

Teaching Style as a Reflection of Understanding Christian Ethics

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ABSTRACT

Christian ethics is the basis in the teaching style of a teacher, especially the Christian Education teacher, but in practice there are still many teachers who do not fully apply Christian ethics in the basic teaching process. This research aims to find out and evaluate how students' understanding of the character of teachers in teaching styles so that later when students are ready to teach they already know how good Christian ethics are for them to apply in the teaching world. The locus of penelitian is located on a Christian campus in North Sumatra, with student respondents from that campus. From this research, it was revealed that students' understanding of the teacher's Christian ethics and in teaching is quite good but still needs to be improved. The effect of understanding Christian ethics on teaching style was 46.1%. Thus, every teacher in teaching is important to improve and pay attention to Christian ethics in teaching so that the successor of the nation is not misguided and to be equipped with good and correct Christian ethics.

Keywords: Christian ethics; teaching style; reflection; student

1. INTRODUCTION

In the world of education, teachers are the most important part of the teaching and learning process, because teachers play an important role in transforming students who are taught with knowledge. The task of the teacher in the field of humanity is to position himself as a second parent. Where he must attract sympathy and become the idol of his learners.¹ The teacher is a teacher who always gives motivation to students both in their attitude and behavior. In addition, it can also make these students better in attitude and

¹ A. Anwar et al., "Analisis Pengaruh Gaya Mengajar Guru Terhadap Prestasi Belajar Siswa," *Jurnal Serambi Ilmu* 21, no. 1 (2020): 64–85.

behavior. Thus, in the learning process, teachers need to pay attention to Christian ethics in learning and use Christian ethical values so that students behave and behave well as educated people. Teachers have a great influence in changing the attitudes and behaviors of learners in the learning process.

Christian education teachers are an important supporter in realizing the formation of the identity of adolescents in working on God's Word, as a direction for each student to learn well, be able and always be willing to approach their students by paying attention to the personality of each student and serves to help students know God in Jesus Christ, have the mind of Christ, and help prepare students to become worthy people before God and live accordingly Word.

As for what is given or conveyed by the teacher, it should be able to motivate students. If a teacher acts less attractively, then the initial failure will be ingrained in the learner, the teacher as an operationally and mentally interested party must be prepared and improved professionally, because then the teacher's performance can be effective against the learner. If teacher performance is effective, educational goals will be achieved. What is meant by professionalism is the ability and skill of teachers to plan and carry out evaluations of student learning outcomes. There are three human actions, namely actions in thinking patterns, in speech patterns, and in behavior patterns (behavior). In this world, there are two kinds of quality of deeds, namely: good or bad. "That is why in this case, ethics is compensatorily tasked with assessing human deeds, good or bad." Some of the ethical values used in teaching such as: the ethical value of speaking, the nature and behavior of ethics are investigating, controlling deeds, correcting, and guiding and directing actions that should be done so that teachers can improve the actions or deeds of

students, because ethics has always been indispensable. Ethics here serves for daily life both in the school environment, church, and in the community.²

Christian ethics is the life ethics of Christians based on the word of God. The foundation of God's Word is the Bible as a guide for the lives of Christians living in the order of the Kingdom of God. Etymologically, Christian Ethics comes from the Greek: *ethos*, meaning custom, custom. If interpreted, Christian Ethics is a branch of theological science that addresses the issue of what is good from a Christian point of view. When viewed from the point of view of the Law and the Gospel, Christian Ethics is everything that God desires and that is good. Thus, Christian ethics is an act that when measured morally is good. Today, the problem facing Christian ethics is God's will of man created in His image, as well as man's attitude toward God's will.³

The progress of a nation is influenced by the quality of its human resources. The quality of human resources has a correlation with the quality of education in them. The quality of education can be improved if it is transformed into the form of formal institutions such as schools. A school is a formal educational institution that has an organizational system, structure, procedures, values, and culture. The success of an education is inseparable from the role of the teacher. Teachers as role models for students must have a complete attitude and personality that can be used as role models in all aspects of their lives. Teachers must always try to choose and do positive deeds in order to raise their good image and authority, especially in front of their students.⁴

² Y. N. K. Ngundjurawa and S. S. Arifin, "Tinjauan Etika Kristen: Peran Guru Sebagai Penuntun Dalam Pembentukan Karakter Siswa Generasi Milenial [A Review of Christian Ethics: The Role of Teachers in Guiding the Milenial Students' for Character Building]," *Diligentia: Journal of Theology and Christian Education* 3, no. 2 (2021): 138–150.

