
Do you remember all your teachers?

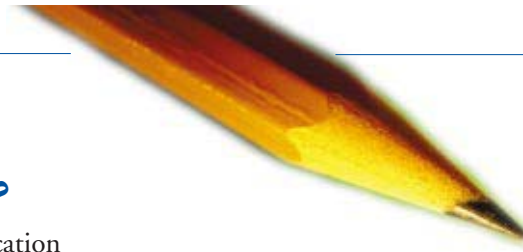
Do you remember all the notes you took?

It's probably safe to say you don't remember all the details of the education you received. And it's also probably safe to say there were times you didn't want to remember the details because they lacked relevance to your life—your interests and dreams.

Another goal your teachers had when introducing all those seemingly irrelevant details concerns your career path.

However, one of the goals your teachers had was to lay a strong foundation for your journey through life, not just your place in life. They desired to contribute to your personality, friendships, and emotions with a well-rounded education that, in turn, might help you shape the lives of everyone you encounter in your future, not just those who are identical to you or those who share your same interests and dreams. A well-rounded education prepares you to be God's instrument in a multi-hued world of varied interests and diverse dreams.

Another goal your teachers had when introducing all those seemingly irrelevant details concerns your career path. For example, how many times over the years did



planning

someone ask you, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" (Or, in some cases, "... when you finally grow up"!)

The answers you gave to that question may have changed more often than the seasons of the year. Studying many topics helps you see career paths beyond those you might encounter in everyday life.

Your teachers also knew that all we learn contributes to all we become.

Your teachers also knew that all we learn contributes to all we become. They presented endless details to ponder, absorb, reject, and examine because the process of doing so adds depth to who we are. In fact, some of the facts you learned in early elementary school are still a big part of you. For instance, knowing it's important to spell correctly (ah, make that "correctly") sticks with you as you complete college or move on to fill out job applications. And, the simple addition and subtraction you first learned in elementary arithmetic plays a huge part in the shopping, planning, and building you're doing today. Does math and spelling seem irrelevant to life as a second grader? Sure! (Anything separate from recess seems irrelevant to a second grader.) Still, everything you learned in second grade has helped to shape you into the person you've become.



*May our LORD Jesus Christ himself
and God our Father,
who loved us and by his grace gave us
eternal encouragement and good hope,
encourage your hearts and
strengthen you in every good deed and word.*

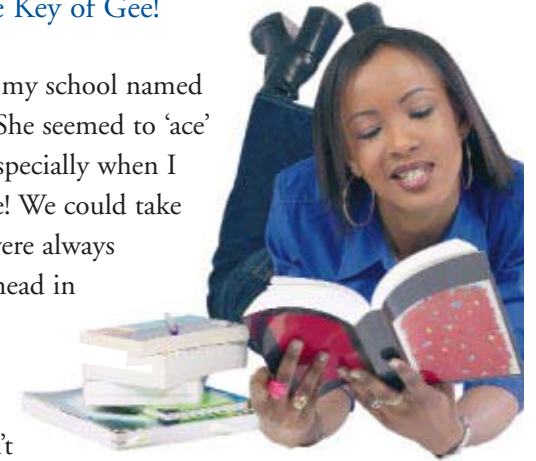
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17



Amazing Grace

in the Key of Gee!

There was a girl in my school named Grace. She was amazing! She seemed to ‘ace’ every subject. That amazed me, especially when I compared her report card to mine! We could take the same classes, but her results were always better than mine. I’d scratch my head in bewilderment and think, “Gee, Grace is amazing!”



The hymn “*Amazing Grace*” wasn’t written about the girl who attended school with me. The grace to which the song refers is a word that means “undeserved love.”

*The grace to
which the song
refers is a word
that means
“undeserved
love.”*

God’s love is amazing! Why would the Creator of the entire universe care about every aspect of our lives? Because he’s amazing! Why would he kill his own Son on a cross to cancel out every self-centered thought or action in us—just so we can live forever in his light, under his protection, within his comforting arms? Because he’s amazing! Think of all his many other gifts of love and life—all are undeserved. Life with him is truly amazing! Nothing we have done or will do can earn for us God’s forgiveness and salvation; instead, both are freely given to us through Jesus Christ. What an amazing God!

be mine