

Keep Calm and Respect Your Parents

Bible Truth: Keep Calm and Respect Your Parents (Children, Honor Your Parents) • *Ephesians 6:1-3 / Deuteronomy 5:16*

Bottom Line: You respect God when you respect your parents.

Key Question: How can you show respect to your parents?

Memory Verse: “Show proper respect to everyone.” *1 Peter 2:17a, NIV*

Life App: Respect—showing others they are important by what you say and do.

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

Get Your Head in the Game

- Space to sit in a big circle

Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)

- No supplies needed

Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)

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Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s Bible Truth.

Before kids arrive, spend time praying for them before they come into group. Pray that their hearts would be open to hearing from God today with a topic that may be really difficult for some students: respecting their parents. Pray for the students who you know have difficult home situations or are experiencing a separation from a parent.

Get Your Head in the Game

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- **Sit** the group in a circle.
- **Pick** a student to be the first “leader.”
- **Number** everyone off, going clockwise around the circle, beginning with the leader, who will be #1. **Remind** students to remember their numbers.
- **Show** everyone the rhythm they will need to use:
 - Slap your hands onto your thighs twice
 - Clap your hands twice
 - Snap fingers once on the left hand and then once on the right.
- **Encourage** the leader to start it and tell him or her to say his or her number (which is 1) on the left-finger snap and then to call out another number in the circle on the right-finger snap. That person becomes “it” and starts the rhythm again.
- **Challenge** kids to keep the rhythm going continually: thigh-clap, hand-clap, snap, snap.
 - Whenever someone misses his or her number or miscalls a number, that person moves to the end of the circle and becomes whatever the last number was.
 - The last person to call out a correct number in rhythm starts the game back up and calls on someone else.
- **Move** everyone else up a seat and remind the group that their numbers have changed.
- **Tell** them that the goal is to get in the leader role (position #1) and try to hold onto it.

What You Say:

“Ok, so that took a ton of concentration! Let’s keep up the mental focus as we make our way to large group.”

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- 2 student volunteers, each with his or her small group leader
- Small Table
- 4 baby food jars, labeled #1-4
- A tray with a towel
- A blindfold for the volunteer
- 8 plastic spoons (4 for each volunteer)
- Mints (prize)

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Communicator
- 252 Movie

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- “At the Top of My Lungs”
- “Movin’ Me”
- “Forever Reign”

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Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

SFX: *10-second countdown*

Host enters with a tray covered with a towel.

Welcome

HOST: *Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. (NOTE: This might be the start of school or the middle of summer vacation where you live. Something related to either of those would be great to mention during the welcome.) Host tells them how excited he or she is that they’re there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what’s happening.*

Opener

HOST: “Alright, everybody! Up on your feet for some praise and worship! Show our Power Praise team some respect and help me get them in here!”

Host joins the audience as Power Praise enters.

Worship

POWER PRAISE: “Hey, everyone! Let’s get on our feet and praise our amazing and incredible God. We want to teach you a new song called “At the Top of My Lungs.” We’re gonna sing it again now. Let me hear you say this after me ‘At the top of my lungs I’ll sing’ (*Wait*) ‘With all of my heart’ (*Wait*) ‘I will praise You’ (*Wait*). ‘God You are everything.’ (*Wait*) ‘You’re the reason that I lift my voice.’ (*Wait*) OK, let’s hold nothing back and sing this song of praise at the top of our lungs. Everybody sing this out.”

SFX: *“At the Top of My Lungs”*

POWER PRAISE: “Yeah, that was sounding good Keep it up.”

SFX: "Movin' Me"

POWER PRAISE: "1 Thessalonians 1:4 says: 'Brothers and sisters, you are loved by God. We know that he has chosen you.' We can be confident that we are loved deeply. God is our Father and His love knows no limits. It never changes, fades, or ends. Let's worship our God and give Him our praise."

SFX: "Forever Reign"

"As always, you guys are amazing. Have a great week!"

Power Praise exits as Host retakes the stage. Host transitions to the opening game

HOST: "I love praise and worship in the morning, or any time really. Okay, let's keep movin' right along! I'm gonna need two, count 'em, two BRAVE volunteers with a pretty good appetite for a crazy little game. Who's daring enough?"

Host chooses 2 kid volunteers.

HOST: *(To volunteers)* "Now, are you sure you're up for this? *(Wait for response)* OK, well, we'll see, I guess. But I can't wait until you see the mess you've gotten—I mean, the exciting game we have in store for you today! Now I'm also going to need to bring your leaders up on stage as well."

Two small group leaders join the other volunteers on stage.

HOST: "Alright, so here is how we play. On this platter *(pull towel off of the tray)*, I have 4 jars, each marked with a number 1-4. Now, what do these jars look like to you?"

Crowd responds.

HOST: "Yes, that's right! Baby food! Today we have a blast from the past as we return to those early years and remember the beauty of pureed food that just melts in your mouth! YUM!"