³ A. M. Nainggolan and Y. Janis, "Etika Guru Agama Kristen Dan Relevansinya Terhadap Pendidikan Iman Naradidik," *CARAKA: Jurnal Teologi Biblika dan Praktika* 1, no. 2 (2020): 152–163.

⁴ M. K. Purba and I. A. W. Chrismastianto, "Peran Guru Kristen Sebagai Penuntun Siswa Memulihkan Gambar Dan Rupa Allah Dalam Kajian Etika Kristen [The Role of Christian Teachers in

In teaching and participating in the world of education, teachers have a Code of Ethics. According to Jonar T.H. Situmorang, M.A., M.Th. in his book, he defines the Code of ethics as a pattern of rules, ordinances, signs, and ethical guidelines in carrying out activities or work. Specifically, the PAK teacher's code of conduct reflects Jesus' personality as a good teacher (Mar 10:7, Luke 18:18) meek and humble (Matthew 11:29). In Romans 2:18-22 the word teacher is found in James 2:1 Paul uses the verb teach in verse twenty-one. Paul spoke of the qualities that teachers should possess. Romans 2:18 says that teachers must be able to see and understand God's will, besides words like *paideu* which mean to give lessons and discipline children. In the process of teaching and learning, the teacher must be able to realize changes in students, for example changes in attitude knowledge and behavior, as teachers should teach according to proverbs 1:5 teachers are willing to teach and keep looking, listen to the progress of a teacher, so that teachers and students continue to develop themselves and increase knowledge. Ki Hajar Dewantara's famous statement regarding the teacher's personality is "Ing Ngarsa Sung Tuladha, Ing Madya Mangun Karsa, Tut Wuri Handayani" in front of setting an example, in the middle of encouraging and behind giving strength.⁵

In relation to planning, Christian education teachers are required to make effective teaching preparations, education. But in fact, for assorted reasons, some teachers take shortcuts not making preparations when they want to do learning, so that Christian education teachers teach without teaching preparation, in addition to harming teachers who are professionals and also greatly interfere with the development of students' life

Guiding the Students to Restore the Image and Likeness of God from the Perspective of Christian Ethics],” *Diligentia: Journal of Theology and Christian Education* 3, no. 1 (2021): 83–92.

⁵ Sandy Ariawan, “Building Critical Thinking in Covid-19 Pandemic Era: Impossible or I Am Possible?,” *International Research Journal on Advanced Science Hub* 2, no. 6 (2020): 127–130.

values. This fact hinders the development of the students' life values caused by the actions of the teacher who likes to take shortcuts in learning.⁶

In addition, in a school there are still many Christian education teachers who have not been able to reflect exemplary attitudes such as the personality of Jesus. Likewise, in teaching, teachers cannot understand the character of their students. Some teachers also lack discipline in teaching, so the female students who are taught also follow the style of teaching their teachers, such as being late for class. There are some teachers who also teach monotonously and do not want to know that the students they teach whether they already understand and understand what they are teaching. There are also some teachers who often give tasks to their students, the factor of lack of potential knowledge in themselves to explain the material, so they only give questions continuously.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a quantitative approach with an instrument in the form of a questionnaire containing sixteen statement items. The instrument used in this study used a Likert scale (Likerts Summated Ratings), to test the influence between each research variable from the results of the study, namely the understanding of student Christian ethics (variable X) on the character of teachers in the nature of teaching styles in schools (Variabel Y).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

⁶ K. Debora and C. Han, "Pentingnya Peranan Guru Kristen Dalam Membentuk Karakter Siswa Dalam Pendidikan Kristen: Sebuah Kajian Etika Kristen [The Significance of the Role of Christian Teachers in Building Students' Character in Christian Education: A Study of Christian Ethics]," *Diligentia: Journal of Theology and Christian Education* 2, no. 1 (2020): 1–14.

Based on the results of the data above, it is known that the understanding of Christian ethics in students has an effect of 46.1% on teaching styles, while 53.9% is influenced by other factors.

