

Royal Conduct

Behavior for Christians

Lesson 8

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: I Peter 2:9-25

Study Guide: Read "Royal Conduct: *Behavior for Christians*" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: There are only eleven words in I Peter 2:17, but together they make up four commandments and cover every possible social relationship. These four commandments may be the briefest list in the Bible, but they are among the most difficult to obey.

Lesson Application: With God's help and guidance, I can honor all men, love Christians, fear God, and honor those in authority over me.

Memory Verse: I Peter 2:17



"THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MINE HEART..."

*Honour all men. Love the brotherhood.
Fear God. Honour the king.*

—I Peter 2:17

The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Mirror

Teacher Tips

Try to
implement
new ideas in
class.

The Teacher's Lesson Plan

Materials: Mirror

What You Could Say:

Before you left your home this morning, you probably looked in a mirror a few times. I am guessing that you looked in one when you brushed your teeth or combed your hair. You probably looked in one to make sure that you buttoned all of your buttons or that your Sunday school outfit matches. Your mother probably used one to apply her makeup correctly, and your father would have used one to tie his Sunday tie. How funny life would be if we did not have mirrors! Just imagine how you would look today if mirrors had never been invented. Mirrors are so helpful, because they help us see what we look like on the outside. When we look into one, we can see what we need to change about how we look.

Far greater and far more useful than a mirror is the Bible. When we read God's Word, we learn not only about what we have to change on the outside but also, more importantly, about what we have to change on the inside. In today's lesson, you will learn more of how we should be on the outside as well as on the inside.

Teacher's Notes

He who dares to
teach must never
cease to learn.
—Anonymous

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Behavior for Christians

1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 8

Has your family ever gone to someone's house or had company to your house? Did your parents tell you to be on your best behavior? Did they tell you to be polite? Did they tell you to be sure to say, "Yes, sir," or "No, sir"?

It is important for us, as Christians, to be a good example to others. Then they will want to hear about Jesus. A good leader is a good example to others. Some leaders are not good examples. They are not kind and truthful.

Jesus is the best example we could ever have. In this lesson, we will look at His life. We will learn how to be a good example to others.

Our Royal Example

I Peter 2:21 says, "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow in his steps." Jesus left His throne in heaven and came to a manger in Bethlehem. In heaven, the angels sang praises to His name. On earth, His own people spit on Him. They beat Him. They nailed Him to a cross. He could have killed the people who hurt Him. Instead, He "did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not" (I Peter 2:22-23).

Every Christian who lives for Jesus will be treated badly at some time in his life. People might be unkind to you when you go to the door to tell them about Jesus. Kids at school might make fun of you because you pray before you eat lunch. They might say mean things to you. When this happens, remember our example, the Lord Jesus.

Our Royal Experience

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

—I Peter 2:9

Before a person is saved, He is not God's child. But when he accepts Jesus as Savior, he is born again. This means he is now God's child, and God is his Father. It means he is a child of the King. It means that God's home, heaven, is now that person's home.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.

—Romans 8:16-17

Our Royal Expression

The children of an earthly king must act like they are the king's children. There are things they can and cannot do. There are things they can and cannot say. There are places they can and cannot go.

When we get saved, we become a child of the King of kings. There are things we should and should not do. There are things we should and should not say. There are places we should and should not go.

Romans 12:1 tells us what God expects: "That ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." A child of God must be honest. If you are, unbelievers will see God in you. They will honor Him.

God also tells us that we must be obedient to all laws and people who have authority over us. That means we must obey kings, governors, and the police—everyone in authority. I Peter 2:13 and 15 tell us we must do this "for the Lord's sake," because it is "the will of God."

God sums it up with four commandments for our behavior:

Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

—I Peter 2:17

In other words, reverence God, respect all people, and love other Christians.

Conclusion

Being a child of God means you must act like one. Jesus is our best example of how to act. If you give your life to God as a "living sacrifice," the way you live will show others that you are a child of the King.

Teacher's Notes
