

LESSON ONE

THE RESPECT PRINCIPLE

The Respect Principle

Part 1 (of 2 parts)

University Objectives...

_____ the Word!

_____ the Word!

_____ the Word!

Semper Vivus: _____

“This _____ is _____!”

“University” Defined:

“An institution of _____ at the highest
_____.”

Scripture:

Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (MSG)

Principle One (of 12)

The _____ Principle

I can find ultimate purpose in life only by learning the essentials of respect. I must respect God. I must respect others. I must respect myself. I hereby resolve to choose this course of action daily, and in God's power I consider it done.

Primary Passage...

Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31 (NKJV)

Foundational Premise...

"Premise" Defined:

"A proposition upon which an _____ is based or from which a _____ is drawn."

Premise...

Man's ability to _____ in complete _____, no matter the outward circumstances, begins with his ability to acknowledge and _____ the concept and reality of _____.

Scripture:

Watch this: God's eye is on those who respect him, the ones who are looking for his love.

Psalms 33:18 (MSG)

He [God] paid the ransom for his people, He ordered his Covenant kept forever. He's so personal and holy, worthy of our respect. The good life begins in the Fear of God—Do that and you'll know the blessing of God...

Psalms 111:9-10 (MSG)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)

Skilled living gets its start in the Fear-of-God, insight into life from knowing a Holy God.

Proverbs 9:10 (MSG)

Biblical "Fear" Defined:

"Extreme reverence or awe, as toward a supreme power."

"Reverence" Defined:

"A feeling of profound _____ and _____ and often love; veneration."

"An act of showing _____."

Recognizing the Reality of God

Scripture:

It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists and that He cares enough to respond to those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (MSG)

1. _____ Evidence

The uniqueness of _____

Scripture:

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

Hebrews 4:12-13 (NLT)

So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Acts 19:20 (NKJV)

...it became evident that the Word of the Master was now sovereign and prevailed...

Acts 19:20 (MSG)

2. _____ Evidence

The uniqueness of _____!

Scripture:

You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

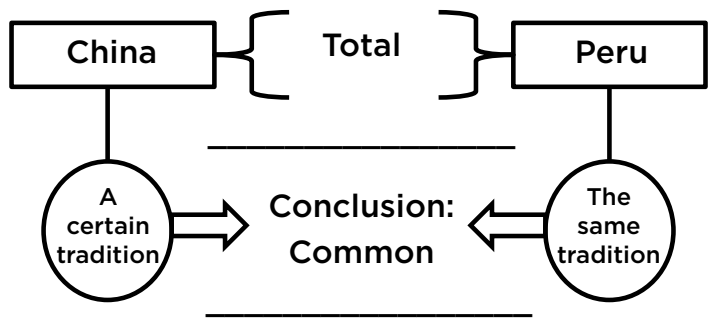
Nehemiah 9:6 (NIV)

External Evidence: An Example

Two _____ of Ethnology

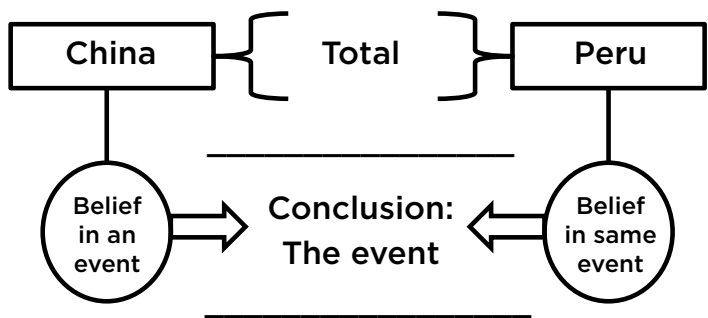
1. _____ One:

When widely _____ peoples have in _____ a body of tradition and belief, that common possession establishes relationship or common _____.



2. _____ Two:

When widely _____ peoples all have a _____ tradition or belief in a past _____, there is some historical occurrence as a basis of this belief.



