

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



*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.

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4th - 6th Grade
Lesson 8

We have learned many stories about the life of Jesus. In every situation, no matter the circumstance, He always did what was right. As Christians, it is important for us to know how to act so that we can be good leaders and help people know Jesus as their Savior.

Throughout history, there are many stories of men who were not good leaders. These men performed acts that made people hate them. Some leaders hurt people, and we should not follow their example.

Jesus is our example for how we should act and how we should treat people. Jesus was the Son of God. He was perfect. We need to learn from Him how we should act as leaders.

Our Royal Example

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.

—I Peter 2:21-23

When Jesus came to earth, He had to leave His throne in heaven to come. He had to leave a place that was perfect and wonderful to come to earth. He must have missed heaven so much while He was here. Jesus endured a lot of trials while He was on earth. He came from heaven to a manger with animals and then was crucified on Calvary. Even though He was the sinless, perfect Son of God, He endured mockery and temptation here on earth because He loved us. He was ready to take all the suffering here on earth because He knew that it was the only way we would be able to go to heaven.

As Christians, sometimes people will make fun of us or ridicule us for the things we do and don't do. When we go soul winning, people get mad and angry. They yell and slam doors. This should not discourage us. We should keep doing right with a good attitude, like Jesus did.

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: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

—I Peter 2:9-10

Have you ever seen a picture of a king or a queen? They are the royal family! All of their children get to wear special clothes and act a certain way because they're a special family!

The Bible says that you and I are part of a royal family too! We belong to the King of Kings! When a person gets saved, he becomes a whole new person—just like if someone were to become a king or a queen! To be part of God's family is an amazing privilege! We should be thankful that God has chosen us to be His children.

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

Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

—I Peter 2:12-17

Because we're part of God's special family, we need to act a certain way. People of royal descent have to do certain things and have to act a certain way because of their position. People look up to them and respect them. If they don't act the way they should, people will not follow them and they will be bad leaders. It is so important that we act the right way so that people will want to be like Jesus! When we act the way we should, people will wonder why we act so special. Then we can tell them it's because we want to be like Jesus. We need to be honest and tell people the truth.

Conclusion

Every one of us has a responsibility to behave ourselves in a "royal" way. We are part of God's family, and we need to be a good example to others. If we are going to influence people for Jesus, we need to be a good influence. If we act the same way as worldly people, no one will want to know Jesus. Just as Jesus was a wonderful, royal example to us, we need to be a royal example to others.