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**Name:** Liam DeMuth

**Class:** 8S **Date:** 3/23/16

**Saint of the Day:** St. John of God  
(Pray for me!)

**\*Worth 20 points**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Every other month (starting in September) you are asked to undertake a Christian examination of something from popular culture (examples listed below). Your goal is to highlight the deeper messages (good or bad) within the example from pop culture you chose and figure out what kind of action a trying-to-be-a-saint Christian should take.

**\*Important Note:** This does **NOT** give you free license to do anything your parents would not normally want you doing (Examples: watching bad TV shows, buying bad magazines/songs/music videos, etc.). For this assignment you should not have to go looking in deep and dark places. Rather, just keep your eyes and ears open as you go about your daily life.

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## **THE BASICS**

### **A. What kind of example from pop culture did you choose? (½ pt.)**

**\*Example answers:** Advertisement, book, celebrity, fashion trend, magazine, movie, music video, news story, phone app, song, Internet trend, video game, etc.

I'm choosing the album EVOL by rapper Future, it's messages and what it makes you think is okay.

### **B. Give the specifics of the example of pop culture that you chose. (½ pt.)**

**\*Example answer 1:** The song "Bang Bang" by Jessie J, Ariana Grande, and Nicki Minaj. This song is currently the #4 song (and #4 music video) in the world according to iTunes.

**\*Example answer 2:** I chose a billboard advertising beer. The billboard showed a picture of a woman not wearing many clothes drinking a beer and saying, "Let's drink til' the sun comes up."

The album EVOL by the rapper "Future" came out in early Febuary of this year. The second it came out every time I checked my phone or went on Apple Music the album cover was plastered and being advertised every where so it wasn't that hard to miss it. Me being a fan of some of Futures previous songs and albums I thought that it was going to be like the past ones. I was very wrong. I'm not going to lie all of the songs have some good beats but the lyrics are horrible and much worse than any of his other album. For example one of his songs is titled "Xanny Family" which is just encouraging drug abuse and can cause serious health problems. The albums main message is all about doing drugs and hooking up with girls. In todays society one of the biggest problems is narcotics and perscribed drug abuse and many people try to stop this thought that abuseing drugs is the cool thing to do but this album goes very against this and references doing drugs that are highly illegal and dangerous like it's eating breakfast and I think because of the popularity of this album it could make people make some bad choices because they will think its not that big of a deal.

### **C. How morally good/bad would you consider your example? (1 pt.)**

**\*Example answer 1:** 75% good, 25% bad. / **\*Example answer 2:** 10% good, 90% bad.

0% Good 100% Bad

## **CHRISTIAN EXAMINATION**

*Put your Catholic goggles on and examine the example you chose.*

### **What are its main messages? (3 pts.)**

Its main messages are to do illegal and perscribed drugs until you pass out and too pick as many women as you possibly can. The ablum makes horrible thing like objectifying women and doing drugs every day sound like there normal things that makes yourself happy but truly the only thing that will make you happy is God.

### **What would Jesus think about it? Why? (3 pts.)**

Jesus would highly frown open these messages. First off, each human was created by God to be saints and to respect and have spread peace with other humans and hooking up with so many women that you loose count it not respecting God or the other human at all. Also, people think they can find happiness in things like drugs and alchohol, truth is those things will make you happy for a couple of days but in the end they will just hirt and ruin you because the only way to feel eternaly 100% happy is to settle in the kingdom.

### **What kind of good and/or bad effects could this have on a person, community, or culture? (3 pts.)**

This has no good effects on a person, community or culture it is all garbage that trashes a persons mind into thinking some very bad thing are normal and can be used and done everyday if you want. This could make people make bad decsions because they are being influenced from famous people that they look up too that it is okay to do the things they do.

## **ACTION STEPS** (9 pts.)

**PERSONAL ACTION STEP:** Based on my examination of this item from popular culture, this is what I can do to help *myself* be saintlier. (3 pts.)

I am going to stop listening to Future and any other songs that display or infer actions that make illegal and things that Jesus would dispise of seem normal. I am also going to try to stay as far away from temptations like this in my years to come.

**INTERPERSONAL ACTION STEP:** Based on my examination of this item from popular culture, this is what I can do to help *those around me (parents, siblings, teachers, friends, teammates, etc.)* be saintlier. (3 pts.)

I will try to tell my friends if i hear them talking about the Album or other things that surround this topic that they should not be blinded by the songs messages and thinking that the bad stuff it talks about is normal.

**COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTION STEP:** Based on my examination of this item from popular culture, this is what I can do to help *my community (school, town, etc.) and culture (the behaviors and beliefs in America)* be saintlier. (3 pts.) I will try to only listen to songs and tweet and post about songs that are appropriate and give good messages and maybe I could inspire someone some where in the country that sees a tweet of mine to go listen to the good song I suggested and maybe they will pass it along.