Nine Interesting Facts

(Note: 33 races of people, widely isolated, were studied.)

Fact 1: _____ of 33 have a record of a flood (whether total or partial) at the approximate time of the biblical flood.

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 2: _____ of 33 have a record that the flood was totally destructive (exactly as the Bible expresses).

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 3: _____ of 33 races state in their records that man was somehow saved.

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 4: _____ of 33 have in their records that man was saved in a boat or ark

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 5: _____ of 33 mention that animals were saved along with man.

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 6: _____ of 33 races record that the ark or boat landed on a mountain where waters receded.

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 7: _____ of 33 races relate that birds were sent forth from the vessel to help detect when the waters had receded.

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 8: _____ of 33 races mention that some sort of divine favor or sign was shown toward those saved (primarily in the form of a “colored arch,” or rainbow, in the heavens).

TOTAL %: _____%

Fact 9: _____ of 33 races speak of some kind of worship being given from those saved from the flood.

TOTAL %: _____%

Conclusion: The Reality of God

Scripture:

So turn to me and be helped—saved!—everyone, whoever and wherever you are. I am God, the only God there is, the one and only. I promise in my own name: Every word out of my mouth does what it says. I never take back what I say. Everyone is going to end up kneeling before me. Everyone is going to end up saying of me, “Yes! Salvation and strength are in God!” All who have raged against him will be brought before him, disgraced by their unbelief.

Isaiah 45:21-24 (MSG)

Talk Back Time:

(Share what you've learned with your small group.)

During this lesson, the biblical flood was used as an example of external evidence as to biblical accuracy and the reality of God's existence. What other examples of external evidence can you think of? Why would this teaching suggest that believing in the concept and reality of God is fundamental to complete fulfillment in life?

Pray Back Time:

(Pray what you've learned in your small group.)

Declare in prayer why you are in awe of God. Be as specific as possible in describing the aspects of God's nature and character that create in you a deep reverence for God. Speak directly to God as you declare these verbal acknowledgments of His greatness and wonder.

The Respect Principle

Part 2 (of 2 parts)

The Respect Principle...

- Reverence or Rebellion
- Awe or Arrogance

Cultivating a Healthy Understanding of the Fear of the Lord

Choose it or lose it! (The free will factor and the fear of the Lord)

Scripture:

Look, today I am giving you the choice between a blessing and a curse! You will be blessed if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today. But you will be cursed if you reject the commands of the LORD your God and turn away from him and worship gods you have not known before.

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 (NLT)

Reverence or Rebellion... Awe or Arrogance!

(Four Basic Definitions)

1. “Reverence” Defined:

“A feeling of profound awe and respect and often _____; _____.”

2. “Rebellion” Defined:

“Open _____ to authority; an act or show of _____ toward someone in authority.”

3. “Awe” Defined:

“A mixed emotion of reverence, _____ and _____ inspired by authority, great beauty or might.”

4. “Arrogance” Defined:

“Overbearingly _____, haughty or disdainful; the state of displaying a sense of overbearing _____ or self-importance.”

What the Bible Says...

- Reverence
- Rebellion
- Awe
- Arrogance

1. Reverence...

Scripture:

But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple.

Psalm 5:7 (NIV)

You are to follow only God, your God, hold him in deep reverence, keep his commandments, listen obediently to what he says, serve him—hold on to him for dear life!

Deuteronomy 13:4 (MSG)

GOD made a covenant with his people and ordered them, “Don’t honor other gods: Don’t worship them, don’t serve them, don’t offer sacrifices to them. Worship GOD, the God who delivered you from Egypt in great and personal power. Reverence and fear him. Worship him. Sacrifice to him. And only him!”

2 Kings 17:35-36 (MSG)

2. Rebellion...

Scripture:

“Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.”

1 Samuel 15:23 (NLT)

Put all your rebellion behind you, and find yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O people of Israel?

Ezekiel 18:31 (NLT)

Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way.

