

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON

DATE: December 9, 2018

SUBJECT: HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS: TEACHERS (2 of 2)—The Importance of Teachers

SCRIPTURES: Proverbs 5:13; 15:32; Jeremiah 17:23; Acts 22:3; Romans 13:1-3; 1 Peter 2:13-14

AIM: We need teachers to impart knowledge to us. In addition to the relationships children have with parents, we must respect our teachers, be willing to learn, and be teachable in order to receive the maximum benefit from our teachers. The Lord has put them there to equip us for life and to equip us to serve Him.

MEMORY VERSES TO CHOOSE FROM: 2 Timothy 3:14 (But you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from which ones you have learned them); Proverbs 1:5a (That the wise man may hear and increase in learning...); Proverbs 8:33 (Hear instruction, and be wise; And do not neglect it.); Romans 13:1 (Let every person be subject to the authorities over him, for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are ordained by God.); 1 Peter 2:13a (Be subject to every human institution for the Lord's sake...)

SUGGESTED SONGS: 2201 (Educated In Egyptian Ways); 2829 (Honor and Respect for Authority); 5 (Grumblers); 1614 (Cooperation); 9204 *Bible Story Songs David Song #4* (Honor, Honor); 9521 *BSS Vessels Unto Honor Song #1* (Vessels); 9522 *BSS Vessels Unto Honor Song #2* (Everything We Do and Say); 9528 *BSS Vessels Unto Honor Song #8* (There's a Reason for the Rule); 9538 *BSS Vessels Unto Honor Song #18* (I must do this); 8308 *BSS Moses 2 Song #8* (Do All Things Without Murmuring)

CRAFT IDEAS: Provide new plain pencils for the children, and make pencil toppers. *Two methods:*



(1) *Easier:* Use foam or sturdy construction paper to cut shapes. Templates can be found online. Cut two slits to slide through the pencil.
(2) *Advanced:* Use pipe cleaners, pompoms, googly eyes and other materials to form animal shapes. May require adult use of hot glue gun, or other quick-drying glue to assemble pieces.



APPROACH: Which teacher do you respect the most? Why? Which teacher has helped you learn and progress the most?

CONTENT:

I. Teachers are very important and play a vital part of a child's life.

1. As we grow up, the most important place in our life is our home and the most important persons are our parents. Another important place in our life is our school where we spend a lot of our time. At school, our teachers also have a very important role in our lives.
2. Our teachers are responsible for almost all of our education. If we are homeschooled, then our parents or other parents in the homeschooling group take the place of teachers. Children spend many hours a day in school to receive their education from their teachers. They teach us how to read, write, do math and science, etc. and even teach us how to behave.
3. Our teachers must first go to school, study a lot, and learn a lot for many years before they are allowed to be a teacher. They have to go to school for twelve years and go to college for four or five years, and complete student teaching. Some cities, such as New York City, require even more education and certification. Surely sixteen years of learning qualifies them to teach.
4. Not only must teachers be trained to teach, they must also want to teach. Teaching is a hard job. It requires a lot of patience to handle a classroom full of children. Many children do not follow the teacher's directions. Children should learn to highly respect their teachers and do their very best to be a help and a joy to the teacher, instead of a disturbance and cause of irritation.

5. Some children think of their teacher as someone who makes them work and do things they don't like (for example: assigning homework, giving quizzes and tests, asking children to memorize important facts, completing writing assignments, etc.) This is a wrong attitude. Children should realize that they must learn some things in order to work and live in the future, and their teachers are doing their best to help them. To speak disrespectfully to a teacher is a shame to a child. It means they are not grateful for the opportunity to learn. They should be courteous, friendly, respectful, and obedient to their teachers.
6. In addition to teachers, there are a lot of staff at school that help create a positive learning environment and that students should also honor and be subject to. We can ask the children who some of the people might be. For example, they may come up with: principal, assistant principal, secretaries, security, custodians, cafeteria staff and lunch aides, teachers' aides, bus drivers, crossing guards, substitute teachers. In some schools, older students may help out with certain tasks like monitoring the bus line, and they should also be treated with respect. Students should remember that they need to obey teachers even if they are not their 'own' teacher.

II. Examples in the Bible:

Timothy is a good example. 2 Tim. 3:15 tells us that from a babe he was taught the sacred writings. Whenever he came to the word of God or to the things of God, he must have sat down with his mother and grandmother and listened attentively, taking in their every word. He must have been eager to learn and to be taught. Therefore, when he grew up and met Paul he already had a rich deposit in him, so Paul could immediately team up with him as a partner to work together for the Lord.

Even the Apostle Paul, who was so spiritual, had a teacher named Gamaliel who trained him according to the strictness of the law of his fathers (Acts 22:3).

SUGGESTED APPLICATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM: *Please pray and fellowship over which applications to cover. Please do not try to cover all the applications. It is sufficient to cover just **one or two applications** which are appropriate for the age group of the children you are serving.*

We should have a proper attitude and respect toward our teachers, and always be willing to learn:

- **In school:** We should be those who respect our teachers, honoring them by listening attentively and obeying instructions as the authorities God has placed over us. We should gladly subject ourselves to the rules of the school, speak respectfully to all school staff, and take care of school property. Those who fool around in school not only cause problems to themselves, but also affect those around them.
- **In the church:** How can we respect serving ones in the church? *Allow the children to respond.* Some responses may include following the instructions of teachers and serving ones, actively participating in the singing and discussion, memorizing our verses each week, volunteering to help distribute pencils, supplies and snacks, asking permission before going to the bathroom, raising our hands before asking or answering a questions, cleaning up and putting chairs away, not disturbing others around us by talking out of turn or kicking chairs. Explain to the children how all this will help them to learn better.

Adapted from *Bringing Children from Adam to Christ in God's Economy--Human Relationships*, Vol. 3, Lesson 17, and the Church in New York City Children's Meeting lessons: 12/7/97; 12/16/01; 12/23/07; 12/29/13
 Craft ideas source acknowledgment: (1) <http://homanathome.com/2016/09/foam-ocean-animal-pencil-toppers/> (2) paperchase.com