The teacher is the one whom God entrusts in carrying out education and teaching in accordance with the gifts that have been given to him. Teachers are one of the humane components in the teaching and learning process, which plays a role in efforts to form potential human resources in the field of development. In addition to being a teacher teacher as well as a guide who directs and leads students to ideals and to goodness. In the history of education, the teacher is an exemplary figure for students. Thus the teacher must have a strategy or way of teaching. In the New Testament, teaching can be understood from the ministry of Jesus Christ and because Christian religious education is inseparable from Jesus Christ, who is the teacher sent by God to all of His creation.

An Understanding of Christian Ethics

The word "ethics" comes from the Greek word *ethos*, "moral", or good habit (cf. 1 Cor. 15:33). R. Soedarmo stated that ethics comes from the Greek word *ethos* which means habitual or teachings about the norms/rules of deeds. According to FranzMagnis Suseno, ethics is a science that seeks orientation (a science that gives direction and foothold to human action). Ethics is the thought of how human beings should live and act. The same thing was stated by Abineno, that ethics is a science that studies the norms that regulate human behavior. Ethics talks about the imperatives made by human beings about what is good, right and right in a variety of contexts. Christian ethics is a response to the grace and work of God that has saved man from sin. The point of reference for Christian ethics is the truth of the word of God revealed in the Bible, something that leads to the word of God. This means that something that is true will not contradict God's words. No other standard exceeds the truth of God's word.

Distinctive Features of Christian Ethics

Love

Love has a variety of meanings. Love means to love and also love means to love. Love is fourfold, namely storge (love between families), Filia (love of friendship), eros (love of the opposite sex) and agape (love that does not expect something), but in Christians it is commanded to always be done agape, as God has done to man by giving up Jesus Christ to save man.⁷

Discipline

Disciplinary in Christianity according to Drescher, is a commitment to obey the established rules to achieve the ultimate goal as the Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:5 a sportsman can only earn a crown as champion, if he competes according to the rules of the sport. Discipline is the observance of rules to improve the quality of action to bring about positive things, such as doing the right thing in the right way and the right time.

Honest

In Christianity, the Bible is honest, Matthew 5:37 which is "If you do, you should say yes, if you don't, you should say no. What more than that comes from the evil one." Proverbs 11:3 An honest man is led by his sincerity, but the traitor is corrupted by his deceit. And Proverbs 12:17 Whoever speaks the truth, reveals what is just, but the false witness declares deceit. Likewise, in the book of Job 8:6 "if you are clean and honest, then surely He will rise for your sake and He will restore the house to which you are right." Based on the Bible verses above, honesty or honesty is something that is true, sincere, speaks true and clean. So honesty in Christianity is speaking true, clean and sincere and

⁷ Nainggolan and Janis, "Etika Guru Agama Kristen Dan Relevansinya Terhadap Pendidikan Iman Naradidik."

not even in words but in doing it must be in the word, for example bible verses that speak clearly that honesty must correspond to the actions of Acts 5:1-11.

Character of Christian Religious Education Teacher

The personality characteristics of teachers related to success in carrying out work include cognitive flexibility and psychological openness, for teachers of Christian religious education coupled with a commitment to faith in service. In Christian religious education, a teacher is required to improve the quality of Christian religious education. Here it is required that a Christian religious education teacher must work professionally. In view, John M. Nainggolan said the responsibilities assumed by every teacher of Christian religious education have been provided as follows:

- 1) The extent to which Christian education in schools is able to have a good impact on the growth of children's faith.
- 2) The extent of the school's responsibility in carrying out Christian religious education to children in a responsible and quality manner.
- 3) The extent to which the role of Christian religious education teachers in schools realizes the purpose of Christian religious education in the church.
- 4) The extent of parental responsibility in supporting the implementation of Christian religious education duties in schools.

Christian Teacher Teaching Style

Teaching style is a characteristic of habits, preferences that are important in relation to students, even teaching style is more than a habit and a special way of behavior or speech of the teacher or lecturer. The teacher's teaching style reflects how the teacher's teaching is carried out. Jesus taught as a Teacher by approaching different listeners, He

cared about the needs of those He taught, He taught with His love and mercy as seen when He helped anyone in trouble.

According to Suparman in Riani Khuzaimah stated that "the teaching style is a method or method used by teachers when teaching". According to Munif Chatib in Suparman in Riani Khuzaimah defines that "teaching style is a strategy of transferring information given to his protégé". Teaching style is a way, method, or strategy that teachers have in teaching both curricular and psychological in nature to provide information to their students.