2 Timothy 3:16 (MSG)

Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins... For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.

Psalms 51:1, 3 (NLT)

3. Awe...

Scripture:

Moses spoke to the people: “Don’t be afraid. God has come to test you and instill a deep and reverent awe within you so that you won’t sin.”

Exodus 20:20 (MSG)

Worship God in adoring embrace, Celebrate in trembling awe.

Psalms 2:11 (MSG)

4. Arrogance...

Scripture:

All who fear the LORD will hate evil. Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance, corruption and perverse speech.

Proverbs 8:13 (NLT)

Human pride will be brought down, and human arrogance will be humbled. Only the LORD will be exalted on that day of judgment. For the LORD of Heaven’s Armies has a day of reckoning. He will punish the proud and mighty and bring down everything that is exalted.

Isaiah 2:11-12 (NLT)

“I, the LORD, will punish the world for its evil and the wicked for their sin. I will crush the arrogance of the proud and humble the pride of the mighty.”

Isaiah 13:11 (NLT)

What the Bible Says about the “Fear of the Lord”! (Five Biblical Promises)

1. The Promise of _____

Scripture:

The reverence and fear of God are basic to all wisdom.
Knowing God results in every other kind of wisdom.

Proverbs 9:10 (TLB)

Skilled living gets its start in the Fear-of-God, insight into
life from knowing a Holy God.

Proverbs 9:10 (MSG)

2. The Promise of _____

Scripture:

Fear of the LORD lengthens one’s life, but the years of the
wicked are cut short.

Proverbs 10:27 (NLT)

3. The Promise of _____

Scripture:

Whoever fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for
their children it will be a refuge.

Proverbs 14:26 (NIV)

4. The Promise of _____

Scripture:

The payoff for meekness and Fear-of-God is plenty and
honor and a satisfying life.

Proverbs 22:4 (MSG)

5. The Promise of _____

Scripture:

Who are those who fear the LORD? He will show them the path they should choose.

Psalm 25:12 (NLT)

The Fear of the Lord and My Reason for Being

Scripture:

[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness...]

Philippians 3:10 (AMPC)

May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love... [That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!

Ephesians 3:17, 19 (AMPC)

The Respect Principle and Four Determination Goals

1. Goal One:

To know the Lord Jesus _____.

2. Goal Two:

To be _____ and _____ with all of God.

3. Goal Three:

To appropriate all of God's _____ so I can be continually _____.

4. Goal Four:

To let _____ make my experience _____.

Principle One Reviewed

I can find ultimate purpose in life only by learning the essentials of respect. I must respect God. I must respect others. I must respect myself. I hereby resolve to choose this course of action daily, and in God's power I consider it done.

The Respect Principle

Primary Passage...

Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Passages for Further Study

(See following page for an example.)

Look up these passages in your Bible; underline key phrases or put a box around them. Put a number “1” in the margin of your Bible by that passage and circle it. Then, go back to your primary passage (Mark 12:29-31) and in the margin write these verses beside it or at the bottom of the page. In this way you will begin to cross-

- Romans 12:10-16
- Philippians 2:1-4
- James 1:22-27
- Luke 17:3
- 1 Peter 2:17
- Matthew 25:35
- 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
- Luke 10:30-37
- 1 Peter 5:5-6
- Romans 13:5-7
- Proverbs 3:27
- 1 Corinthians 8:6-13
- Proverbs 9:10
- Proverbs 10:27
- Proverbs 14:26
- Proverbs 22:4
- Hebrews 11:6
- Nehemiah 9:6
- Hebrews 4:12-13
- Isaiah 45:21-24
- Deuteronomy 11:26-28
- Psalm 5:7
- Psalm 33:18
- Psalm 111:9-10
- Deuteronomy 13:4, 12
- 2 Kings 17:35-36
- 1 Samuel 15:23
- Ezekiel 18:31
- Psalm 25:12
- Psalm 51:1, 3
- Exodus 20:20
- Ecclesiastes 5:7
- Proverbs 8:13
- Isaiah 2:11-12
- Leviticus 19:3
- Leviticus 19:32
- Romans 13:7
- Ephesians 5:23
- Ephesians 6:5
- 1 Thessalonians 5:12

reference your Bible.

