

“Bible Thumpers”

Student-Written Speech

Note: You do NOT write out your entire speech in manuscript form.
This is provided for you as a **STUDENT EXAMPLE** speech only.

Let's play a little game. I'll show you an image, and in your mind, determine what is the FIRST thing you think of. [show images; final image = Bible] How many of you had positive thoughts for that final image? Negative? Neutral? Let's face it: the Bible generally evokes very strong emotions...whether positive or negative. In fact, millions of people over time have died...or killed...for this book. Now don't get me wrong, I have no problem with the bible, nor any other book of faith on which you base your religion. What I do have a problem with are those who base ALL of their opinions on this book, overlooking common sense and the fact that society has evolved. These conservative, right wingers spit out random numbers of obscure scriptures and quote passages written more than 2000 years ago. The problem is, ultra conservative believers don't realize the kind of right-winged nut jobs they associate themselves with.

If you don't believe me, let me sum up my opinion with one name, Jerry Falwell. The Rev. Jerry Falwell is the pastor of the 22,000 member Thomas Road Baptist Church. Jerry Falwell is what I like to refer to as a “Bible Thumper”. If you ask them if maybe the passage “and God said let there be light” could be a metaphor for the big bang, they say “No, God just said CLICK.” Some of the more controversial statements Rev. Falwell have made are: accusing the Teletubbies character Tinky Winky of being gay because he was purple and carried a purse, and blaming the 9-11 attacks on the gays, lesbians, the ACLU, pagans, abortionists, and (here's the kicker) the feminists. Yes, the feminists, a 50 year old organization whose purpose is make sure women got equal rights in education and job employment are the reason the terrorist attack.

If Jerry Falwell isn't enough to convince you maybe Pat Robertson will. As some of you may know Robertson is the host of the 700-club, a popular T.V. show that has been on since 1966, and the leader of the Christian Coalition. Here is few of Pat Robertson's more quotable statements. "You say you're supposed to be nice to the Episcopalians and the Presbyterians and the Methodists and this, that, and the other thing. Nonsense. I don't have to be nice to the spirit of the Antichrist. I can love the people who hold false opinions but I don't have to be nice to them." Or, here is a good one, "Just like what Nazi Germany did to the Jews, so liberal America is now doing to the evangelical Christians.....It is the Democratic Congress, the liberal-based media and the homosexuals who want to destroy the Christians. Wholesale abuse and discrimination and the worst bigotry directed toward any group in America today. More terrible than anything suffered by any minority in history."

And, if your still not convinced about the types of crazys your agreeing with, then here is the crème-de-la-crème, the one-and-only, David Koresh. In 1981 Koresh joined the Branch Davidians and became their leader in 1990. He changed his name to Koresh to because he thought he was now the head of the biblical House of David (Koresh is Hebrew for Cyrus, the King who allowed the captive Jews at Babylon to return to Israel). In 1993, at Mount Carmel, the ATF and FBI issued at warrant for the arrest of David Koresh on charges of illegal weapons and child abuse (Koresh happened to like some of the younger female members of the church). The stand that followed lasted 51 days and ended with the burning of the complex killing Koresh and 74 other followers, 21 of which were children.

So, I ask you, before you go defending of your little insignificant point of views and opinions with the bible, think of three names: Falwell, Robertson, and Koresh.