



Level II Essay Winner William P

Be Not Afraid

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." -Isaiah 41:10. Sadly, in today's social climate, this is something that we should all say to ourselves before walking outside each morning.

Terrorism and violence is something that has become so prominent in today's world. You are constantly hearing about it in the news, social media, and from those around you. It is something that scares and intimidates all of us. People often ask God "why?" "Why would God let these things happen?"; "Why does God take the lives of so many?"; "Why does God make people suffer?"

This is the wrong question. Instead of asking God "why?" we should ask him "what?". "What can I do in my life to make things better?"; "What can I do to help others?"; "What can I do to make others have faith in God?". When Jesus came to Earth, he taught not by just hoping that others would change, but by showing them how to change. Now it is our tum to do the same. It is our tum to teach others about God and to spread his mercy and compassion to those around us, because that is what will end all this anger and violence. Just sitting around and hoping that others will make positive changes in their lives isn't going to change anything.

Getting up and telling others of God's love will make changes. In conclusion, the first step is to use God's love and strength to help us to be not afraid. The second step is to make real changes by never asking God "why", but by asking Him "what can I do".