In general, the teacher's teaching style is necessary if it is instrumental, namely teaching certain things, but if it is developmental, namely developing the student's personality, flexibility and personal autonomy, then students should be familiar with various teaching styles. Variations in the teacher's teaching style can also be done by attracting and maintaining students' interest and enthusiasm in learning. The various teaching styles of teachers, can be conveyed as follows:

- 1) Use of variations or styles of sound
- 2) Concentration and Silence
- 3) Establish a viewing contact.
- 4) Body movements and mimics
- 5) Change of position of the teacher in the classroom

Teaching variations can be divided into four types, namely:

Classical Teaching Style

The classical teaching process seeks to nurture and convey old values from previous generations to the next. The content of the lesson is in the form of a number of information and ideas that are most popular and selected from the world that children know. Therefore, the content of the lesson is objective, clear, and systematically organized

logically. The process of delivering materials is not based on the interests of the child, but rather on a certain sequence. The role of the teacher here is very dominant, because he has to deliver materials. Therefore, the teacher must be an expert about the lesson he is holding. Thus the teaching process is passive, that is, students are given lessons.

Technological Teaching Style

The focus of this teaching style is on the competence of individual students. The subject matter is adjusted to the level of readiness of the child. The role of the lesson content is dominant. The role of students here is to learn using devices or media. The role of the teacher is only as a guide, director, or facilitator in learning because the lesson has been programmed in such a way in a device, both software and hardware.

The technological teaching style requires teachers to adhere to the available media. Teachers teach by paying attention to student readiness and always providing stimulation to their students to be able to answer problems.

Personalized Teaching Style

Personalized teaching is carried out based on the interests, experiences and patterns of mental development of students. This is because each student has their own interests, talents, and tendencies that cannot be imposed by the teacher. The student should be viewed as a person who has the potential to develop it. Therefore, the role of the teacher is needed to position himself as a learning partner of students by providing assistance to student development in various aspects.

Interactional Teaching Style

The roles of teachers and students here are equally dominant. Teachers and students seek to modify the various ideas or sciences learned to find new forms based on radical studies. The teacher in this case creates a climate of interdependence and the emergence of dialogue between students. Students learn through dialogical relationships. He put

forward his views on reality, also listened to the views of other students. Thus, can be found a new view of the result of the exchange of thoughts about what is learned.

The Role of Christian Religious Education Teachers

Teacher As an Educator, is a teacher must have a standard of personal qualities that include responsibility, authority, independence, and discipline. Christian education teachers as educators are tasked with equipping students with various needs to grow in Jesus Christ.

Teacher As a Guide, is based on his knowledge and experience the teacher must be able to guide and be responsible for the journey and development of students.

Teacher As a Teacher, is a teacher managing activities so that his students learn. "Teachers are not only able to explain many things about the material being communicated but can also help their learners understand the benefits or uses of the ongoing learning process." Christian education teachers need to learn other knowledge, including social knowledge, natural knowledge, and technological knowledge in addition to theological sciences and the Bible.

Teacher As a Trainer, can become a coach because education and learning require practice and skills both intellectual and motor.

Teachers As Friends, is the teacher must be a friend and best friend of the students as a parent whom they are averse to, and the teacher must communicate and have effective communication with the students.

Teacher As a Facilitator, is a teacher must be able to try to understand the needs or needs of students in the learning process through an educator facilitator.

Teachers as evangelists. Teachers are missionaries to students. This explains how important it is that preaching the gospel can save people from sin to righteousness, including students.

Teachers As Priests and Prophets. Christian education teachers in schools play the role of Imams. Christian teachers have a role as servants which is divided into three dimensions, namely as priests, prophets, and as kings (as king or leaders).⁸

Christian Religious Education Teachers Must Emulate Jesus

In general, the teacher is the one who tutors the child, guides the child and gives lessons to the protégé. And is often viewed as a perfect person by many (broad) societies. Some of the roles of teachers include "teachers as experts) teachers as supervisors – teachers as community liaisons – teachers as facilitators. "The teacher has a responsibility to see everything that happens in the classroom to help the student development process. The teacher is just one among the various sources and mediums of learning. "Teachers should be able to help each student to effectively utilize a variety of learning opportunities and a variety of learning media resources. " The point is that the teacher is a crucial factor in the success of teaching and learning activities. Wherever teaching and learning activities take place, there are expected to be qualified teachers.⁹

