



Date: _____
Series: Spring Cleaning
Spring Year 1, Lesson 56

Dump the Disrespect

Take Home Point: *Dump the disrespect—honor God and others. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: 1 Peter 2:13-24

Key Verses: 1 Peter 2:17, "Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king." (NIV)

We will help kids know:

- Respect is an attitude that honors another person in authority such as a parent, teacher, policeman, or government leader.
- Jesus honored his Father's will and went to the cross. He did not disrespect those who put him there, but prayed for their forgiveness.
- God does not force us to honor him, but loves us and honors us so we can honor him in response.
- Because we honor God, we want to honor others, even if they do not deserve it.




We will help kids feel:

- Convicted of the times they disrespected parents, teachers, and others.
- Empowered by Christ's forgiveness to better respect or honor God and others.

We will help kids do:

- Identify those they have disrespected.
- Admit their disrespect and their need for change.
- Receive Christ's forgiveness so they would be empowered to better respect and honor others.
- List ways they can show their respect.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids write ways of showing disrespect on paper and make them into “dis”-wads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8½” by 11” sheets of paper cut into quarters – two pieces per student • pencils or pens • trash can or sack
Large Group 	4 7	Overview Game and Teaching: Kids have a “Dump the Disrespect” relay and see how Jesus is our example in showing respect to others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleaning costume: jeans, sweats, bandana or sweat band • two trash cans, one with a cross taped on the outside • masking tape for the cross and starting line • wadded up paper balls from small group
Small Group Application 	4	Kids write down examples of respect as an acrostic for the word, RESPECT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paper • pencils

Small Group Warm Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

As kids gather: Listen to memory verses from last week and give coupons for memory verses, remembering to bring your Bible, and bringing a guest.

Supplies: pens or pencils, quarter sheets of blank paper, trashcan or sack for paper balls

Today we will talk about respect and disrespect. Respect is an attitude that honors another person because they are in a position of authority. The ultimate authority is God. Others in authority include parents, teachers, policemen, and government leaders.

It is God's will that we should respect those in authority. However, sometimes it is difficult. It can be very easy to disrespect others.

Hand students a piece of paper and pencil.

Think of a teacher in your school who is often disrespected by students. How do students show disrespect to him or her?

Have the students write the disrespectful act on the paper and wad it up into a ball.

Why might certain teachers be more disrespected than others?

What ways do you show disrespect to your parents?

Have the students write disrespectful acts toward their parents on a piece of paper and wad it up into a ball. Place all the paper balls into a trashcan or sack to take to large group.

We are going to call these paper wads "dis"-wads. Today we will see how God helps us **dump the disrespect—honor God and others.*

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Kids have a “Dump the Disrespect” relay and see how Jesus is our example in showing respect to others.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?/Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Have kids refer to 1 Peter 2:13-24 in their Bibles.

What reasons do 1 Peter 2:13 and verse 15 give for respecting or honoring authority? *(To please God and to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing what is right. In other words, be an example as a Christian.)*

According to verse 18, what type of authority should we obey? *(Not only those who are good and kind, but also those who are unfair.)* **Why?** *(1 Peter 2:20b. “If you endure suffering for doing something good, God is pleased with you.” It also sets you apart as a Christian, because it is a response different than the world would expect.)*

Why did God call us to endure suffering? *(1 Peter 2:21. Because Christ suffered for us. He gave us an example to follow in his footsteps.)*

According to verse 24, what can we do now that Christ has freed us from our sins when he died on the cross? *(We can live a life that has God's approval.)*

Do you think people treat others badly when they don't feel good about themselves? Why?

How have Jesus' wounds healed us? *(Through Jesus' sufferings and death, we have God's complete approval. Because of that, no lies of Satan can condemn us or make us feel badly of ourselves.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Supplies: a piece of paper, pencils

Be sure each student has a piece of paper and a pencil. On the paper, have them write the word RESPECT vertically. For each letter of the word, have them write a word or phrase beginning with that letter that shows respect for someone in authority. Share an example for each letter and then allow students to fill in their sheet with such phrases.

