

RIPE *for Harvest*

WORLD OUTREACH

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November, 2018

Friends,

Praying you enjoyed a very Happy Thanksgiving with friends and family. Our house was full again this year, and we enjoyed a wonderful day of celebrating God's love and provision. **We were also celebrating a few days of very much appreciated vacation!** It has again been a very busy month. At Desert Christian Schools (DCS) we are in what I refer to as **"full throttle" mode**; with sports tournaments, special events, the fall musical, oh and of course, classes. =]

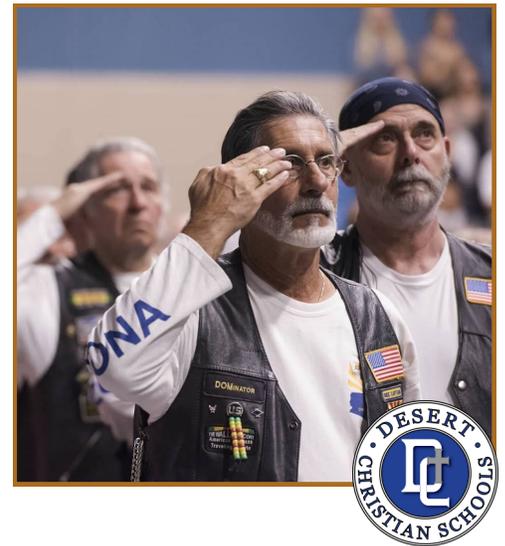
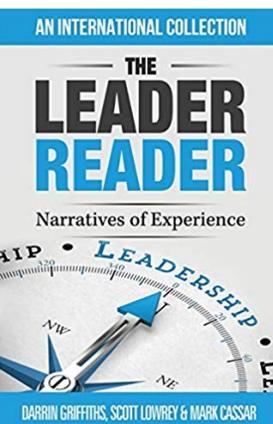
One of the very special traditions at DCS is our **Veteran's Day Assembly**. Each year the event features a very moving slide show featuring photos of those who have served in our community. In addition, our students sing the theme songs of the various branches of the armed forces, as well as other patriotic songs. This year two retired officers spoke to us about the significance of this day; especially from a Christian perspective. At the end of the ceremony all veterans in attendance are honored and presented certificates of recognition, prepared by hand by our students. It is a moving tribute, and an important reminder to our students and families that "freedom is not free."

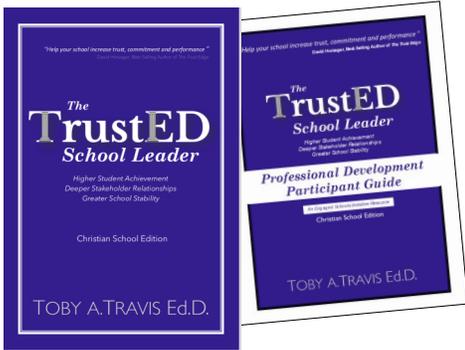
This past week, the DCS Musical Theater Department presented their production of Rogers & Hammerstein's, ***The King & I***. As someone who *lived* for the high school musical when I was a teenager, it thrills me that our school maintains such a high commitment to this program and quality of production. We are also blessed with amazingly talented students. This was a particularly special production, as due to the nature of the show, it featured students from both our Elementary and High School campuses. Great to see the students working together, as well as the small army of staff, parents and volunteers. What makes the



program especially meaningful, however, is the large amount of intentional mentoring and discipling, which takes place through the hard weeks of preparation. **A marvelous opportunity to build Christ-centered relationships through a very challenging and demanding project.**

About a year ago now, I was approached by an education publisher in Canada to submit **a chapter for a new book on school leadership**. Well, **THE LEADER READER** is now available online and I believe anywhere books are sold. The book features dozens of narratives on leading schools. If you know someone who is in school leadership, you may want to add this to your Christmas shopping list. =]





In other “book news”, the pre-launch event of the soon to be released book through Wheaton Press, **The TrustED School Leader** went very well. The administrators of over a dozen Christian schools came together to meet with me and the publisher, receive some training on school leadership based on the book, and to provide us with feedback. Here is one of the reviews:

“Toby’s passion for giving leaders and teachers practical strategies to build trust and improve results is a welcomed platform to engage staff in a difficult topic of conversation in most schools.”

- Danielle Root, Superintendent, Joy Christian School, Glendale, AZ

The books are still in the editing and re-editing mode for a few more weeks, as we now implement the feedback received from the “test group.” **The pre-launch version of the text book came out at 274 pages!** So, we’re also trying to cut that down! Your prayers are appreciated as we put the final touches on the publications. The current plan is **a release this coming January** if all goes well, as it is our hope the book, and accompanying workbook, will be available for my upcoming trips to Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, to serve as ongoing resources to support the Christian school leaders who participate in those trainings.

Finally, a special year-end gift request.

In just a few weeks we will be marking the two-year anniversary of our arrival in Tucson, Arizona. More than ever we are confident in God's call on our lives to be here, and thankful to Him for the blessing of leading and working in a vibrant Christian school ministry, as well as the continued opportunities to provide training, mentoring, and support to other Christian school leaders around the world. However, **we deeply miss our family and friends in Quito, Ecuador, as well as our many ministry partners there.** It is our prayer and desire to be able to spend several



weeks in Quito during the summer of 2019. To do so, will require significant funds, which we simply do not have. The entire trip, including travel, meals, and lodging for the three of us will require \$4,500—\$6,000.

Would you prayerfully consider a one-time year-end gift toward our trip back “home”? Your gifts will allow us to participate in several mission projects, as well as permit us to spend time with Ecuadorian family members, who are unable to visit us in the USA due to visa restrictions. Your donation of any amount is deeply and sincerely appreciated. **Thank you in advance!**

- Toby (on behalf of Tannia, and Emma too!)





Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ designated for
the ministry of *Toby & Tannia Travis #20245*.

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

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