privilege. Our students, staff and supporting families are always instrumental in bringing out the Christmas spirit in me and most importantly reminding, rekindling and reinforcing the real meaning of Christmas as well as the hope that our celebration of Christ's birth brings to a suffering world. In my opinion, few songs point this out better than Brian Doerksen's song, "Jesus Hope of The Nations" does. The words are what Christmas should be about. As a child and young man I was always touched and thrilled by the glitz and glitter of Christmas but it was only after I came to know the Lord that I could really appreciate the promise and hope that it harkens us back to. To think that the creator of the universe would come to earth as a newborn baby for the sole purpose of redeeming our broken lives sin order for us to know eternal joy with him. How can we ever hope to understand such love?

I think this song holds a particular resonance with me because it also echoes our school motto, A Heart For God A Mind For Truth, so well. Having a heart for God begins by realizing that Jesus is the source of all the hope and comfort us humans so desperately yearn for. The lyrics further remind us that a heart that seeks after God must recognize that only Jesus can provide the light we need to guide our way in this world. When we say that we want our students to have a mind for truth, we are in fact saying that we want them to know that Jesus really is the truth for every circumstance in their lives.

So thanks Brian Doerksen for your song that brings the Christmas message to us in new and vibrant way. And thanks for shedding fresh light on our school motto as well.

Merry Christmas every one! My prayer for you is that you would be deeply aware of the hope and promise that knowing Jesus brings and that it would instill in you a renewed commitment to look to Jesus as the truth for each circumstance that you encounter in 2010.

God bless you all

Larry Simpson