



Sneak Attack

COMMUNITY We treat each other with respect.

Power Text

"Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king" (1 Peter 2:17, NIV).

Key Text and References

1 Samuel 24; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 660-662; student story on page 94 of this guide.

Objectives

The students will:

Know they should treat all people with respect.

Feel a desire to be respectful, even when treated wrongly.

Respond by choosing to show respect to everyone.

Power Point

We are respectful and considerate of others, regardless of how they treat us.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Saul and his men continue to hunt for David. Saul is determined to kill David and eliminate any competition for the throne. To avoid being killed, David and his men run from one hiding place to another. One day Saul comes into a cave where David is hiding. David's men encourage him to kill Saul. David won't, but he does cut off a piece of Saul's garment. Afterward, his conscience bothers him. He goes out of

the cave after Saul and they talk. It is obvious that David does not want to hurt Saul. Saul acknowledges that David has acted more righteously than he has. David promises to be merciful to Saul's descendants.

This is a lesson about community.

Because of the great love God has for all His children, we choose to treat others with consideration and respect, regardless of how they treat us.

Program Notes			
Lesson Section	Minutes	Activities	Materials Needed
Welcome	Ongoing	Greet students at door Hear pleased/troubled	
1 Readiness	10-15	A. <i>Hail to the Chief</i> B. <i>Respective Reactions</i>	Situation cards; hat or basket Costume items; newsprint; marker; Bibles
* Prayer and Praise*	15-20	See page 90. *Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	
2 Bible Lesson	15-20	Introducing the Bible Story	Three copies of <i>Net Kids</i> script
		Experiencing the Story	Large paper, art supplies
		Exploring the Bible	Bibles
3 Applying the Lesson	10-15	<i>Circle of Dedication</i>	Roll of crepe paper or ball of yarn
4 Sharing the Lesson	10-15	<i>Letters of Respect</i>	Pens/pencils, paper, address labels, envelopes

Teacher Enrichment

"His keen spiritual perception and deep love of righteousness prevented David from hating Saul, criticizing him to others, and attacking him at the first opportunity. David had no need of sensing a so-called righteous indignation at the treatment he had received. So far as Saul's attitude toward him was concerned, he could leave that with God, who doeth all things well. There was a calm confidence in his soul that God was with him, and in his heart there was pity for his king. No one would have been happier than David

had Saul crucified his selfishness and humbled his heart before God. In the sincerity of his soul David probably yearned to have Saul experience the same fellowship with God that he had. His obeisance, therefore, was not a formality. He bowed with a heart full of reverence for the office of king and a yearning for the man in that office" (*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 2, pp. 569, 570).

How do I show respect to others? How do I struggle with respecting those around me? How important is it to treat others with consideration, no matter what?

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome

Welcome students at the door. Ask how their week has been—what they're pleased/troubled about. Ask if anyone made a list of common goals or wrote a letter to a Christian friend.

Direct the students immediately to the Readiness Activity you have prepared.

1

Readiness Activities

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A. Hail to the Chief

You Need:

- hat or basket
- names on cards

Write each of the following situations on cards and put them in a hat (or basket). Two people come up front; one draws a name from the hat and assumes the role of that character. The other person role-plays how he would react upon meeting this person in the situation described.

The president/prime minister/chief—You are chosen to present him/her with a check to help save an endangered species.

A police officer—He caught you jaywalking across a very important street in your capital city. He motions you to come talk to him.

Your sister—She just found out that she failed her driver's license test, after she'd been bragging all month about how good her driving is.

Your pastor—You're downtown late at night with your friend Jimmy. Some tough guys step out of the shadows and try to push free "samples" of drugs on you. Suddenly, out of the shadows, steps your pastor.

Your dad—You used his hammer yesterday and broke the handle. You put the hammer back and forgot to tell him. He just found out.

(Adapted from Fred Cornforth and Kelly Blue Cornforth, *Creative Bible Learning Activities* [Lincoln, Nebr.: AdventSource, 1995], p. 42. Used by permission.)

Debriefing

Ask: **What happened? What types of relationships were these? Did one relationship require more respect than the others? Why or why not? Let's read 1 Peter 2:17 together.** Have students look up the text and read with you. Ask: **To whom are we supposed to pay proper respect? (everyone) Do you think it makes a difference if they treat us respectfully first?** (Allow students to discuss their ideas.) **Our power point today is:**



We are respectful and considerate of others, regardless of how they treat us.

B. Respective Reactions

Bring clothing items to designate five different types of people. (For example, a bride [veil or bouquet]; a mechanic [overalls or greasy cap]; a football player [football shirt]; a homeless person [shopping bags]; a young mother [baby supplies]; a businessperson [suit jacket, briefcase].)

Assign the different roles to different students. Have a light-hearted discussion about their respective responsibilities/popularity, etc.

Mark five large sheets of newsprint each with a different number, 1 through 5. Write *complete disagreement* on the paper with the number 1. Write *complete agreement* on the paper with the number 5. Numbers 2, 3, and 4 are for answers in between.

Lay the sheets of paper on the floor in order—1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Explain that as you ask different questions, you want the students to stand on the sheet that most nearly corresponds to their responses. Ask the students to answer according to how they feel, not the way they think they should or the way others answer.

Choose three of the characters you created (for example, homeless person, bride, carpenter). Have them come to the front with you. Ask them to act the part of their character as much as possible while you are talking about them. Make the following statements. Have the rest of the students stand on the newspaper that corresponds with their response.

Say: **You have run out of fuel in your car. The homeless person ambles over and offers to help. You feel glad.** Ask each group of students why they chose to stand where they did. Proceed in a similar way with the rest of the statements.

You have run out of fuel in your car. The bride wanders up to help. You feel glad.

You have run out of fuel in your car. The carpenter wanders up to help. You feel glad.

You have to take a partner to a special celebration at school. You choose the businessperson.

You have to take a partner to a special celebration at school. You choose the auto mechanic.

Make up other scenarios that fit your situation as time permits.

Debriefing

Ask: **Why did you respond the way you did?** (Encourage a variety of answers.) **Why did you pay more respect to some people and less to others? Let's look at Philippians 2:3.** Read the verse aloud with the students. Ask: **How does this verse relate to 1 Peter 2:17?** (Guide the students toward the realization that we are to treat everyone with respect, no matter their status or how they have treated us first.)

You Need:

- five sheets of newsprint
- marker
- costume items
- Bibles



We are respectful and considerate of others, regardless of how they treat us.



Prayer and Praise

Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). If they have given you permission, share one or two special items from students' Bible study during the week. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

"We Are the Family of God" (*He Is Our Song*, No. 114)

"Family" (*He Is Our Song*, No. 119)

Mission

Use *Teen Mission* or other mission report available to you.

Offering

We want to share with the rest of the family of God, so we give our offerings to help the Christian work in other countries. Use the offering box you created last week.

Prayer

Use this time to pray for members of your church or community who actively serve in some way—the military, police force, fire department, government, other civil servants. List them by name or profession and ask God's blessing on their lives and work. Share ways that we can show respect and consideration for them.

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.



Bible Lesson

Introducing the Bible Story

The Net Kids

You Need:

- three scripts

(Refer to Lesson 1 for background and setup information.)

Make the appropriate number of copies of the *Net Kids* script found at the back of this guide. Distribute to

the students you have selected as early as possible. Allow practice time before using this activity.

Present the skit

Say: **Our Bible lesson today is about a king who didn't deserve respect, but got it anyway.**

Experiencing the Story

You Need:

- large paper
- art supplies

Divide students into small groups (three or four). Give each group a large piece of paper, taped to the wall or placed on the floor.

Explain that they are to imagine that they are primitive people who write down stories on the walls of caves (show some illustrations, if available, of cave or other primitive drawings). Read today's story from 1 Samuel 24, and pause after each scene to give the

groups time to make simple representations to portray that part of the story.

Read aloud:

1. 1 Samuel 24:1-3
2. verse 4
3. verses 5-7
4. verses 8-15
5. verses 16-21
6. verse 22

Have student groups show their picture reports. Allow them to point out any items of particular interest.

Exploring the Bible

You Need:

- Bibles

Say: **Respect is shown in many different ways in various countries.** (If you

have students or parents from other countries in your congregation, invite them in to give a few examples.)

Indonesia When walking past a person, be sure your head is lower than theirs; don't touch anyone on the head; do not pass anything to a person with your left hand (that hand is used for cleansing).

Thailand Never show the soles of your feet to another person.

Japan Remove your shoes before entering someone's home.

Tonga The larger the person, the more respect they are given.

Maori The more important a person is, the higher up a hill they will be buried. The king and queen are to be buried at the top of the hill. (New Zealand)

Discuss these various cultures and any other signs of respect in your culture. Have different students look up and read aloud the following verses:

1. Leviticus 19:32
2. Proverbs 25:6
3. Luke 14:10
4. Romans 12:10
5. 1 Samuel 24:17

Ask: **What basic rules for getting along as a community of Christians, for sharing God's grace, do we find in these verses?** (Rise [respect] in the presence of elders; don't claim a high place, let it be offered; put others first.)

Say: **Let's read two more verses that sum things up: Matthew 7:2 and 12.** Have all students look up these verses. Lead them in reading together. Say: **Remember,**



We are respectful and considerate of others, regardless of how they treat us.

3

Applying the Lesson

You Need:

- roll of crepe paper OR ball of yarn

Circle of Dedication

You will need a roll of crepe paper one to two inches (three to five centimeters) wide, or colored twine or yarn. Have students sit or stand in a circle. Give one child the roll of crepe paper, string, or yarn.

Have that child tell how they can show respect for someone this week (encourage expressions of true Christian kindness, not just empty forms). When that child has told one way they can show respect and kindness, have the whole class say together **“May the Lord help and bless you.”** Keeping their end, the child passes the roll of paper/yarn to the next student. They tell how they can show respect for others. The class blesses them with “May the Lord help and bless you,” and the

paper/yarn roll is passed to the next person. When it has passed around the whole circle, pray the following prayer of dedication:

God, we know that You want us to use the gifts You give us to help others.

We can see that showing respect can tie us together as Your family, just as the crepe paper (string, yarn) ties us together in one big circle. Help us to show love and respect to each other every day. Amen.

Debriefing

While all are still in the circle, ask each student to tell a specific way they are going to show Christian kindness and respect this week.

Notes

4

Sharing the Lesson

Letters of Respect

You Need:

- pens/pencils
- paper
- address labels
- envelopes

Prepare in advance names and addresses of authority figures in your church or community. Provide each student with an address label, pen, paper and envelope, and let them write

letters of appreciation and respect to one of the names provided. When the notes

are completed, they should be folded and placed in addressed envelopes. Gather them and mail them during the week.

Some ideas for recipients include: teachers, the pastor, police department personnel, fire department personnel, the mayor, the president, a principal, etc. Remind the students that we are called to treat everyone with respect and consideration.

Closing

If you do not close your lesson with the “Circle of Dedication,” ask God to teach you and your students respect for one another, tying you together as the family of God.

STUDENT LESSON

Sneak Attack

Key Text

1 Samuel 24

Power Text

“Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king” (1 Peter 2:17, NIV).

Power Point

We are respectful and considerate of others, regardless of how they treat us.

Have you ever been bullied? Is there someone who is always picking on you? Did you ever try to get even?

For months David and his band of men hid from King Saul. Life wasn't boring. They had saved a border town from the Philistines. Jonathan had visited them. But mostly they just moved about, one step ahead of the spies who kept telling Saul where they were.

King Saul knew that David had been chosen by God to be the next king. But he was still trying to kill David. He wanted his own family to rule Israel. Once again someone sent a message to Saul to tell him where David was. This time, the message said, David and his men were in the wilderness of Engedi.

Saul took 3,000 men and went after David again. While trudging up a mountainside on his evil quest, Saul decided to stop for a few minutes, so he turned off the path toward a cave.

