



# Respect

Sunday 10:30am - June 23, 2024

## in the Christian Family

*A Bible study on the basis, boundaries, blessings, and bread of the Christian home.*

### Basis

*Ephesians 5:21-Eph 6:4, Col 3:18-21*

1. Distinguish between love and respect. How is the command to “submit to one another” different from the command to “love one another?”
2. The unbelieving world cannot understand these directions for sacrificial love and freely given submission between husband and wife. God’s will is not only that the husband have selfless and sacrificial love for his wife, but that the wife respects her husband. Upon what higher relationship is her submission and respect to be based?

*1 Tim 3:8-11; Lv 19:32; Ex 20:12*

3. Agree or Disagree: “Respect is something you must earn.”

*Ex 21:17*

4. What does God’s seriousness for regulating the fourth commandment for Old Testament Israel say about its importance today?

*Violet is a Christian wife who has been married to Clifford for forty years. But he is constantly telling her that she isn’t good enough at things. One day you notice this habit of Clifford as he is light-heartedly joking about his wife in front of both her and you about her poor spending habits. “I told her if you keep buying those high-priced ugly haircuts we’re going to have to sell all those expensive shoes that take up our whole basement!” In what ways might both Violet and Clifford be failing to show respect? What might you tell them if you were their friend and Clifford just made another joke which was clearly meant to make Violet look bad?*

### Boundaries

*Pr 23:22*

1. How does honoring your parents involve far more than an outward obedience?
2. Agree or Disagree: “Respect is more often given (and broken) with word rather than deed.”

*Matthew 18:21-35 & Col 3:13*

3. Recall a time or times you “lost your cool” with a family member. How did they cross the line? How might you at times end up setting the line they cross as too short?
4. Can you think of an example in which a person might still show love in the Christian Family but fail to respect another family member?

*Geneses 25:27-28 Genesis 37:3-4*

5. What do we learn from these men by way of warning?
6. Discuss with your table partners: "I find it hard to acknowledge it when I'm being disrespectful because..." "At times I don't address disrespect in my family because..."

*Susan is seven. One day her mom takes her and her little baby sister on shopping trip. I want to look at that!" She whines as she spots a toy her little sister has in the car seat next to her. "Not now. It's her toy." Her mom says with an annoyed tone. Susan doesn't listen and her little sister cries when the toy is taken from her. Frustrated her mom says it again, a little louder. Susan just pretends to not listen as she plays with the toy she took from her helpless sister. "Susan! Give it back to her." Her mom shouts. Still Susan keeps the toy she took from her little sister. By now Susan's mom is so angry she shouts "Susan Saddleback!" so loud she's glad she doesn't have the windows open. "Aaaahhh...Hmmm!" Susan whines as she gives the toy back. (Whenever she doesn't get her way, she always lets out a long moan "Aaaahhh... Hmmm!") When did respect fall out the window? What responses at each stage of rebellion might help restore respect?*

## Blessings

*Proverbs 31:10-12,23*

1. What happens when husband and wife respect one another?

*Eph 6:2-3 & Lv 19:32*

2. What happens when a children honor their parents?

*Proverbs 11:16; Pr 14:1; 17:1; 19:13*

3. Moved out of love for Christ, the Christian home enjoys blessings of peace not only with God, but each other.

*Theo just turned thirteen. He is obedient and does all that he is told. Nevertheless he likes to argue with his parents about every rule they make for him. He has become an expert at making his parents feel dumb and useless. And he always gets the last word with a sarcastic comment about their rules. How might Theo's parents respond to this behavior? If you were one of Theo's parents, how could you help Theo appreciate the blessings of a home where there is respect for one another?*

## Bread

*Phil 2:3-8*

1. Consider what Jesus did for a world that has disgraced and mistreated him. Describe the new attitude toward others which a Christian gains as he or she grows in faith.

*1 Timothy 3:2-5*

2. Why is it so important to have the example of Christian families which display respect for each member of the home?

*Daniel and Charlotte have been married for twenty years and have three children. One day Daniel got so angry at Charlotte that he made a big scene and shouted at her in front of everyone. What does Daniel need to do?*

Next Workshop: *Spiritual Growth* In the Christian Home: –Basis, Boundaries, Blessings, & Bread

