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A COLLEGE VISIT IS NOT A COLLEGE VISIT IF IT DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INTERVIEW...

...not the college interviewing you, but you interviewing professors.

Visiting a campus can be fun and enlightening. Students and parents can get important information just by being there. But the thing that will make your visit a worthwhile investment of your time and energy is the time you take to talk with professors.

Whether in the Christian or non-Christian college, you can gain invaluable insight into how helpful or threatening a college option may be by talking to a few classroom professors.

Every professor teaches from a worldview (the perspective about people, their needs, problems, solutions, goals for life, the place of importance God has in all of this).

It is not necessarily wrong for Christian students to attend schools with perspectives that are contrary to their Christian commitment, but they should know something about that oppositional stance before they get there.

Likewise, it does not have to be a mistake for a student to attend a Christian college with a loose commitment to the Bible. Many have that character. But it is critical that students know who those professors are who have, more or less, weak or strong commitments to historically orthodox doctrinal convictions—especially about the inerrancy and sufficiency of Scripture.

The process of exploring worldview issues and the commitment to the integrity of Scripture is more fully discussed in the handbook, *Walking Through the College Planning Process*. Juniors receive a copy of the handbook in the college planning seminar.

Both Christian and non-Christian colleges may offer professional training that can make them positive choices for students.

To make a wise choice, students must give serious attention to their own spiritual maturity as well as the character of the college.

“The Christian and non-Christian College Readiness Inventory” can help with self-assessment. “Stage II” interview questions can help with evaluation of a college’s world view.

Both of these tools are discussed in the college planning handbook.

During visits, use the “Stage II” questions to guide your investigation with professors.

A couple of these well thought out questions can yield lots of helpful information about the Christian college’s commitment to the historic beliefs about Scripture and the strength of the non-Christian college’s or department’s oppositional world view.

Visit wisely!