

The following is the e-mail I sent to the students of my Worship class on Nov 19, 2006.

Quote

Friends,

I am glad that at least some of you have submitted the two evaluation papers proper after attending the worship services of two churches outside your tradition. Since the semester nears at the end, you had better finish your assignments before the end of Thanksgiving break.

Having read the papers submitted, I would like to give you a few tips in doing evaluation of these services.

First, you have to be specific in expressing the length of the services or giving descriptions. For example, if the sermon was short, how short was it?

Second, you cannot make a judgment without providing a valid rationale. For example, if the sermon was concise, you must explain in what way and why you think it was concise? If the service was Christ-centered, how and why was it so? If God was glorified, how and why? These are few examples.

What I am expecting from you is not just your judgment, but the rationale behind your judgment. If I see you are making a judgement without providing a valid rationale, I will downgrade your papers accordingly because that's the worst thing I want to see happen.

Third, I don't want to read the history of the church you are visiting. When you give the description of the church, mention only the relevant aspects of the church. In particular, I want to see that you are making a valid observation on the atmosphere of the church at the time of the service such as music and decoration of the church etc.

The same can be applied to your reading reports for the two books. I hope you all pay attention to my advice.

Unquote