**Civil Disobedience- Paragraph Breakdown Summaries**

**Paragraph #1:**

* The best govt. is the kind that stays out of the people’s business or they are even better if they do not get involved at all.
* There is no point to govts.
  + They never achieve goals. Especially when they go to war.
  + And when these wars are protested, that s when the govt. should listen, but never do. (And the armies are as much to blame.)
* It is usually one or two people who want to go to war, and the majority of people usually object to war.

**Paragraph #2:**

* Wants a better govt. if there is going to be one.
* People need to speak up about what kind of govt. they would respect.
  + For example: it could be following that gut feeling that would lead correctly and know the difference between right and wrong.
* Large corporations do not know the difference between right and wrong
* Large corporations, like the govt., are usually run by one or two men who make decisions for themselves and their own best interests… NOT for the people’s best interest.
* People who carry out these selfish desires are as much to blame.
  + Army men are the same.
* If there was no one to fight, there would be no wars.

**Paragraph #3:**

* Men in the military are not men, they are machines.
* They have no decisions of their own.
  + They may not want to cause harm, but they follow directions anyhow.
  + And those military men who hesitate or questions authority are looked upon as enemies of the state.

**Paragraph #4:**

* Unjust laws exist & how do we handle them???
* If you stand up against those unjust laws, your actions are questioned and looked at as if they are worse than the unjust law you are standing up against.
* Why is the govt. defensive and not encouraging its people to help make it be accountable and the best it can be?!
* Break the law IF: if you have to cause harm to another.
  + Do not be a part of the wrong you do not agree with! Stand up against!

**Paragraph #5:**

* Sometimes those who do the govt.’s unjust work do not realize it (brainwashed).
* It is our job to oppose them so they get a reality check.
* Concept: One Honest Man = The power of one.

**Paragraph #6:**

* true place for a just man is in jail if any are wrongly jailed.
* A minority is powerless if it conforms to the majority.
* Speaking up as the minority has an impact whether great or small!
  + So speak up!
* Blood is “shed” when your conscience is wounded.

**Paragraph #7:**

* The Author (Henry David Thoreau):
  + For 6 years - did not pay taxes & was jailed over-night.
  + He enjoyed being in there.
  + He knew the jailers thought he wanted out, BUT he was trying to make a point!
  + He feels the jailors are dangerous ones.
  + Pities the govt.

**Paragraph #8:**

* Battle of Will.
  + Force
  + Conformity
  + Empty threats
  + Stop whining; start acting
  + Follow your heart.
    - if you do not you will spiritually die.