MARK 12

1275

A Question About Taxes—Matthew 22:15–22; Luke 20:20–26

¹³The leaders sent some of the Pharisees and some of Herod's followers to Jesus. They wanted to trap him into saying the wrong thing. ¹⁴When they came to him, they said, "Teacher, we know that you tell the truth. You don't favor individuals because of who they are. Rather, you teach the way of God truthfully. Is it right to pay taxes to the emperor or not? Should we pay taxes or not?"

¹⁵Jesus recognized their hypocrisy, so he asked them, "Why do you test me? Bring me a coin so that I can look at it."

¹⁶They brought a coin. He said to them, "Whose face and name is this?" They told him, "The emperor's."

¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Give the emperor what belongs to the emperor, and give God what belongs to God."

They were surprised at his reply.

The Dead Come Back to Life—Matthew 22:23–33; Luke 20:27–40

¹⁸Some Sadducees, who say that people will never come back to life, came to Jesus. They asked him, ¹⁹"Teacher, Moses wrote for us, 'If a man dies and leaves a wife but no child, his brother should marry his widow and have children for his brother.' ²⁰There were seven brothers. The first got married and died without having children. ²¹The second married her and died without having children. So did the third. ²²None of the seven brothers had any children. Last of all, the woman died. ²³When the dead come back to life, whose wife will she be? The seven brothers had married her."

²⁴Jesus said to them, "Aren't you mistaken because you don't know the Scriptures or God's power? ²⁵When the dead come back to life, they don't marry. Rather, they are like the angels in heaven. ²⁶Haven't you read in the book of Moses that the dead come back to life? It's in the passage about the bush, where God said, 'I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.' ²⁷He's not the God of the dead but of the living. You're badly mistaken!"

PRINCIPLE 1
PRIMARY PASSAGE

Love God and Your Neighbor—Matthew 22:34–40

²⁸One of the scribes went to Jesus during the argument with the Sadducees. He saw how well Jesus answered them, so he asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of them all?"

²⁹Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. ³⁰So love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' ³¹The second most important commandment is this: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."

³²The scribe said to Jesus, "Teacher, that was well said! You've told the truth that there is only one God and no other besides him! ³³To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as you love yourself is more important than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴When Jesus heard how wisely the man answered, he told the man, "You're not too far from the kingdom of God."

After that, no one dared to ask him another question.

Pro. 9:10
Pro. 10:27
Pro. 14:26
Pro. 22:4
Heb. 11:6
Neh. 9:6
Heb. 4:12-13
Is. 45:21-24
Deut. 11:26-28
Ps. 5:7
Ps. 33:18
Ps. 111:9-10
Deut. 13:4,12
2Kings 17:35-38
1Sam. 15:23
Eze. 18:31
Ps. 25:12

①
PRIMARY PASSAGE
 Ps. 51:1,3
 Exo. 20:20
 Ecc. 5:7
 Pro. 8:13
 Is. 2:4-12
 Is. 13:11
 Lev. 19:3
 Lev. 19:32
 Rom. 13:7
 Eph. 5:23
 Eph. 6:5
 1Thess. 5:12

Talk Back Time:

(Share what you’ve learned with your small group.)

Why do you believe Scripture declares that the “fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom”? Discuss the difference you see between anxious fear (terror, fright, etc.) and reverent fear (respect and awe). How can we cultivate reverent fear that leads to intimacy with Christ?

Pray Back Time:

(Pray what you’ve learned in your small group.)

Look again at the four determination goals near the end of this teaching. Select one or more of these goals that you strongly desire will grow and develop in your life, and make that goal (or goals) a focus of your prayers.

NOTES:

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical margin lines, and the page is completely blank except for the lines themselves.