



Why PACEs Instead of Textbooks?

You have already discovered that A.C.E. is different . . . and better. One of the distinctives that makes A.C.E. better is that the basic learning tool is a PACE rather than a textbook. Before we discuss the superiority of the PACEs, let us answer a commonly asked question—"What does 'PACE' stand for?"

PACE is an acronym for "Packet of Accelerated Christian Education." In the A.C.E. program, students work through PACEs from preschool through college courses. Each academic subject for each level consists of 12 PACEs, and each student should complete a minimum of 72 PACEs in a school year. Some notable features basic to PACEs are:

- Bite-sized units of self-instructional material enhanced with illustrations and examples.
- Specific, understandable goals for the student to read before work is begun.
- Controlled vocabulary with pronunciation and definitions.
- Checkups, score strips, and Self Tests for assessment and learning control.
- Motivational character stories featuring Biblical character exhortations.
- Scripture and Biblical wisdom principles that provide encouragement and guidance.

So why are PACEs better than textbooks?

Here are a few reasons to choose PACEs over textbooks beyond those mentioned above.

Students see tangible results of their progress. Each time a student successfully completes a PACE, he receives a new academic PACE with new character stories, Scriptures, and Biblical nuggets to spark his interest. A new PACE is tangible evidence that the child has climbed another rung on his academic ladder.

PACEs teach personal responsibility in ways textbooks cannot. Controls are built in. The student completes activities, Checkups, and the Self Test, and he does his

own scoring and makes his own corrections. He knows when and how to review and prepare himself for testing. He experiences success and learns the importance of doing things right!

PACEs are geared to mastery learning. Children have a limited attention span and a restricted capacity for grasping new concepts. They need to have material introduced in bite-sized pieces; then they can practice each concept and test themselves to see if they really understand the new material. A textbook is not designed to allow a student to catch his academic breath but keeps placing more and more information into his mental processing network. PACEs not only provide instruction at a child's maturity level, they also allow him to learn and master concepts.

Now, students may continue their education beyond Level 12 with Accelerated College of the Bible International (ACBI). With a one-year certificate and a two-year degree already offered by ACBI, college staff are in the process of adding additional courses in PACE form.

PACEs provide self-instruction and mastery along with individualization. To achieve any degree of success, most textbooks require a teacher to interpret and explain the information. The teacher usually provides the examples and drills. Information is given, not on an individual basis, but to a whole class of children who have different capabilities and learning styles. PACEs, on the other hand, introduce one concept at a time, and each concept is visualized and illustrated by examples. Before moving on to the activities, the student may go back over the information and examples until he understands them. No other students are held up while he gains mastery, and he is not held back by the rest of the class when he grasps concepts quickly. He learns on his own at the pace he is capable of attaining. *ACE*



Yes, A.C.E. is distinctively different and BETTER!