



INCOMING RHETORIC SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12) SUMMER READING

At Covenant, we believe it is important to ask students to do some thought-provoking reading over the summer to keep them engaged with ideas as well as logic, argument, and winsome expression. To that end we ask that rising 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders read *Counterfeit Gods* by Tim Keller.

In the book, author Tim Keller exposes various “counterfeit gods” that our culture holds up as possessing the key to happiness: “Success,” “true love,” and “the life you've always wanted.” He explains why ultimate happiness cannot be found in these things but rather can be found only in Jesus Christ. *A simple writing assignment is due on Friday, September 8*, to show that a student has read the book.

Students are required to...

Choose one quote from *Counterfeit Gods* (one or two sentences) and explain why that quote holds particular significance for understanding the book as a whole. There is not one “right” or “wrong” quotation to pick; rather we are looking for a student to demonstrate an ability to connect a particular statement with the larger themes of the book. The one page summary and reflection can be hand-written or typed and should be about 1 typed, double spaced page, or about 300 words.

On September 15, students will have a round-table discussion on *Counterfeit Gods* during the “Community” period and they may be asked to refer to their writing assignment and the quote they chose as significant. A variety of Rhetoric School faculty will host these round table discussions and they will give students credit for their writing assignments and their participation in the discussion. The credit received will be passed along to the Bible teacher, Mr. Lawrenz.

You may borrow the book from a library, but we encourage students to buy the book, so they may write in it and “make it their own” as they engage with the ideas and make notes in the margins.

Questions? Contact USLR Principal David Church

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