

# SABBATH SCHOOL

## Jr. High School Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level J • Unit 2 • Week 4

### RESPECT

#### OBJECTIVE:

To define respect and identify how and why one should respect people, God, parents, property and self.

[Note to instructor: This material may be sufficient for more than one class depending on the amount of time spent discussing each point.]

#### INTRODUCTION:

**Do:** Give an example of when someone has used the phrase: "Treat others the way that you would like to be treated."

#### Discuss:

- Have your parents said anything like this to you?
- Have you ever felt that it is hard to be nice to other people when they aren't nice to you?

**Say:** Today we are going to talk about respect for God, parents, property, people and self.

#### LESSON:

##### What Is Respect?/Respecting Others

What does respect mean? What does it personally mean to you?

- In *Webster's New World College Dictionary* "respect" is defined as "to feel or show **honor** or esteem for; hold in high regard."
- The word "**honor**" appears 147 times in the King James Version! That must mean that respect is important to God and, therefore, important in securing our happiness.

What does respect say about one's character?

Do you have to like someone to respect them? For example, what is the difference between liking your teacher and respecting your teacher?

Can you respect a stranger?

How do you demonstrate respect for . . .

- Strangers?
- Friends?
- Church members?
- Authority figures (such as government, police officers, elders, teachers)?

### **Respecting God**

Why do we bow our heads during prayer? (Answer: To show respect to God.) We should show respect for God because He is our creator and provider. God also blesses us when we respect Him.

What are some other ways we can show respect or honor for our heavenly Father? [Possible answers: Keeping the Sabbath, God's Holy Day's, God's Commandments.]

One of the scribes (teachers of the law, those who copied the law) asked Jesus: "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" (Mark 12:28, NIV). Jesus' reply is in Mark 12:29-31.

Mark 12:29-30: "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment."

Mark 12:31: "And the second, like it, is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

I Samuel 2:30: "Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the LORD says, 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.'" The last sentence sounds very much like the saying, "Treat others how you want to be treated."

John 12:26: "If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor."

### **Respecting Our Parents**

The Bible tells us to honor our father and mother eight times in the Old and New Testaments. Why do you think this is so important?

- Exodus 20:12: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you."
- We should respect our parents because that is God's instruction, because God blesses us when we honor them and because parents are providers and authority figures.
- How do you show honor for your parents?

## Respecting Property

If Christ said that the greatest commandments were to love God and love your neighbor, why should we respect property?

- When we respect property, we respect the property's owner.
- Example: If someone borrows your favorite CD and then returns it damaged or doesn't return it all, how does that make you feel? Do you think that person was showing you respect?
- Example: If you have a piece of garbage and throw it on the ground or in someone else's yard (whether beautiful or ugly), how does that show your respect or disrespect for others?
- If we respect property, we are ultimately respecting other people and, most importantly, our Creator.
- God is the ultimate owner of everything. Excerpt from the UCG booklet *What Does the Bible Teach About Tithing*:

"Before the Israelites entered the land God promised to give them, He told them: 'All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S. *It is holy to the LORD*' (Leviticus 27:30, emphasis added throughout).

"What gave God the right to claim 10 percent of everything they produced from the land? His claim was and still is based on a simple and an often-overlooked truth: He owns everything!

"This fundamental premise is repeated in the Bible. 'The earth is the LORD'S and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein' (Psalm 24:1; compare Exodus 19:5; Job 41:11). The tithe is simply the divinely ordained *degree* to which He expects us to honor Him and to acknowledge that He gives *everything* to us by giving a 10th back to Him."

## Respecting Yourself

How do you demonstrate self-respect . . .

- At home?
- At school?
- At church?
- With other people?

[Possible answers: modesty, honesty, respect for others.]

Someone once said, "Sir, I will treat you like a gentleman, not because you are one, but because I am one." Treat others the way you want to be treated!

How might this apply to people in society?

## SUMMARY/CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING:

1. Why is it important to show respect for others?
2. How do we show respect for our heavenly Father?
3. Why should we respect our parents?
4. Why should we respect property?
5. How can we respect ourselves?

**CLOSING ASSIGNMENT:**

Give students a "Respect Reminder."

Have them think of three ways to show respect in their own lives and record them on the "reminder" that you give them.

Invite them to share their answers with the class if they would like. Instruct them to put the "reminder" where they can look at it often.

Challenge them to make a weekly routine of this procedure.

## *Respect Reminder!!!*

*I will show respect this week by . . .*

1.

2.

3.

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_

## *Respect Reminder!!!*

*I will show respect this week by . . .*

1.

2.

3.

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_