**ESSAY : PARABLES OF CHRIST**

Purpose of assignment: Learn about a parable of Jesus by researching and writing an essay.

**GUIDELINES**:

* Title page (Name, title of essay, course, date).
* Suggested paragraphs
	1. Introduction
	2. Summary of parable in your own words
	3. Interpretation of the parable—follow the 5 guidelines we will be studying
	4. Cross-reference the parable – find and explain some other passages that relate to the teaching of this parable.
	5. Apply the parable - what can we learn from this parable for our lives today? Be specific and realistic.
	6. Conclusion.
* Use a minimum of 3 sources (not including the Bible). 1 of these sources must be a book.
* Include at least 3 Biblical citations and 3 non-Biblical citations.
* References page
* Length – 700 - 1000 words (3-4 pages)
* Double space the essay

**ESSAY HELPS**

Before you start writing:

* Read the parable, meditate on it, pray about it, then read, pray, and meditate again…
* Read from several sources (especially books) about the parable
* Suggestions for sources: commentaries, books, articles, asking your pastor, Sermon Audio, church library, reputable websites (not Wikipedia or bible.org).

Start taking notes:

* Record important information from your sources (either typed or written)
* Once you have some notes, start organizing your information into the paragraphs listed above
* Create an outline of your essay

Writing your essay:

* In your first draft, begin thinking about the overall focus of your essay. This should be especially clear in your introduction and conclusion.
* Begin linking your ideas together so that the notes/outline become well-formed sentences.
* Have several other people read through your first draft (classmates, parents, older siblings, pastor/elders) and make changes based on their suggestions.
* Continue revising until your essay has a strong introduction and conclusion, flows smoothly between each of the paragraphs, and is free of spelling/grammar errors.

Biblical citations:

* A citation is when you mention one of your sources in the body of your essay.
* Make sure you use Biblical citations at least 3 times in your essay
* In Matthew 5:39, Jesus tells us not to take revenge on others.
* In Matthew 5:39, Jesus says, “Resist not evil.”
* Jesus told the multitudes, “Resist not evil” (Matthew 5:39).

Non-Biblical citations:

* Make sure you use non-Biblical citations at least 3 times in your essay. Examples include: books, websites, articles, sermons, songs, conversations, etc.
* For Books:
	+ Matthew Henry writes that Christians should not be vengeful (Henry, p. 112).
	+ Matthew Henry writes, “Refraining from revenge comes from God” (Henry, p. 112).
* For Internet Sources:
	+ If author and date are known, use the same format as books (above) except put the date instead of the page number.
	+ If author is unknown, use the title, or if it’s long, the first few words of the title
	+ If date is unknown, use n.d.
	+ Example: Many believe that God allowed revenge in the Old Testament, and that Jesus changed that in the New Testament, but that is not the case (“Does God Allow…”, n.d.)

References:

* At the end of your essay, create a References page (see next page for example)
* List all resources you used in writing your essay, excluding your Bible. See example below. Use a single sheet for your reference page, with nothing else on it.
* List them alphabetically. You must use at least one book. You must use at least 3 sources.

For books: Author last name, first initial. *Title.* Place of Publishing: Publisher, Year.

Example: Henry, M. *Matthew Henry Commentary.* London: Oxford University Press, 1932.

For website**:** Author if available. (Date published if available; n.d.--no date-- if not). “Title of article”. Retrieved date from URL.

Examples: Poole, M. (2010). “The Sermon on the Mount”. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2018 from [www.matthewpoolecommentaryonline/matthew/sermononthe mount.com](http://www.matthewpoolecommentaryonline/matthew/sermononthe%20mount.com)

(n.d.). “Teachings of Christ”. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2018 from [www.hhhand/blogspot/november2010.com](http://www.hhhand/blogspot/november2010.com)

*This is a sample reference page; follow this format.*

References

Henry, M. *Matthew Henry Commentary.* London: Oxford University Press, 1932.

(n.d.). “Teachings of Christ”. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2012 from www.headheart hand/blogspot

 /november2010.com

Poole, M. (2010). “The Sermon on the Mount”. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2012 from

 [www.matthewpoole](http://www.matthewpoole/) commentaryonline /matthew/sermonon themount.com

Ryle, J. C. *The Sermon on the Mount.* Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1985.

**HRE13O Parable Essay - Evaluation Rubric**

Name: Parable:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Level 1** | **Level 2** | **Level 3** | **Level 4** |
| **Introduction****(K/U, T, C)****/10** | Introduction does not state the main topic nor get reader involved3 4 | Introduction does not clearly states the main topic nor get reader involved 5 6 | Introduction clearly states the main topic 7 8 | Introduction clearly states the main topic, gets reader involved. 9 10 |
| **Summary****(K/U, T)****/10** | Summary includes little of the relevant information; explanation is not thorough or accurate.3 4 | Summary includes some of the relevant information, explained in a limited or somewhat inaccurately. 5 6 | Summary includes most of the relevant information, explained somewhat thoroughly and accurately.7 8 | Summary includes all relevant information, explained thoroughly and accurately.9 10 |
| **Interpretation****(K/U, T)****/10** | Little to no use of 5 guidelines to interpret parable3 4 | Some use of 5 guidelines to interpret parable5 6 | Considerable use of 5 guidelines to interpret parable7 8 | Skillful use of 5 guidelines to interpret parable9 10 |
| **Scripture****Cross-References****(T)****/15** | Topic is not developed by considering other pertinent Scripture passages 5 6 7 | Topic is somewhat developed by considering other pertinent Scripture passages 8 9 10 | Topic is developed by considering other pertinent Scripture passages 10 11 12 | Topic is skillfully developed by considering other pertinent Scripture passages 12 13 14 15 |
| **Application****(C, A)****/15** | Unclear, impersonal applications are drawn from the passage under consideration.5 6 7 | Somewhat clear personal applications are drawn from the passage under consideration8 9 10 | Considerably clear, personal applications are drawn from the passage under consideration10 11 12 | Clear, personal applications are drawn from the passage under consideration12 13 14 15 |
| **Conclusion****(T, C)****/10** | Conclusion ineffective, does not wrap up.3 4 | Conclusion somewhat ineffective in wrapping up.5 6 | Conclusion effectively wraps up.7 8 | Conclusion effectively wraps up and goes beyond the introduction.9 10 |
| **Citations (C)****/10** | 1 citation used with little proficiency3 4 | 2-3 citations used somewhat proficiently5 6 | 4-5 citations used proficiently7 8 | 6 or more citations used with skillful proficiency9 10 |
| **References Page (C) /10** | Limited resources, two format errors3 4 | Limited Resources, some formatting errors.5 6 | Sufficient resources, nearly perfect format.7 8 | Variety of resources, perfect format.9 10 |
| **Mechanics – Gram, Sp, Punct. (C) /10** | Many errors3 4 | Some errors5 6 | Few errors7 8 | No errors9 10 |

 /100

Comments: