

Moral excellence analysis essay

Experience, Human Nature



Aristotle was correct when he said that “ moral excellence comes about as a result of habit”. Religions and many successful people of the world have made a habit of committing moral acts in order to achieve their moral excellence and sense of virtue. Anyone can achieve moral excellence as long as they develop the habits that can take them to the level that they wish to reach. In the religion of Christianity Aristotle’s beliefs are intact. In the bible Christians are told of commandments that they are to follow in order to achieve moral excellence.

In the book of Matthew versus 22: 37-40 it is said that “ Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. [38] This is the first and great commandment. [39] And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. [40] On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. ” This is stating that as a Christian to have moral excellence you must follow these two commandments for your entire life. The bible tells Christians that the word virtue means moral excellence.

Virtue has also been described as having the courage to exercise your faith, or doing the right thing just for the sake of being right. Christians believe that to gain moral excellence they must have stability, because with stability they will not get off their path and they will be less likely to make bad decisions and start bad habits. To stay stable they make it a habit of doing what their god has ordered them to do. the Christians also believe that moral excellence is achieved through conviction. A spirit of non-compromise is a big part of their life.

They refuse to settle for any decisions or actions that will put them below the level of moral excellence that they are trying to achieve. The habits that become priorities in the Christian life bring them to their state of moral excellence for they have served their god well and have achieved the right to be forgiven of their sins and to spend the afterlife with their god. Benjamin Franklin tried to achieve moral perfection by setting many virtues in his life. This is what makes him one of the most recognized American heroes of a country rich in heritage. Franklin had extreme determination and desire to be in a state of moral goodness.

By giving himself goals and creating habits Franklin was able to achieve his goal of moral excellence. Franklin set temperance as one of his virtues to achieve moral perfection. He had set temperance as his very first virtue that he should perform, since it is a simple but hard one to really put it into action. Having a full stomach and an indistinct spirit never allows a person to neither concentrate nor humble him or herself. Franklin strived for excellence his entire life and created habits in order to meet his own goals and make a difference in the world.

He tried to fix all the little problems in his life and change his bad habits into good ones. He put his life towards doing good things trying to be perfect. He perfected formulas and theories, creating many inventions still used today. Franklin believed that our life is no different to a formula of uprightness of action. If the formula gets written to be wrong, then the answer will be wrong, and so will the future. Therefore, it is good to keep everything in

order and revise. People make mistakes, and it just happens every time and everywhere.

By Making good habits and writing his life “ formula” correctly Benjamin Franklin achieved the goal of becoming moral excellent that he had set out for himself. By doing this he showed that with determination and dedication the possibility of being morally excellent is possible for anyone to achieve. To achieve moral excellence you must develop habits that will get you there. Moral excellence is taken not given. You must work for and earn it by doing great tasks and developing strong virtues that will help carry you through life and towards moral excellence.