

The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis
Letter 5 Worksheet

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Vocabulary Define the following words with only 1-2 words

1. vague _____
2. rhapsody _____
3. delirious _____
4. reconstruct _____
5. career _____
6. anguish _____

Extra Credit Vocabulary

bewilderment, formation, virtues, patriot, ardent, pacifist, legitimate, myriads, temporal, barbarous, tantalise (tantalize), incessant, imposing, tendencies, inherent, tribulation, diverted, monstrosly, sophisticated, indulgence, contented, exaggerated, partisans, essential, Redemption, pestilence, diffused

Bonus Vocabulary

bereavement

Comprehension Questions Answer the questions briefly (full sentences are unnecessary)

1. What European war has begun? _____
2. Why is Wormwood excited over this war?

3. Screwtape warns Wormwood to not be overly confident about “terror-pictures of the future” and “self-pitying glances” that Wormwood had used to scare the “patient.” Moreover, Screwtape states, “the real business of undermining faith” is “preventing the formation of virtues.” Why would Screwtape be concerned about this?

4. Why is Screwtape concerned about the “negative” consequences of war from his perspective?

5. From Screwtape’s perspective, why is it “... better for us if all humans died in costly nursing homes amid doctors who lie, nurses who lie, friends who lie, as we have trained them, promising life to the dying, encouraging the belief that sickness excuses every indulgence, and even, if our workers know their job, withholding all suggestion of a priest lest it should betray to the sick man his true condition!”

6. Why does Lewis say through Screwtape, “... a faith which is destroyed by a war or pestilence cannot really have been worth the trouble of destroying”?

7. What happens when patients apply “to Enemy headquarters?”