- R** Respond with an uncomplaining voice; or remember to say, "thank you" to mom for making dinner.
- E** Encourage a friend; or enjoy helping your mom or dad with a job in the house.
- S** Support others and honor them; or say, "Yes, Mom" in a gentle voice.
- P** Say, "Please, may I leave the table;" or provide a teacher with a new box of Kleenex.
- E** Elevate a kid who may be criticized by others.
- C** Consider your mom's feelings as she made supper for you; or care for your sister or brother when they are hurt.
- T** Talk nicely about people in front of and behind their backs.

Even though God wants us to respect and honor him, he will never force us to. No one can force us to respect or honor other authorities either. We can choose to do this especially when we remember what Jesus endured for us, and how he honored even those who treated him badly.

The key verse for today from 1 Peter 2:17 says, "Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king." (NIV)

When we fear God (not to be afraid of him, but to have respect for him) and honor Jesus the King, it is easier for us to honor and respect others. I hope from this day forward you will remember to **dump the disrespect—honor God and others.*

Closing Prayer:

Thank Jesus for being the perfect example of honoring others as he forgave those who nailed him to the cross. Pray to choose to honor and respect others out of love for God.

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Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

Dump the Disrespect

The presenter for this series will dress for spring-cleaning. This person's name is either Shirley Mclean or Stanley Steamer the Spring Cleaner. They could be dressed in jeans or sweats with t-shirts. Maybe wear a bandana or sweatband. Add any props that might enhance "Spring Cleaning," for example: spray bottles, rags, and dusters.

Each week of this series a different cleaning item will be used.

Week one: a broom and dustpan

Week two: a duster

Week three: a trashcan

Week four: a wash bucket

The emphasis of this series is to find the power in Jesus Christ through his death and resurrection and replace the traits of our sinful nature such as self-centeredness, disobedience, disrespect, and prejudice with service, obedience, respect, and acceptance.

Supplies: wadded up balls from small group, two trash cans—one marked with a cross (use tape to make a cross on the outside of the trash can), starting line marked with tape

Introduction of Presenter and Play a "Dump the Disrespect" Game

Stanley Steamer, the Spring Cleaner, or Shirley McLean comes forward dressed in proper cleaning attire and carries a trash can with a cross on it.

I am Stanley Steamer the Spring Cleaner (or Shirley McLean), and I am here to take care of these disgusting "dis"-wads that seem to be cluttering up our lives. Yes, these are not our normal paper wads, but these are disrespect wads.

We will have a relay race with the "dis"-wads. Each team will have a pile of "dis"-wads and a trash can. The starting person will balance the wad on his/her head, go down to the trashcan, bow and drop it in the trashcan. If the wad falls off your head before you get to the trashcan, you must pick it up and start again. You only have one chance, though, to get the "dis"-wad into the trash can when you bow. If it falls on the floor instead of in the trashcan, leave it there, go back and tag the next person. The winner will be the team with the most "dis"-wads in the trashcan. We will have the boys race against the girls.

Have the students line up in two lines (boys vs. girls) behind the taped starting line. If one team has more kids, have the other team start again until the number of students racing is equal.

On your marks, get set, go!

Play the game and count the paper in each trashcan (or the team that finished first) to determine the winner.

I am curious as to what is written on these “dis”-wads. Let’s look at a few of the things you wrote down on your “dis”-wads.

Take four or five of the balls out and read them, make comments and interact with the group and throw them back into the trashcan. *(Do not mention names if written on the paper wads.)*

Force or Choice to Bow

We really need to dump disrespect. The first step in doing this is to bow down and honor God. Because we respect and honor God, we will respect those he has placed in positions of authority over us. These authorities may be parents, teachers, policemen, shepherds, and church leaders.

