

RCA IN THE NEWS

RCA STUDENTS/FACULTY PARTICIPATE IN 8TH ANNUAL SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS DAY

Riverside Christian Academy's students and faculty took the day off from class last Wednesday to spend time learning more about God and his word, praying, singing praises, and serving others. It was the school's eighth annual Spiritual Emphasis Day; this year's theme for the day came from Psalm 37:3, which says, "Trust in the Lord and do good."

The keynote speaker for the day was Kyle Butt, who works for Apologetics Press in Florence, Alabama. The mission of Apologetics Press is to produce scripturally sound and scientifically accurate educational materials in the field of Christian apologetics. Kyle is also the editor of *Discovery Magazine*, a monthly magazine on Scripture and science for children. His first lesson of the day was about trusting God even when it seems like His plan doesn't make sense; his second lesson was about scientific explanations for the existence of God.

"We were blessed to have such an intelligent and dynamic speaker as a part of our day. Kyle did a great job relating to all of the students, no matter their age," said RCA's Head of School, James Bryant.

The entire student body spent the first and last hour of the day singing praises in the school's gymnasium. The upper school boys and girls split up for part of the afternoon to hear messages from God's word that were targeted for their specific age/gender groups. Amie O'Neal, the Children's Minister at First Baptist Church, spoke to the middle and high school girls while Kyle Butt spoke to the middle and high school boys. The students also spent time during the day praying individually or in small groups, participating in a service project where they made cards and wrote letters to members of our military, and enjoying a free cookout lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs.

"Our students and faculty all look forward to Spiritual Emphasis Day each year. It is always a great day to center our minds and our focus on what is most important. We put aside school work, athletics, and other activities for one day to make sure that we're keeping focused on the main thing, which is God," said Bryant. "Our theme for the year, 'trust in the Lord and do good' has been great because it's applicable to everyone in all situations. If we're trusting in Him and doing good things, everything will fall into place."

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