

Christian Education Initiative

NO.6

Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025

Advancing
Christ's Kingdom
through a
Biblical
Worldview
Education.



Reflections from the CEI Summit

BY JOHN RUSHEMEZA

Last week my wife and I traveled to Lynchburg, Virginia, to attend a summit hosted by the <u>Christian Education Initiative (CEI)</u>. The purpose of the gathering was simple but profound "to advance Christ's kingdom through a biblical worldview education". I left encouraged, challenged, and more convinced than ever that the work to "to further the advancement of a conservative Christian COUNTERREVOLUTION through Christian and home education in response to the current neo-Marxist cultural revolution" is alive and well.

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Add to your calendar:

Summit VII:

Fall 2026

Reflections on Summit VI Continued

By John Rushemeza

The summit wasn't a massive convention with flashy lights or corporate sponsors. It was a relatively small, intimate gathering, but it was filled with people who are deeply committed to the work of discipling the next generation through Christian education. Many of them have been laboring in this field for decades. It was a great privilege to meet many of the wonderful people in person.

A Gathering of Faithful Warriors

Speakers included Dr. Alex McFarland of the Alex McFarland Ministry and former president of Southern Evangelical Seminary; Dr. Max Lyons, director of Teaching Services at the Foundation for American Christian Education (FACE); and my friend Alex Newman, founder of Liberty Sentinel and executive director of Public-School Exit. Newman is not only a skilled journalist and cultural commentator but most importantly a devoted family man and advocate for Christian and home education. Jeff Tuomala, former academic dean and professor of law at Liberty University School of Law, delivered a talk titled Jurisdictional Thinking and Separation of School and State. He argued that tax-funded education is in fact unconstitutional because education lies outside the government's God-given jurisdiction. Leigh Bortins, founder of Classical Conversations, who made a strong case against government vouchers and warned Christians to reject government entanglement in education.

I was especially honored to meet E. Ray Moore, retired chairman emeritus of the Christian Education Initiative and director of Exodus Mandate. A true pioneer of the modern homeschooling movement, Moore has profoundly influenced my own efforts to help Christians think biblically about education. And what a blessing it was to introduce my wife and children to Rhonda Thomas, CEO and founder of Truth in Education. I also finally met the great Kevin R Novak, president of Deconstructing the Coliseum, LLC, as well as Kerry Morgan of Lonang Institute.

Pastors and the Call to Action

One of the most memorable talks came from Dr. Anthony George, pastor of First Baptist Church in Atlanta (formerly pastored by Dr. Charles Stanley). His message titled "Why I Support Christian Education as a Pastor" laid out practical strategies for pastors to reengage with education. Dr. George emphasized that Christians should not only pursue Christian education but also American Christian education that preserves the biblical foundations of this nation.

He described how his church took over a local school and transitioned it to the Principled Approach, the educational philosophy from FACE (Foundation for American Christian Education), which is unapologetically Christian and rooted in America's founding ideals. His challenge to pastors was in short that churches must do more than offer Sunday school and youth activities. They must actively equip parents to take on the education of their own children, provide resources and, where possible, start or support Christian schools in their communities.

Dr. Lyons built on that theme with his talk on funding strategies, offering practical models for churches to create education funds without government entanglement. His examples proved that when a congregation is committed, finances don't have to be an obstacle.

Why CEI Matters

One of the things I was mildly aware of but that because crystal clear to me was that the Christian Education Initiative is more than a network, it's a movement. Its member ministries are united by a passion to use education as discipleship, and though their approaches differ, together they create a powerful synergy that pushes back against the influence of cultural Marxism on the church, the Christian family, and the schools and home education shaping the next generation.

As I listened and interacted with different individuals, it was obvious from the start that this was a gathering of Christians men and women who refuse to compromise. And that matters, because the stakes couldn't be higher. If we keep leaning on and co-discipling with the government and those openly opposed to God, we won't hand our children a vibrant church or a free country. Thank God for the men and women who are laboring every day to keep the church in America strong.

CEI's Vision and Mission

CEI's vision captures their heart:

"Our vision is for individuals, families, churches, and civil governments to be transformed, working through the Holy Spirit, truly carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples who are equipped with a full-orbed biblical worldview to obey all of God's commands in all areas of life and society to advance Christ's Kingdom. That as Christ's faithful ambassadors, God may be glorified and the nations and peoples be blessed."

Their mission is equally powerful:

"Christian Education Initiative is an alliance of Christian individuals and ministries that believe the source of all wisdom and knowledge is from the Lord and begins with fearing Him. CEI members serve to enlighten, encourage, and support a comprehensive view of discipleship that equips and trains all who call Jesus Lord to live life according to the full breadth and depth of His Great Commission."

They outline three key mandates:

- Procreation mandate: Raise, train, and educate godly offspring under Godhonoring discipleship of body, mind, and soul.
- Discipleship mandate: Teach the whole counsel of God, equipping disciples to live faithfully and give a reason for their hope.
- Cultural mandate: Shape cultural thinking and governing laws according to biblical principles, including stewardship of natural resources for the good of all humanity.

CEI affirms that education is discipleship, and it begins in the home, led by Christian parents who bear full responsibility for their children until adulthood. The church leadership, pastors, elders, deacons, and others are called to encourage Bible-based education and to assist parents where needed. According to CEI, only two institutions hold God-given authority for discipleship and education, the family and the church (Matt. 28:18–20).

My Takeaway

Attending this summit was more than an educational experience; it was a spiritual recharge. I was likely one of the youngest people there, but I left with a deep sense of hope and optimism. Like Joshua and Caleb surveying the promised land, the leaders I met see the giants of secularism and state control, yet they trust God to give victory. Their courage and clarity reminded me that nothing is impossible with God. My prayer is that CEI will continue to grow, expand, and gain influence. The resources are there. The vision is clear. What we need now is more pastors, parents, and churches to step forward. If we are to hand our children a vibrant church and a faithful witness, we cannot rely on the government. We must disciple our children ourselves.

I am thankful that my family and I were able to attend this gathering, meet these leaders, and return home with renewed excitement for what God is doing in Christian education. I left encouraged in my own mission to help Christians understand the times and respond faithfully.

In that sense, I count myself among the sons of Issachar—those who knew the times and understood what Israel should do (1 Chron. 12:32).

We still have plenty of work ahead, but the tide is starting to turn in favor of Christian and home education. Now is not the time to ease up. Let's keep pressing forward to advance Christ's Kingdom through a bold, biblical worldview education.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Take the PEERS Worldview Assessment for FREE through the end of 2025 using the code: Bible

Summit VII Details Coming SOON

We're already looking ahead to Summit VII—and trust us, you won't want to miss it. While details are still being finalized, exciting plans are underway. Based on the thoughtful feedback we received from Summit VI, we're making key adjustments to the proposed agenda to better serve our members and strengthen the impact of next year's gathering. Your input is actively shaping the quality and direction of Summit VII. Stay tuned—official announcements are coming soon!



How to Get Involved with CEI: Become A Member

How to Become a Member

Understanding the Process:



01 - Express Interest

Send an email expressing interest in membership to info@christedu.org.



02- Complete Our Application

We will reply to your interest email with the simple steps to apply for membership.



03- Board Review and Approval

The CEI Board meets at the beginning of each month. At that time, we will review your application and vote for an approval or a rejection.



04 - Unlock Member Benefits

You will be notified promptly following the meeting with your approval. Once approved, you will unlock a plethora of benefits specific to the Christian Education Initiative's alliance of ministries and individuals.