(To Volunteers) "Here's how this is gonna work. In just a moment, we are gonna send one volunteer and his or her leader back to our sound-proof booth—okay just out of the room—so they cannot hear the first team's answers. We're gonna blindfold you *(to the student)*, and your small group leader will take the first jar, get you a large, heaping spoonful, and feed you the delicious, tasty treat. You will only have one guess to figure out and name the food that you just ate. Our audience will know the horrors you must endure, but they cannot help you guess the food."

"You will do the same thing for all 4 jars. I'll be record your answers. Then, we'll have our second volunteer and leader give their taste buds a try and see who got the most right. Sound good?"

Have both teams do the baby food challenge. There will be lots of funny moments—play them up. At the end, bring both teams in and review their answers (You said green

beans, but it was . . . lima beans!). Give a prize (mints would be funny) to the winning volunteer and have everyone sit back down.

HOST: “Now *that* was fun! The fun doesn’t stop here though. Please welcome [Communicator’s Name].”

Host exits as Communicator enters.

Communicator Script

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, everyone! You know, I’m so glad that I don’t remember those baby food days. That food looked AWFUL! So I’ve got an easy question to kick us off this morning. Raise your hand if at one time in your life you were a baby.”

Wait until everybody raises his or her hand.

“Not to exclude any robots in the room, but of course, all of us at one point were babies. (*Exaggerated reminiscing*) I can just picture some of you now . . .”

CG: *Picture of kid with spaghetti bowl on his head.*

“Ah, yes, eating spaghetti . . . or swimming in spaghetti . . . not quite sure what’s happening there.”

“Or how about this one . . .”

CG: *Picture of kid falling asleep while playing*

“I mean, playing is hard work. Just look at you, all tuckered out.”

“And I think we might have a video for this next one . . .”

CG: *Video of toddler dancing*

“Come on! Look at those dance moves! You guys really knew how to break it down!”

“You guys were pretty cute!”

“Now, babies are one thing, but those parents! Parents of little kids go crazy for this kind of stuff. Have you ever seen parents of little kids? They’re running around trying to capture every single moment! Pulling their phones out to shoot a video or take a quick pic. Every adorable—or not adorable—moment captured forever . . . or at least until they run out of hard drive space and had to delete those 200 pictures of you eating spaghetti. And the bond that can be created between parents and their kids can be so special. But we don’t stay babies forever, do we?”

TENSION

“Eventually we grow up. We learn to crawl and walk around the house. We start to babble, and eventually we talk. Now what are some of the first words a kid learns when they are starting to talk?”

Audience responds.

“I think I heard it! One of the first words we all learned was . . . NO. And “no” became the answer for everything. Our parents asked us to not touch something, and we said (*crowd response*). Or they told us to put our coats on, and we said (*crowd response*). Or to eat the rest of our broccoli, and we said (*crowd response*).”

“The truth is that nobody had to teach us how to be disrespectful to our parents. We learned how to do that all on our own. And it continues, doesn’t it? Think about that as we watch today’s video.”

CG: 252 Movie

LANDING

“Let’s go back to the ‘How’ for a minute. In your groups, I want you to talk about the question.

CG: How can you show respect to your parents?

“How should we show respect to our parents? What about when our parents seem unfair or unreasonable? These are tough questions, but it is worth it so that things might go well with you. Do you remember the memory verse for this month?”

CG: Memory verse Slide

“Read it for me. (*Pause so that kids can read out loud.*) Good, now, I want you to add ‘I will’ to the front and replace ‘everyone’ with ‘my parents.’ Here’s the new version.”

CG: Adjusted Memory Verse Slide

‘I will show proper respect to my parents.’

“Substituting yourself and even your life situations into verses like that is a good exercise to make Scriptures personal. It helps put you into the Word and the Word into you.”

How about we pray and talk to God about this and what it means for our own relationships? Let’s pray.”

Communicator prays in response to the message. When communicator is done praying, transition to Small Groups.

“Have a great time with your small groups, and we’ll see you next time!”

Dismiss children to their Prayer Groups.

CG: Prayer Group Slide

Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: *No supplies needed*

What You Do:

- **Ask** students to think of one way that they can show respect to their parents this week.
- **Challenge** them to put that idea to a beat, rhythm, or song.
- **Tell** them that there are bonus points available if they can also work into their beat/rhythm/songs the benefit of obeying their parents—why will it make their lives smoother and longer lasting.
- **Give** them a few minutes to practice.
- **Remind** them that these rhythms can be serious, silly, or a little bit of both.
- **Share** time—take volunteers to tell everyone else their plan to respect their parents this week. Clap and have a good time with this—complimenting things they do well.

Pro Tip: *Challenge your group to try to call back—imitate—what the person just shared. This will really help them to pay attention.*

- **Ask** for a volunteer to pray over the group that they would have the strength and discipline to put their ideas into practice.

Pass out Parent CUE cards as adults arrive for pick-up.