

A Gospel Cinquain

A cinquain is a five-line poem (*cinq* means “five” in French) structured by either syllables or words. The chart below will guide you in writing your cinquain. Choose a Gospel story or event from any of the synoptic Gospels. You may choose a parable, a miracle (see article 60), or one of the central accounts of the synoptic Gospels given in article 59. You may also choose a portion of one of the synoptic accounts of the Paschal Mystery (see article 61).

Lines	Parts of Cinquain Poem	Syllables	Words
Line 1	Title	2	1
Line 2	Description of title	4	2
Line 3	Actions about the title	6	3
Line 4	Feelings about the title	8	4
Line 5	Synonym (similar word) for title	2	1

After you have chosen your passage, plan your cinquain by answering these questions:

1. What main idea of the passage is the focus of your cinquain?
2. How would you describe this main idea?
3. What are some action words describing this main idea? What can your topic or idea do?
4. What are your feelings about this main idea?
5. What are some other words that have the same meaning as the main idea?



Use the chart above to help you choose words that match the structure (either syllables or words) of your cinquain. For example, a *syllable* cinquain on a Gospel topic might look like this:

Healing	(Title: 2 syllables)
Renewed in grace	(Description: 4 syllables)
Walking, running, jumping	(Actions: 6 syllables)
Made new again in faith and love	(Feelings about: 8 syllables)
Wholeness	(Synonym for title: 2 syllables)

Write your cinquain here. At the bottom of your cinquain, identify the Scripture reference on which it is based.

