

Three Basic Goals of Life and Education

From the "Discovering the Real Me" teacher's manual

This curriculum is developed around the idea that there are Three Basic Goals of Life and Education that systems of education need to be aware of and address if they are to educate responsibly. Bearing these goals in mind shapes education to fulfill its deepest purpose: to produce well-rounded, capable, and benevolent people who are a boon to society and to themselves.

We would say that developing a mature heart and character is the first basic goal of life and of education. Yet it is not an end in itself. Ultimately the goal of developing heart and character is to become a person capable of altruistically loving others. True love cannot be separated from virtues such as respect, responsibility, fairness, honesty, loyalty, unselfishness and others, as these are concerned with the way to properly relate with others. We may say that virtues facilitate the flow of love in human relationships. Thus a person of virtue is a mature person capable of beneficial and loving relationships, which are further contexts for fostering human development and growth. To develop loving relationships, especially in the context of a family, then, is the second basic goal of life and education.

As people develop their knowledge, skills, and technical expertise, they have the potential to be of enormous benefit to the larger society. With their maturity and sense of social responsibility, such people can balance their natural desire for personal success with the larger purpose of serving their society. A strong conscience and a well-developed capacity to love make for a more ennobling contribution to the human community. We consider making a contribution to society to be the third basic goal of life and education.

The pursuit and fulfillment of these three life goals: **1) Becoming a person of mature character** **2) Establishing loving relationships and family, and 3) Making a contribution to society** -- point the way to valuable and productive lives. By designing our educational system with these three life goals in mind, we can help our young people to find true satisfaction and fulfillment in life while realizing their full potential as human beings.

The *Discovering the Real Me* curriculum and teaching manuals emphasize the development of heart and conscience within the context of attaining the three basic life goals. Educating children to be better and happier human beings is the essential goal of education, even as they learn the technical expertise needed to serve our world to the best of their abilities. *Discovering the Real Me* seeks to correct the imbalance in current education by devoting special attention to the development of the inner human being, the core of which is heart.

To enroll in a Discovering the Real Me course, [**go here.**](#)