

Discipleship Tools

In a season of live streaming and canceled children's programs, may the following questions and activities guide you in helping your children apply the sermon.

1 Peter 2:11-17

If you miss the live stream, you can view the sermon [here](#).

Sermon Discussion

Preschool

1. Does everyone believe in Jesus? What should you do if someone says something about God that is wrong or unkind? How can we love people who don't believe in Jesus?
2. God wants us to obey Him and those who he has placed in positions of authority over us. Who are some people who are in authority over you? Do your parents have anyone in authority over them?

Younger Kids

1. Holiness is not just about avoiding evil; but about doing that which is good. What is something "good"/"beautiful" that we can do in our neighborhood this week?
2. What should we do when others speak badly about us or Jesus? (2:12, 3:13)
3. What does this passage teach us about submitting to authority? Who are some people that God has placed in authority over you? Who are some authority figures that your parents have to submit to? What if someone in authority over you tells you to do something you know is wrong, then what should you do?

Older Kids

1. What are some particular sins that are difficult for you to fight against?
2. What does it look like for you to "live honorably" among your friends who are not Christians?
3. Where do you struggle most with showing "good deeds" to unbelievers? What makes it a struggle?
4. Sometimes we think people in authority just want to be in charge or be the boss. Sometimes that might be true, but many times people in authority want to help you to do what's right, to learn, or to become better at something. How can someone who is in a position of authority honor God? How can you still honor God even when someone in authority over you is not?

Christ Connection

How does this text point us to Jesus?

Preschool: Jesus is the ultimate authority.

Elementary: Jesus is the ultimate authority in our lives and one day he will rule with perfect peace and justice forever. Kings and Kingdoms fade away, but the kingdom of Christ will rule forever.

Activity

Preschool

Play Follow The Leader, Mother May I, or Simon Says

While these games are a lot of fun for younger kids, they are also really great for giving children a chance to practice hearing and obeying instruction.

To introduce this activity, say the following: We're going to play some games that teach us about authority. In each of these games, one person will be the authority or leader in the game. You will need to listen to that person and do what they tell you to do. I'll go first.

After the activity remind children that God has placed people in authority over us and we honor Him by obeying their instruction.

Elementary

Attitude Counts¹

The purpose of this activity: This activity helps children see that their attitude counts as much as their actions do.

Description: The children will listen to a situation regarding authority and choose the best way to act towards that person to show respect for authority.

To introduce the activity, say the following: I want you to listen carefully while I read you some situations involving authority. For each situation, there are two questions I want to ask you. The first question is if you should obey the authority or not. The second question is if you should do it with a good attitude or a bad attitude.

During the activity, say the following:

After I read each situation, think about how it should be handled, and we will choose the best response.

Note: Read each situation and ask the kids if they should obey or not. Then ask them ways that they could obey with a bad attitude and ways they could obey with a good attitude.

Situations:

1. Your dad tells you to take out the trash before you go out to play.

a. Should you take out to trash? (yes)

b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (bang the trashcans around, make a lot of noise, spill some trash on the ground)

c. What about a good attitude? (ask if there is anything else to help with, say "I'll do it right now")

2. You come home with a lot of homework one night. But you also come home with a new library book that you can't wait to read.

a. Do you do your homework first or read the book? (do your homework)

b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (rush through it so you can get to the book, complain about it)

c. How do you do this with a good attitude? (do the best job you can without complaining)

3. After school, you are standing at the curb waiting to cross the street because the crossing guard asked you to wait. Your friends get impatient with waiting and they go ahead and cross the street.

a. What should you do? (follow the direction the crossing guard gave you because you know that they care about your safety)

b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (mutter under your breath about how mean the crossing guard is)

c. How do you do this with a good attitude? (stand there and wait patiently until you are told to go across)

¹ <http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5205bde4e4b03ad27ab212f1/t/56acf05e4d088eb3998cb45f/1454174306397/Clarity+Kids-Elementary-Winter+Extreme-Lesson+4-January+31.pdf>; © 2006 Fellowship Church

4. You are in the middle of playing a video game and you are winning. Your mom asks you to watch your little brother while she goes outside to work in the yard.
 - a. What should you do? (stop the game and watch your brother)
 - b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (pretend like you are going to watch your brother, but start playing the game again when your mom leaves the room, act irritated with him because you would much rather be playing your game)
 - c. How do you do this with a good attitude? (do it happily because you enjoy watching your brother)

5. Your soccer coach tells you to sit out of the game for a little while after you miss a goal.
 - a. What should you do? (do what he says)
 - b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (get angry and start stomping all over the field and yelling at your coach)
 - c. How do you do this with a good attitude? (sit quietly on the sidelines knowing that you probably need a rest)

6. Your mom just got home with a trunk load of groceries, but you hate to bring in the groceries. She calls you to come help.
 - a. What should you do? (go help her)
 - b. How do you do this with a bad attitude? (act irritated and slam the grocery bags down on the counter)
 - c. How do you do this with a good attitude? (help with the groceries and hold the door for her)

7. Your teacher at school has changed the seating chart and you no longer get to sit by your best friend anymore.
 - a. What should you do? (sit where she tells you to)
 - b. How can you do this with bad attitude? (get angry and tell her that's not where you want to sit, give the teacher dirty looks, and act up while you are sitting there)
 - c. How can you do this with a good attitude? (sit quietly knowing that you can talk to your friend on breaks and after school)

After the activity, say the following: You all did a great job of deciding to obey authority in these situations. When someone in authority tells you to do something, you should not just obey him or her; you should obey with a good attitude. Remember that as disciples of Jesus, God wants us to respect authority.

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