Christian Religious Education Teachers Must Teach Effectively

One of the problems faced today is the problem of the learning process regarding the existence or absence of effective teaching methods in each place where students get lessons, and to cultivate the attitudes of students who in their youth, they can be role models. Likewise, in schools, the teaching needed is not only focused on the biblical, but also in terms of approach through existing strategies and in the form of their use in such a way, so that the students who are taught understand and can understand what the

⁸ Situmorang Kasminton, Lahagu Ardianto, and Purba Mahuraja Martua Benteng, "Peran Guru Pendidikan Agama Kristen Dalam Membentuk Karakter Siswa," *Jurnal Teologi dan Pendidikan Agama Kristen* 7, no. 1 (2019): 119–130.

⁹ A. Y. Tomusu, "Fondasi Etika Ekologi Dari Perspektif Teologi Kristen," *SESAWI: Jurnal Teologi dan Pendidikan Kristen* 2, no. 2 (2021): 57–74.

meaning of a teaching is to be delivered. Teaching and learning is thinking and attempting with certain tactics to systemize aspects of the components that make up the instructional system. Different strategies will lead to a variety of different ways of teaching and learning.

Effective teaching also does not only focus on what is to be delivered, but requires effectiveness in delivering it. That is, a teacher must understand, understand and be able to do what is being said. Vice versa for the students, they can understand and understand the material presented. Vienna Sanjana, in her book *Standards-Oriented Learning Strategies Educational Process* said that "the learning atmosphere in learning strategies is directed so that students can develop their potential, this means that the educational process carried out must be oriented towards students. In order to develop the potential of students. Teaching and learning activities as an instructional system or learning is an interaction between students and teachers. As an organizer or a teacher, you should think as optimally as possible about the interaction between students as teachers who play a role in activating teaching and learning activities. In other words, teachers must strive and achieve results in a teaching and learning activity. Thus, an effective teaching process among adolescents that teaching and learning can be defined as the teacher's activity to strive for concentration for learners in the learning and teaching process."¹⁰

Christian Religious Education Teachers Should Be Role Models

Teachers of Christian Religious Education are a reflection of God's Truth in students' lives. That is to say, the Bible says "You are our letter of praise written in our hearts and which is known and which can be read by all (2 Cor. 3:2)". As is known that Christian Religious Education teachers are unique teachers and are different from teachers in

¹⁰ M. Waruwu, Y. A. Arifianto, and A. Suseno, "Peran Pendidikan Etika Kristen Dalam Media Sosial Di Era Disrupsi," *Jurnal Pendidikan Agama Kristen (JUPAK)* 1, no. 1 (2020): 43–56.

general. It can be said that the teacher of Christian Religious Education carried out the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is "Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And know, I am with you always until the end of the age (Matt. 28:19-20). "In learning Christian Religious Education, the quality of life of teachers has an important role in determining the goals of Christian education itself. Because teachers play a very important role in the implementation of the teaching and learning process. The responsibility of the teacher is very broad in his position as a teacher in shaping, guiding and equipping students. Good teaching is teaching that is accompanied by the example of life and the faith of the educator (teacher) delivered through Christian Religious Education. Because the teacher's personality is a reflection of the truth he conveys to students.¹¹

4. CONCLUSION

Christian ethics is the teaching of Christian behavior and attitudes, where God is the center and Christ is an example of practicing the values of faith in everyday life, and the Bible is the basis or guide for Christians in seeing all good and true rules. The influence of a teacher's teaching style on student learning achievement means that the better a teacher's style in teaching, the better the student's learning achievement. As a Christian teacher, you must be sensitive in realizing that although the task is to give lessons in their respective fields of study, as a Christian teacher the main task is to bring students to Christ, by changing their attitude in life to live according to God's will. Research in the field shows that understanding Christian ethics has a 46.1% effect on teaching styles. Thus

¹¹ V. Purba, "Pendidikan Karakter Bagi Guru Pendidikan Agama Kristen," *ASTEROS: Jurnal Teologi dan Pendidikan Kristen* 7, no. 1 (2019): 39–51.

it requires a correct understanding, as well as the proper implementation of Christian ethics.

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