



AI makes sense!

AI Menconi, nationally known speaker addressing the affects of the entertainment industry on our youth and culture, spent much of Sunday speaking to these issues. Damascus Christian School and Damascus Community Church co-sponsored AI to come as part of our effort to inform and educate parents and teens and raise awareness of critical issues pertaining to the choices we make and the effects it has on our lifestyle.

AI began sharing at the two morning services at DCC, speaking on *Making the Most of Every Opportunity* with related Scripture found in Ephesians 5:1-15. The thrust of his message – we are in a battle, a spiritual battle, fueled by the entertainment industry (movies, DVDs music, and electronic games) to capture the hearts and minds of individuals. He clearly showed the contrast between light and darkness, good and evil, the contrast between living for self and living for Jesus Christ. He effectively used a five-finger illustration – live-for-self-deny-Christ or live-for-Christ-deny-self. The entertainment industry actively promotes the former – live for self, while believers are called to deny self and put Jesus and others first.

At the afternoon session for parents only, AI walked us through the minefield of the Internet – online video games, music downloading, cell

phones, social network sites (MySpace, Facebook, etc.), chatrooms, IMing, diary sites, unrated videos, and crude movies. Mr. Menconi shared the Teeter Totter Principle based upon Colossians 2:8, *Don't let others spoil your FAITH and JOY with their philosophies, their wrong and shallow answers built on men's thoughts and ideas, instead of on what Christ has said* (Living Bible). We can either choose to live for self and deny Jesus or live for Jesus and deny self. He challenged those in the audience to take the 30-day Living FullTilt Challenge – to stop listening/watching/playing negative, music/movies/games and begin to renew and refresh our minds through listening to uplifting music and develop and deepen family relationships.

His final evening session was entitled *But It Doesn't Affect Me* and centered around the fact that our entertainment

choices can have a direct effect on our spiritual life. He shared with parents principles on helping their children learn *how* to think and evaluate influences in their lives rather than simply telling them *what* to think.

In addition to the presentations, AI had CDs, DVDs and books all geared to assist parents and teens in restoring and maintaining their faith and joy in the Lord. Hearts were challenged, touched, and changed through this powerful ministry. If you were not able to attend, we would recommend you visit AI's website at www.AIMenconi.com. We have copies of the handout entitled *Keeping Kids Safe in an Internet Age!* Stop by the school office and pick up your copy.



Scrip and other promotions = Free Money!

Scrip – a great way to take care of your shopping needs and benefit Damascus Christian School! Buy *Scrip* each week and use it at dozens of local stores just like cash. DCS then receives a portion of the vendor's profit to use for above-and-beyond the budget items.

Our first *Scrip* week brought in \$230 for Damascus Christian! Free money! **Ginny Nevin**, the very talented lady who lays out *ChalkMarks* each week won a Starbucks gift card just because she ordered *Scrip* and her name was drawn.

And then there is *EScrip*. All we need is your Safeway Club Card number. Each time you shop at Safeway, DCS receives a portion of their profit. We are currently averaging \$160-\$200 each month on this program. What fun it would be to double that!

Sign up by calling **Dyan Murphy**.

Campbell's Update – There has been a change in the way Campbell's labels are done – they now need the UPCs *not* the front labels as was requested earlier. We have been able to get some great educational items with these labels. For example, we have received a camcorder, electric pencil sharpeners' and PE equipment. Also, please keep sending in the *General Mills* box tops to your children's classroom. Thanks!

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Looking to connect?

Are you a new parent to DCS who wants to get connected? Are you a veteran parent who would like to reconnect? Come build relationships, have fun and help plan our 2009 Benefit Dinner! Get in on the ground floor! Let your voice be heard!

Next planning meeting will be Monday, October 20th, 11:10 AM - 12:00 noon in room 225 (Yearbook room). Call us to join the team - **Holly Heaton** or **Shelly Wade**.

Thanks!

~ build relationships
~ have fun
~ help plan

No school Thursday or Friday

ACSI

No school!

Our staff will be at this year's Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) annual Teachers' Conference at the Portland Convention Center. They will spend two full days attending seminars, being challenged by keynote speakers, looking over the latest educational products and proce-

dures, and rubbing shoulders with 1,500 other Christian educators.

Please pray that this would be a productive time and that our staff would come back with renewed enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and a greater heart for the Lord and His work at DCS.

Be watching for your child's Mid-Term Report

Wednesday, October 1st, our mid-term reports go home with each student. This is to supplement our RenWeb information and keep you informed as to your child's progress to date. These reports are to be

signed and returned to the school the next day. Thanks!

School pictures next Tuesday

Shine up that smile, send your child to school in bright colored clothes because next Tuesday is Picture Day!

Picture taking will start at 8:35 AM. Please send your picture order packet and a check with your child on Tuesday.



Grandparents' Day Friday, October 10th

Don't forget - Friday, October 10th, from 10:30 AM until noon, will be our annual Grandparents' Day. This is a special day in which we honor and celebrate our Grandparents. We

ask that each child have a grandparent or grandparent stand-in present. If your son or daughter's grandfolks are not able to come, please be sure to ask a trusted relative, neighbor, or other

acquaintance. It's going to be grand!

