

In-class Allegorical Narrative Description

Next week you will write your own allegory during class. You do not have to come up with your idea from scratch. Instead, I want you to write a modern re-telling of a parable in the Bible. Jesus told parables in order to help his disciples and followers better understand spiritual concepts. I want your story to do the same thing by using situations common in today's world to represent important ideas in Christianity.

Since your essay will be handwritten, there is not a required page count; however, I want you to take this assignment seriously and show me your best work. Remember, all good narratives must contain certain plot elements such as setting, characters, conflict, climax and resolution. All these elements should be present in your narrative, along with strong, creative descriptive wording. Consider this your opportunity to write as creatively as you want, but do not forget your primary objective: to clearly relay the deeper meaning of your chosen parable.

Follow these steps to prepare for the in-class essay on October 27th.

1. Choose a parable from the following list:

The Sower
(Matthew 13, Mark 4, Luke 8)

The Laborers in the Vineyard
(Matthew 20:1-16)

The Prodigal Son
(Luke 15:11-32)

The Pearl of Great Price
(Matthew 13:45-46)

The Good Samaritan
(Luke 10:30-37)

The Rich Fool
(Luke 12:13-21)

The Unmerciful Servant
(Matthew 18:21-35)

The Pharisee and the Publican
(Luke 18:9-14)

The Unjust Steward
(Luke 16:1-9)

2. Write a paragraph summary of the parable that includes the deeper meaning. (Due 10/20)

Before you begin writing, sit down with a parent to discuss the parable you've chosen. Be sure you thoroughly understand the message being communicated in your chosen parable. Often there is a deeper meaning than you might initially think. In order to accurately "retell" this parable, you need to understand it.

Your paragraph should be typed in MLA format and contain the following elements:

- Solid topic sentence
- Summary of the parable (2-4 sentences)
- Explanation of the parable's meaning (1-2 sentences)

Note: Please underline the sentences which explain the parable's meaning.

3. Prepare for the in-class essay (Due 10/27)

Brainstorm your plot and characters. Create a basic plot diagram along with a list of character names and basic descriptions to help set the stage for the essay writing process. Your plot diagram and character list will be submitted with the essay for a combined grade. ALL INFORMATION ON THE PLOT DIAGRAM AND CHARACTER LIST MUST BE WRITTEN IN NOTE FORM! Leave the writing process for class.

Note: Write neatly! I will require deduct points for illegible essays.