

Read James 2:1–5

DAY 1

Suppose a new kid walks into your classroom. Right away, you notice he has on some really cool kicks and the most awesome basketball skills at recess. You can't WAIT to shoot some hoops with him afterschool.

Now suppose another kid comes into class, and he's moved from another country. He speaks a different language. His clothes are different, and he doesn't look like he has any basketball skills at all.

If both kids moved and showed up to class on the same day, whom would you talk to first?

Let's be honest, it's REALLY hard sometimes not to favor one person over another. But God asks us to respect everyone. Know why? Because he MADE them.

Aren't you glad that God doesn't pick and choose who He thinks is important based on what they have or don't have? God doesn't show favoritism. And that's a really good thing.

Grab some paper and draw a simple map of your classroom including desks with the names of the kids who sit in each seat. Pray for each person in your class and ask God to help you show respect to all of them this week.

Thank God for loving everyone equally and for helping you to do the same.

WEEK
Five

AFFECT

*others because they
are important to God.*



Read Proverbs 18:12

DAY 2

Have you ever heard of cause and effect? What happens when you throw a ball in the air? Yep, gravity sends it back down again. For everything that happens, there is a reason why it happened.

Draw a line from the cause to the effect.

Sara forgot to finish her homework

and her mom found a big mess in the hall.

After a big thunderstorm

and his dad accidentally ran over it.

Alex left his bike outside

and had to move her clip down one level.

Jasmine forgot to let the dog out

a beautiful rainbow appeared.

Read the verse for today again. Notice what comes before honor. Yep, it's humility. Humility is the cause. Respect the effect. When you are humble, when you decide to put others first, then your words and actions show others respect. It's literally impossible to show one without first choosing the other.

ASK God to help you be humble this week in your words and actions.

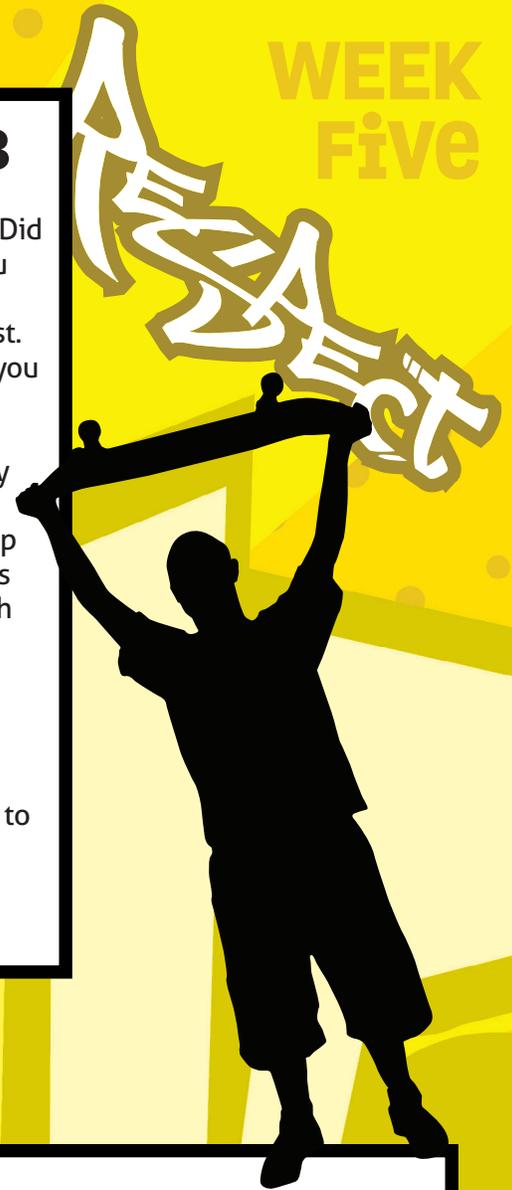
Read Romans 12:10**DAY 3**

Have you ever reached the door at the exact same time as someone else? Did you do the “you first” dance? You know, the one where you say, “Sorry, you first.” Then the other person responds “No, you first.” You pass some “you firsts” back and forth a few times before someone finally decides to go first. When it only involves walking through the door, it’s fairly easy to have a “you first” attitude. But what about the bigger moments?

Yep, those too. God wants us to adopt this “you first” attitude all day, every day. Know why? Because God made every person you come contact with throughout your day. Every single one. From the garbage man who picks up your trash at 6:00 am, to the math teacher who insists you learn your times tables, to the bully you hide from at recess, to the best friend you play with every day after school. Everyone deserves your respect and a “you first” attitude because they were made by God. They are important to him. And therefore, they should be important to you too.

Make a quick list of the people you came in contact with today. Did you respect them with a “you first” attitude? If not, what can you do tomorrow to make sure that happens?

LOOK for ways to show respect by putting others first this week.

**Read Ephesians 4:2****DAY 4**

Sometimes respecting others is easy especially when they deserve it. Like when they’re fair or kind. Or when they act the way you want them to. But people don’t always do exactly what we want.

Ever heard the phrase “grin and bear it?” Basically that means that in some situations, even if we don’t feel like it, we should choose to do the wise thing instead of the easy thing. The key to accomplishing this is found at the beginning of this verse. It requires patience. It means that before we respond, we should take deep breath and decide to “bear with one another” in love and choose respect.

Write the word “respect” in large letters along the left side of a piece of paper. Now think of the name of someone you know for each of the letters (like “Rachel” for “R”) and write it down. Pray for each person on your list and ask God to help you to show those people patience and respect.

KNOW that God always wants us to show respect, even when it’s hard.