David had also received a message. He knew that Saul was after him again. He and his men had hidden in a cave. Caves were good places to hide. They were cool and usually offered a supply of water. The men had to be very careful, though. It was possible to get trapped in the back of a cave. But God had protected them so far.

Suddenly the cave entrance got darker. A lone man entered. David's men nearest the cave entrance quickly passed the word. Then another message was passed back. The lone man was King Saul. This must be the hand of God, David's men told him. God said that He would give King Saul into your hands, they insisted. This is your chance to kill him. David listened to his men. He thought about what they were saying. He looked toward the entrance to the

cave, where the king was. How could it be all right to hurt the king?

David's men continued trying to convince him that God's hand was in this strange circumstance. Finally David could not take it any longer. He would at least see how close he could get to the king.

Creeping quietly forward, David got next to King Saul. Quietly he reached out and cut a piece of cloth from the bottom of the king's robe. Then, turning, he slowly crept back to his waiting men. They all waited quietly until King Saul got up and went out of the cave.

“Look what I did!” David cried out when the king was out of earshot. “I ruined the king's robe! I shouldn't have even been *that* disrespectful!” he continued.

His men looked at him in amazement. What was he talking about! King Saul was trying to kill David, and here he was upset because he had ruined the king's coat. As much as they loved and admired their leader, they couldn't always understand him.

David hurried to the entrance to the cave and called out after the retreating king.

“My lord the king!”

King Saul slowly turned around. He could see a young man kneeling down with his face on the ground. The bowing form continued to talk.

“Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is trying to hurt you’? Today you can see that God delivered you to me, and I could have killed you. In fact, I had plenty of advice to do that. But I couldn't hurt God's anointed king.” David slowly raised one arm up in the

air. A piece of cloth fluttered between his fingers.

“See this piece of your robe? I got close enough to you to cut it from your hem.”

The king looked around at the bottom of his robe. Sure enough, there was a jagged edge where a piece had been cut out. He looked back up the hill at David. For a little while his heart was touched, and he realized that he had been unfair to David.

“I know you will be king someday,” Saul called back up the hill to David. “You are more righteous than I am. Who has ever heard of someone letting their enemy get away, as you did today?” There was a catch in Saul’s voice as he thought of what might have happened.

“Promise me, though,” Saul persisted, “that you will be kind to my family when you become king.”

But he needn’t have mentioned it. Before him knelt a young man who knew how to treat others with consideration and respect regardless of how they treated him.

Sabbath

- Do this week’s activity on page 67.

Sunday

- Read “Sneak Attack.”
- Make a poster with the words of the power text, 1 Peter 2:17.
- Begin to learn the text.

Monday

- Read 1 Samuel 24:1-4.
- Can you think of times in your life when you wanted to get revenge? What did you do? Was it right?
- Read Romans 12:10 and Philippians 2:3.
- In your Bible study journal, write your thoughts about these verses. How do they relate to “getting revenge”?

Tuesday

- Read 1 Samuel 24:5-7.
- Why do you think David’s conscience bothered him? Notice that he promptly admitted that he had done something he didn’t feel was right. How do things work out when we take them into our own hands instead of leaving them to God?
- In your Bible study journal, draw a picture that

represents how you feel when your conscience bothers you.

Wednesday

- Read 1 Samuel 24:8-15 and Proverbs 25:6.
- Find at least two ways that David showed respect to Saul in these verses. How was David obeying Proverbs 25:6?
- Ask an adult how and to whom they show respect. Ask how they like to have respect shown to them.

Thursday

- Read 1 Samuel 24:16-22. Notice verse 17.
- Notice how King Saul was touched by the Spirit of God. For a little while he was humble and repentant. How do you respond when someone points out something you have done wrong?
- Ask God to help you listen to and apply the messages He sends you.

Friday

- Read Leviticus 19:32, Luke 14:10, Matthew 7:2 and 12.
- In your Bible study journal, write a letter to God telling Him how you feel about these verses and this story.
- Ask Him to let you know how He wants you to apply what you’ve learned in your life.