

3.05 RESPECT YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER

Topic Biblical Standard for peace with others

Subtopic: Respect your parents

4F. Peace in the Home

Class: Class III (3rd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When asked how people learn to respect others, students will say that respect begins at home with respect for our parents.

Attitude: Students will show respect for their parents who gave them life.

Materials Needed:

Memory Verse Exercise Book

Exercise Book

Scripture:

References: Ephesians 6:1-4; Exodus 20:12

Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "Respect your father and your mother." Exodus 20:12

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. What do you like about people you describe as being polite and kind?
2. What does the word respect mean?

Bible Story:

3. What do the first four commandments teach us?
4. The last six commandments teach us how to live peacefully with others. It begins with the commandment to respect our fathers and mothers. Why do you think God thought it was important to begin with respect for our parents?
5. The New Testament emphasizes our need to respect our parents also. Read the passage in Eph. 6:1-4

Suggested Discussion Questions

6. What are some ways we show respect for our parents?
7. Does showing respect always mean we agree with the other? Explain.
8. How can we disagree and still show respect?

Application:

9. If you are respectful of your parents, will you be respectful of others as well? How?

Evaluation:

10. How can being respectful of others help you live at peace with others?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. They use good manners, are considerate of others. They honor different ideas and understandings and are obedient to the law, faith, customs of your family and community.
2. Respect means we regard others as deserving our consideration.

Bible Story:

3. Love the Lord with all our hearts, soul and mind.
4. Our parents gave us life for which we need to show gratitude. They are given responsibility to help us learn what is right and what is wrong.
5. Students will observe that both the OT and NT teach us to respect parents.

Possible Answers to Questions:

6. We say please and thank you. We carry out the tasks we are asked to do carefully and willingly.
7. No, but it means we listen to the other and respond without anger.
8. We can utilize the ASSERT formula. (See Teacher's Notes)

Application:

9. Yes. We will be polite to others.

Evaluation: 10. If you show respect, you gain respect.

Extension Activities

1. Have students write their new memory verse in their Memory Verse Exercise Book: “Respect your father and your mother.” Exodus 20:12
2. In their Exercise Book, have the students write at the top: SHOW RESPECT. Underneath have them write in the ASSERT formula for use when they don’t agree with another but they want to show respect. [See Teacher’s Notes]
3. Learning to respect others in difficult situations. Have students role play how they can be respectful of others in situations that are common to them. Here are a few suggested situations: a) Your father insists you go now and milk the cow but your friend has come to visit you and will be leaving soon. b) You are walking home with a friend who is drinking soda. When he finishes the soda, he throws the bottle/can on the ground and walks away. You are careful to take care of the environment. c) Your teacher embarrasses you by calling you “Short One” because you are shorter than most in your class. You don’t want to make an issue of it when others are around but you want the teacher to know you would rather he/she didn’t call you that. d) You hear someone use the name of God wrongly. You want them to know you don’t appreciate that because God is your friend. (See Teacher’s Notes for using the ASSERT formula to help students learn how to respect others when they don’t agree with the behavior they see.)

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

1. It is helpful to review briefly what the students have learned about the first four commandments which teach us that we are to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind. Loving God helps us keep our priorities in perspective. We are to worship no God but the true God. We are not to make or worship any idol. We are to respect the Name of God and not use it for evil purposes. We are to remember that one day in seven (Christians usually observe Sunday) is to be kept for rest and worship.
2. Today we begin to study the last six commandments which teach us how to treat others. Loving God first should influence how we treat one another.
3. God begins by saying that we should respect our fathers and mothers. They are the ones who have given us life. God also places responsibility on our parents to “raise [us] with Christian discipline and instruction.” (Ephesians 6:4) Parents should help us know right from wrong. They should teach us how to treat one another. That is why they want us to learn good manners—to say “please” and “thank you”, to be kind to our elders and those who may need assistance. When we do these things we are showing respect to others.
4. Respect is a word we want to talk about today. When we are respectful of one another, we can work out problems in a peaceful manner. Respect means that we are courteous and polite, that we are thoughtful toward other people, that we understand others may have different needs and ideas than ours, that we live to the best of our abilities the truths set out by God and interpreted within our daily lives. It also means that we care about other living things—animals, plants and the environment.
5. Respecting another doesn’t mean that we always agree with another. There are ways we can respectfully disagree with another. To help us remember how to do it, we can use the word: ASSERT. (See how to apply this formula when learning to disagree respectfully further down in the Teacher’s Notes.) Make sure the children understand how to respect their father and mother and others before teaching them how to disagree respectfully.

Peacemaking Connection

Many times conflicts occur because someone is disrespectful of another. That can lead to calling each other names and in general embarrassing or hurting another. If not corrected it can even lead to violence. Showing respect, even when we disagree, is vital to keeping peace. The ASSERT formula is helpful to maintain respect when you don't agree with the other. It can help you work out an understanding that allows you to maintain a peaceful environment.

Story that Illustrates being respectful

Tom was an energetic student that sometimes seemed to disrupt the class. Yet, when he wanted to get the teacher's attention, he always raised his hand and politely said, "Excuse me, please." Then he would wait until the teacher acknowledged him before speaking. He was always sure to say, "Thanks a lot," if he was given a compliment or given something.

Tom had a classmate who had some physical disabilities which limited how much she could join in with others during recess time. One day Tom took a ball and walked over to where the girl stood. Slowly he tossed the ball from a few feet away and helped her learn how to catch the ball and throw it back to him. When she was successful, he excitedly encouraged her by saying, "Great! Good job!" He was quick to compliment others when he saw them do something well. His respect for others rubbed off on others in the class. Before long, other class members were noticing when others did something good and complimenting them on it. They were showing respect to one another.

Learning how to Disagree Respectfully: Using the ASSERT Formula

Following this formula allows you to respect the other's behavior or thought but it also allows you to stand by what you know is right. Here is what you do.

A: stands for "attention". Get the attention of the other person so they will listen to you. Sometimes that means that you arrange for a convenient time when you can talk together.

S: stands for "Soon, Simple, Short". Talk with the other as soon as you can. Then state your difference simply and briefly.

S: stands for "Specific Behavior". Focus on the behavior—not your feeling about the other person.

E: stands for "Effect on me". Help the person understand the feelings and problems you're experiencing as a result of his/her behavior.

R: stands for "Response." Give the other person a chance to respond to you.

T: stands for "Terms". Suggest a solution to the problem by saying something like "Would you be willing to?" Make sure you thank the person for listening to you and if you have been able to work out a solution, thank them for that as well. Then follow through with the plan.¹

Key Points: Being respectful of one another is very important in preventing conflicts. Respect begins at home when you respect your mother and your father. Respect means that you are

¹ Taken from What Do You Stand For? by Barbara A. Lewis, 1998, Free Spirit Publishing Inc.: Minneapolis, MN, p. 218.

courteous and kind, that you give consideration to the other's opinions and behavior. It doesn't mean that you have to agree with the other. One can disagree respectfully by using the ASSERT formula.

Teacher Evaluation:

Do I show respect for my mother and father? Do I respect my co-teachers? Do I show respect to all of my students? How do I handle others with whom I disagree? Am I able to model for my students how to disagree respectfully? Do others feel they can talk with me even when I might not agree with them? How can I encourage my students to respect their parents and others? How can I encourage them to disagree respectfully when that happens?