The bowing we did in the game “Dump the Disrespect” reminds us of respecting and honoring God. Let’s look at my trashcan. What do you see on the side? *(The cross.)*



The power of the cross or understanding what Jesus did for us helps us want to respect or honor God. God wants us to respect or honor him. But does God force us to respect and honor him? *(No.)*

Pick a volunteer to come up and help out with a demonstration. Say to the volunteer:

Hold your left arm stiff and straight behind your back. Grab your left wrist with your right hand and pull your left arm up until it is level with your shoulders. Try to do this without bowing.

Have volunteer try it.

This is impossible to do. We might think that since God is all-powerful, he would force us to say “uncle” or give up – that he would force us to bow down to him. Is that what God wants? No, God wants us to willingly respect and honor him.

Instead of how the bow looked earlier by our volunteer, it should look like this.

Have the volunteer do a gentleman’s bow.

He wants us to bow freely because we love him.

God honored us in sending his Son Jesus to die in our place for our sin. Through this we can now live for righteousness. We can live to respect and honor God, and then respect and honor others.

Jesus is our Example

In today’s Bible event, Jesus’ good friend Peter explains how to respect others. The power for this respect comes from what it says in 1 Peter 2:21-23, *“God called you to endure suffering because Christ suffered for you. He left you an example so that you could follow in his footsteps. Christ never committed any sin. He never spoke deceitfully. Christ never verbally abused those who verbally abused him. When he suffered, he didn’t make any threats but left everything to the one who judges fairly.”*

Does anyone remember what Jesus said when he was on the cross? People had unjustly tried him and accused him, made fun of him, spit on him, and now they were killing him. These people did not deserve respect from Jesus. But, what did Jesus say as he hung on the cross? *“Father forgive them. They don’t know what they’re doing.”* (Luke 23:34). This is a way Jesus honored these people, even though they did not deserve it.

How could Jesus do such a thing? Jesus first honored his Father. He knew it was his Father’s will that he would give his life, not just for the sinners who put him on the cross, but also for sinners like you and me.



He bowed before the Father, and in doing so he bowed in respect to others around him. Though they showed no respect to him, he did not disrespect them back.

Our Bible event continues in 1 Peter 2:24-25, *“Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross so that freed from our sins, we could live a life that has God’s approval. His wounds have healed you. You were like lost sheep. Now you have come back to the shepherd and bishop of your lives.”*

The power to respect comes from the power of Jesus’ forgiveness. When we admit we have done wrong in disrespecting others, it is like putting that act of disrespect in this trashcan.

Point to the trashcan with the cross on it.

Through the power of his forgiveness, we have the power to be free from acting disrespectful and instead give honor.

We, too, can Respect and Honor Others

1 Peter 2:13-17 says, *“Place yourselves under the authority of human governments to please the Lord. Obey the emperor. He holds the highest position of authority. Also obey governors. They are people the emperor has sent to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. God wants you to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing what is right. Live as free people, but don’t hide behind your freedom when you do evil. Instead, use your freedom to serve God. Honor everyone. Love your brothers and sisters in the faith. Fear God. Honor the emperor.”*

In school, do you notice that certain teachers receive more disrespect than others? Do they deserve it?

They might do some things that are harder to respect. But as a follower of Christ, should you give them respect even if they had some quirks or qualities that made it difficult? Yes, you should.

What happens with your parents? When it is hard to respect them, what do you need to do? (*Respect them.*) That’s right. You still need to respect them.

What Does Respect Look Like?

Respect looks something like this...

Bow a gentleman’s bow, then say:

Let's collect some examples of words you may speak that show respect toward teachers.

Ask several children to give examples.

How about parents?

Now, how do you show respect to large group presenters or shepherds?

After a few answers are given conclude with the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for honoring us by sending your Son Jesus. Thank you for his forgiveness so we can be free to live for you in righteousness. Help us now to honor you by honoring those in authority over us. Help us respect our parents, our teachers, our leaders at church, and our government officials. Help us show such respect that as people see our lives, they can see us give glory to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.