



SMS Short Trail

Summarise, More views/thinking, Synthesise

Option 1

Respond to three or four of the following quotes in the light of the material you have read in the *Participant theological notes: Aspects of theology*.

How quickly grace can be overwhelmed by rules and regulations. By judgements and accusations. By our ever present tendency to believe the worst of others – and of our own selves. Grace may be the foundation upon which the Christian faith is built, but it can never be taken for granted. Worthing

Instead of forgiveness requiring forgetfulness, what it most requires is the constructive and intentional use of memory. Tollanday

We are Christians because God surprised us. Coming in water, God washed us and grafted us into Christ. Our identity for all the days of our life is set! We are children of God, priests of the King, disciples of Christ, a servant people, a holy nation, the communion of saints, the followers of the Way, proclaimers of the wonderful deeds of God. Erlander

I see no hope for the future of our people if they are dependent on the frivolous youth of today, for certainly all youth are reckless beyond words... When I was young, we were taught to be discreet and respectful of elders, but the present youth are exceedingly wise and impatient of restraint. Hesiod 800BC

"Lord of the flies" by William Golding (1954), describes Ralph's lament over the result of the missed opportunities for a new idyllic world: 'And in the middle of them, with filthy body, matted hair, and unwiped nose, Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart, and the fall through the air of the true, wise friend called Piggy.'



The point is, whether we want a gracious God or not – we do have a gracious God. A God who pardons when we would say 'condemn'. A God who gives another chance when we would say 'enough'. A God who says 'set them free' when we would say 'lock them up!' In short, a God who shocks our fallen and distorted sense of justice by treating us very differently than we would treat others. Grace may be fragile, but it is not without an incomparable power of its own. Worthing

If the disciplinary policy is such that its method of correction diminishes the individual and denigrates the person rather than the action, then any affirmation of Christian charity and justice will appear to be little more than lip service. There are schools in so-called 'problem' areas that have developed strong and effective systems of discipline without resorting to corporal punishment,...humiliation, or doing useless tasks such as writing lines. Crawford and Rossiter

Record your thinking and take this to your discussion group.