

Topic: Character – Respectful (2) (Lesson 407)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “And if a man borrows anything from his neighbor, and it is injured or dies while its owner is not with it, he shall make full restitution” (Exodus 22:14).

Focus: A respectful person knows/understands when something is important and should be treated in an appropriate way. We need to be respectful of others’ possessions.

Practical Application: Possessions are items that belong to someone. You have many possessions, such as your toys, your clothing, your bedding, your shoes, etc. To be respectful of someone else’s possessions means that we are very careful when we touch them. For example, if you have paint on your fingers, you should not go and give your mom a big hug and get paint all over her clothing because this would ruin her clothes. Similarly, if you ask to play with one of your friends’ (or siblings’) toys, you should be very careful not to damage that toy in any way. If you do damage it, you should either offer to purchase a new one or give that friend the money it would take to replace it.

Intermediate:

Verse: “These had gone on ahead and were waiting for us at Troas” (Acts 20:5).

Focus: A respectful person knows/understands when something is important and should be treated in an appropriate way. We need to be respectful of others’ time.

Practical Application: Time is very precious to people. To show respect for another person’s time is to show that you value their time by not making them wait. We should not be tardy to school because when we are tardy, this shows that we do not value our teacher’s or our classmates’ time. We should not be late to agreed-upon appointments such as the dentist or doctor, or for lunch or dinner appointments. We should not be late to scheduled events such as children’s meeting or school concerts.

Advanced:

Verse: “He who goes about as a gossip reveals secrets, / But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter” (Proverbs 11:13).

Focus: A respectful person knows/understands when something is important and should be treated in an appropriate way. We need to be respectful of others’ privacy.

Practical Application: There are certain things, such as mail, email, or text messages that are intended only for the person to whom they are addressed and it is disrespectful to read anything that is intended for someone else without that person’s permission. Likewise, there are certain places (in a home or school or in public places) that we should not go unless we are invited. We should not simply walk into a room with a closed door. We must knock and wait to be let in before we take the liberty to walk in. We should not go behind a teacher’s desk or into anyone’s office without being invited to go there. This is to respect others’ privacy.