

## **JOLIET CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

### **JUNIOR SUMMER READING**

Welcome to the JCA summer reading program. Follow these instructions and you will be well prepared for the first day of English class! Answer each question thoughtfully, thoroughly, and in complete sentences. When you encounter unfamiliar words, use a dictionary to find the definition. This typed, double-spaced assignment is due on the first full day of class in August. Please note the curriculum level of your placement: **H—Honors, U—Upper College Prep, and C—College Prep.**

#### **English III College Prep Summer Reading:**

**Read the book below and answer the questions.**

- *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Irwin

1. Describe life in Immaculee's village. How does she characterize the relationship between the members of the two tribes?
2. What role did prayer play in Immaculee's life before the genocide? During? After?
3. Why was Pastor Murinzi initially reluctant to help Immaculee and the other women? What or who do you think convinced him to hide them?
4. After reading Immaculee's story, choose four words to describe her character and relate a situation for each word as evidence to support your choice.
5. What have you learned about genocide, faith, and humanity in reading this memoir?

## English III Upper College Prep Summer Reading:

**Read the book below and answer the questions.**

- *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Irwin

Directions for answering study guide questions:

Answer each question thoughtfully, thoroughly, and in complete sentences. When you encounter unfamiliar words, use a dictionary to find the definition. This typed, double-spaced assignment is due on the first full day of class in August.

***Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Irwin**

1. What is the historical basis of the conflict between the Hutu and Tutsi tribes? What role did Belgium play in the situation?
2. Describe life in Immaculee's village. How does she characterize the relationship between the members of the two tribes?
3. What commonalities can you detect between your life and Immaculee's after reading Chapter "The Eternal Spring"?
4. What role did prayer play in Immaculee's life before the genocide? During? After?
5. Why was Pastor Murinzi initially reluctant to help Immaculee and the other women? What or who do you think convinced him to hide them?
6. Describe, in detail, the conditions the women had to contend with while in hiding.
7. After reading Immaculee's story, choose four words to describe her character and relate a situation for each word as evidence to support your choice.
8. What have you learned about genocide, faith, and humanity in reading this memoir?
9. On a page separate from the other questions, write a letter to Immaculee. Introduce yourself and tell her your thoughts and feelings about her experience.

## English III Honors Summer Reading

**Read the two books below and answer the questions.**

- *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
- *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Irwin

***Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Irwin**

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6. Describe, in detail, the conditions the women had to contend with while in hiding.
7. After reading Immaculee's story, choose four words to describe her character and relate a situation for each word as evidence to support your choice.
8. What have you learned about genocide, faith, and humanity in reading this memoir?
9. On a page separate from the other questions, write a letter to Immaculee. Introduce yourself and tell her your thoughts and feelings about her experience.

***The Grapes of Wrath***

1. Write a one-half page summary of each of the following sections: Ch. 1-11, 12-21, 22-30. Make up an original title for each section according to what happens in each section.
2. Choose one of these characters: Ma Joad, Tom Joad, or Casy. As you read, keep track of how your character develops or grows during the course of the novel. Take notes on important events, dialogue, etc. that help to develop him or her.
3. Steinbeck's depiction of women in *Of Mice and Men* and *The Grapes of Wrath* differs. Explain how he depicts women in each novel. (If you haven't read *Of Mice and Men*, then explain how Steinbeck depicts women in *The Grapes of Wrath*.)
4. What does the work "Ookie" mean, and what emotions does it reflect in both the people who use the word and those to whom it refers?

5. If the Joad family stands for the larger “family” of humanity, how does it? Explain this symbolism using plot and character.

6. Two of the novel’s themes revolve around the ideas of hope and commitment. Think of these two ideas in connection with the novel. Write a theme statement-one for each word-that makes a point about each of these ideas. List supports for each theme.

7. Even though this novel is about a family who lived in the 1930s, why is this book still relevant for us today?