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“Thinking like a Christian” final essay

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Christianity is one of the most well known religions in the world, but do people really understand the absolute meaning of God’s word, and the way it is meant to be applied to their everyday lives? In the “Thinking like a Christian” program, my spiritual eyes were opened to the deeper meanings of the Bible, and how it can be applicable to my personal experiences. Throughout my lessons, my work and my mentor have changed my perspective on my relationships with others around me, including myself, and how that pertains to God’s will. In addition to this, I have been educated on the origins of Earth and how it affects my view of the world.

My perceptions about creation have been altered because I now understand that my views about the origins of life significantly matter on the grounds that it may determine the entirety of my opinions and morals throughout life. We would not have any morals or laws if the creation of Earth was irrelevant. If you believe that the Earth’s origin’s don’t matter or come from an alternate source, then what’s stopping you from thinking that God-given morals and laws cease to exist. Likewise, the theory that man was created in terms of evolution would make Jesus’s death, and the entire Bible pointless and untrustworthy, which we know is not the case. John 1:3 states that all things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. This verse denies the theories of evolution and even theistic evolution, which can only mean that creation has come from God himself.

The belief of Creation can also prove your self-worth, and change the way you see yourself as an individual. The understanding of the Bible is the main building block of how you view yourself. As a child of God, you understand that you were created by a powerful being who loves and cares for you. In comparison, those that don't have faith in God or His Word may believe that they have no purpose in life. Psalms 8:5 states, "You made him [mankind] little less than God, and crowned him with glory and honor". This verse states that God created mankind, and then he crowned human beings with glory and honor because he loves his creation.

In like manner, The Bible not only shows the relationship you have with yourself, but with others as well. God's design for people includes that we are social creatures who feel the urge to communicate with and thrive around other people, which gives us the opportunity to spread the Word with other social-craved individuals. After creating Adam, God said "It is not good for the man to be alone", which is stated in Genesis 2:18. Therefore God brought animals and women to keep man company, as well as support him throughout his life. From then on, connecting with others has been a part of human's instincts. "Thinking like a Christian: Understanding and Living a Biblical Worldview" states, "Relating to other people is a part of our inherent nature. It is God's design" (page 109). God created us with the intention of us being social and being able to bring company and connection to one another. We can use our God given social skills to spread the gospel, and to save our closest friends and family members.

Throughout this program, I have been attending meetings with my mentor, which has expanded my knowledge of the Word beyond what the "Thinking like a Christian" book focused on. A topic that was discussed in our sessions was that we as Christians should choose our friends and who we surround ourselves with wisely, meaning that we should not put ourselves around people that would encourage us to sin. Instead, Christians need to surround themselves with

people who will lift us up in our spiritual journey, and lead us down the right path. God has put the verse 2 Corinthians 6:14 on my mind, which states “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers”. This means that though we can be friendly with unbelievers of this world, we should not be surrounded by people who may cause us to fall into unrighteousness or sin.

Another topic my mentor and I have discussed throughout our meetings is drugs and alcohol. We have touched on the fact that both drugs and alcohol can negatively impact one's life, and lead them down a road of destruction and misery, which is contrary to God's will. Furthermore, we have mentioned how Christians should care for their body through fitness and living a healthy lifestyle. God compares our body to a temple in the bible when he states in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body”, meaning that we should care for our body as if it were a holy temple.

The knowledge I've obtained from the “Thinking like a Christian” program is applicable to my life in terms of being wise in what and whom I surround myself with, how I view myself and others, as well as how I view the purpose of life and creation. Among other things, I have taken more of an understanding of God's word, which will help me while witnessing and sharing my testimony to others in the future. Not to mention, in this program I have created bonds and friendships with not only my mentor, but other students as well. Contrary to many assignments, I have enjoyed working with others in this project, and it will have a lasting effect on my perspective and feelings toward my life, my past experiences, and obstacles to come. I am gratified to announce that this assignment has genuinely transformed my life for the better.