



THE VISION FROM A HOPEFUL HEART

by Debe Haller

Our theme for 2011-12 is **“With All Wisdom”** ~ based upon Colossians 3:12-17

Danny and I began our adventure of home educating our children in 1984 when our two oldest children were in second and fifth grade at a Christian school. Throughout the years we have marveled at God's grace as four toddlers became teens, now three are in their thirties, all four married, and collectively blessed us with nine grandchildren. With joy, we graduated our four children from Hope Christian Academy between 1991 and 2006.

Since beginning to home school, we birthed Hope Christian Academy, adopted our two daughters, two of our children revisited traditional school settings and came back home. We experienced the highest of highs and the lowest of lows that only come through parenting. We watched God bring growth in us as His children and in the seeds we planted- both in the ground and in our children, and lost several loved ones to death. We changed curriculum umpteen times, had children hospitalized, helped home school grandchildren, and gleaned lessons about God's care from our mother hens and their chicks.

Danny and I learned new ways to structure our day, celebrated thirty-nine years of marriage by God's grace and developed treasured friendships. We added a pot-bellied pig named “Millie B. Bacon” to our menagerie and daily experienced God's mercy. We home schooled our nephew, a niece, guided our four teens through encounters with junior college courses, trusted God to protect two of our children as we sent them to Indianapolis and Dallas for further training and obeyed God as He inspired effort and provided time to write two books. We have watched Hope grow from fourteen young and apprehensive families to over 160 families who are committed to follow God's best for their families and work together as a team for the protection and perseverance to fulfill our calling to home educate. After thirty-seven years as parents and twenty-five plus years of homeschooling, Danny and I enjoy sporadic quiet moments sitting on our backyard deck interspersed with a house and yard full of visiting grandchildren. God continually reminds us of our priorities as He provides opportunities for us to invest in the lives of our children and grandchildren for eternity.

In the summer of 2003 we moved the school office and library from our home to a commercial location and expanded our services to by opening Hope Country Schoolhouse Homeschool Store. “Store-schooling” our youngest daughter through high school, along with three elementary age grandchildren, gave us new ideas and perspective on home schooling. In the spring of 2006 God provided the quaint two-story building at the front of Garden Grove Friends Church property that now houses our school offices, library, and meeting rooms. After six years of dedicated effort, the store aspect of Hope Christian Academy, Inc. closed due to stiff competition and mass availability of materials readily available online to the homeschool community. In 2011, we opened a Hope South extension, under Kevin and Tami Prince's leadership, to better serve families in the southern Orange County and northern San Diego County areas.

If we are Christian families who desire to make a difference by rising up a foundation for future Godly generations, we must make plans and invest ourselves for eternity, taking the daily steps necessary to obtain our goal. We can not afford to focus solely on each day, each semester, or even each year, as though getting through that moment in time is our goal. We must look ten to twenty years down the road. Where, or better yet whom, do you want your family, your children, or yourself to be in the year 2025? Hope operates as a team of committed parents working toward common goals.

The vision at Hope is to offer support, guidance, and accountability to parents who desire to train their children to 1) live by Biblical principles; 2) practice responsible life skills and stewardship; 3) pursue excellence in academics; 4) be conformed to the image of Christ, and 5) be team players and good examples to others. We are training our children, especially teens, to reach beyond the desire to look for what they can get from others and Hope activities. Children need to be taught to be obedient to their parents and all authorities, and good examples to other children. We have confidence that God will develop character in our children as we follow His principles in training them to look outside of themselves for purpose in life. Collectively, let's look to God for grace and unity as conservative Christian private home educating families pursuing excellence in education.

“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good **hope** by grace, comfort and strengthen your **hearts** in every good work and word.” -2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Home is the Opportunity for Pursuing Excellence

12211 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, California 92841 (714) 373-HOPE <4673>
office@hopeca.com www.hopeca.com