
Respect for Other People and Their Property. Forgiveness, Repentance and Restitution.

Answer Key

I. Respect for Others

A. Who are children to respect?

1. Elderly & Parents
2. Other adults (teachers, bus drivers)
3. Peers (friends – other children the same age)
4. Younger children and babies

B. Why do we respect people?

1. Leviticus 19:32 “Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.”
 - a. We are to show respect to elderly people.
 - b. What does it mean to “rise in the presence of the aged”.
 - i. Stand up and give them a seat.
 - ii. Stand up to shake hands with them when they come to talk with us.
2. Philippians 2:3 “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”
 - a. Children are born selfish. They naturally look out for themselves.
 - b. Your children must be taught (by you) to consider others better than themselves – put others’ needs ahead of their own.

C. Teach your children to respect other people by first practicing it yourself and then teaching them to do it.

1. Open car & building doors for aged, women, and others
2. Look at adults and others when they talk to you.
3. Call people by their proper names/titles – Mr. and Mrs.
4. Let others get a drink first – even when you are really thirsty
5. Be happy for others when they get a gift
6. Stop and help others rather than walking on by them
7. Do for others first, yourself last

D. Perceived problem – What if everyone tries to let the other one go first. Who goes then? The one who gets there first and opens the door for others is the one that God will honor. Everyone else goes in behind them and thanks them. Better to have many people trying to help each other than many people being selfish.

E. Practice with Your Children

1. Looking at eyes of others when talking to them
2. Be happy for your brother/sister or others when they get a gift
3. Holding the door open for others
4. Let others go first at the drinking fountain
5. Stop and help them rather than walking by someone in need

II. Respect for Other People's **Property**

A. Who owns the property here on this earth?

1. **God** does.

Psalm 50:9-12 "I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, **for the world is mine, and all that is in it.**"

2. We are **stewards** of our possessions, not the ultimate owners. God has given us the right to own property as reward for our hard work.

- a. Exodus 20: 15 "Do not steal." Assumes that property belongs to us.
- b. Ecclesiastes 5:18 "Then I realized that it is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him – for this is his lot. Moreover when **God gives any man wealth and possessions**, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work – this is a gift from God."

B. We take care of other property out of respect for the property owners - **people**.

1. The immediate owners.
2. God as the ultimate owner.

C. Examples. **Who** should we be thinking of regarding the following?

1. Houses/Buildings
 - a. Hands (and feet) on windows and walls get them dirty
 - b. Spills/food
 - c. Slamming doors
 - d. Decorations
 - e. Going into others' rooms
 - f. Getting into cupboard/refrigerator
 - g. Instruments/piano/stage
 - h. Standing on chairs (muddy feet)
 - i. Playing ball inside (damage ceiling tile, dirt)
 - j. Spilling water around drinking fountain
2. Grounds
 - a. Littering (nice yard vs. poorly kept yard)
 - b. Climbing on rocks
 - c. Walking through flower beds
3. Cars
 - a. Opening doors into other cars
 - b. Leaning against them/sitting on them
 - c. Throwing things at them
4. Personal
 - a. Walk through mud/water
 - b. Care for clothes (play clothes/dress clothes)

III. Repentance, Forgiveness and Restitution

A. Repentance

1. A change of mind about sinful behavior which results in a change in behavior.
2. Example: Luke 3:7-14.
3. Sin is to be confessed to God. I John 1:9
4. Sin is to be confessed to each other.
5. Repentance is a question. "Will you forgive me for ... ?"
 - a. This puts the person who has been sinned against in the driver's seat.
 - b. You must wait for a response. Saying "sorry" doesn't cut it.
6. Make a distinction between sin and mistakes.
 - a. We **say**, "I'm sorry for ..." for mistakes.
 - b. We **ask**, "Will you please forgive me for ..." for sins.

B. Forgiveness

1. Forgiveness is a **promise** to not bring it up again.
2. Forgiveness is a **command**. Luke 17:1-10.
3. Our forgiveness of each other is modeled after **God's** forgiveness of us. Matthew 18:21-35.
4. God has promised not to bring up our sins again. Jeremiah 31:34b. Psalm 103:12.

C. Restitution

1. We are to make **restitution** for things that we break, lose or damage that belong to other people out of respect for them.
2. Examples
 - a. Borrow a wheelbarrow and you run over a nail with the tire.
 - b. Borrow someone's car. Fill up the tank before you return it.
 - c. Borrow someone's tools. Clean them up before you return it.
 - d. Make sure that you remember to return borrowed items.
 - e. You need to make sure that anything your children break or damage while at someone's house is taken care of.

- D. Reference. For an excellent discussion on forgiveness, see "From Forgiven to Forgiving" by Jay Adams. It is in our church library and in the bookstore.

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Student Worksheet

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