

Respecting Godly Leaders

RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 10**Focus:**

Godly leaders
deserve our
respect.

Lesson 10**Bible Basis:**

Judges 4:1-16,
5:1-2, 7

Lesson 10**Memory Verse:**

Acknowledge those who work hard
among you, who care for you in the
Lord and who admonish you. —1
Thessalonians 5:12b

Students will watch a video giving someone’s assessment of what makes a good leader as they explore why godly leaders deserve our respect.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and markers (or screenshared document)

Write the words “Great Leaders” on the whiteboard. As your students enter and settle in, engage in conversation about who they think the greatest leaders (past or present) in the world are. Have the students write down the names of the leader(s) on the board while you discuss.

Defining great leadership can be difficult because we may all have different ideas about who makes a good leader and what leadership traits are effective. Let’s watch a video from leadership expert Simon Sinek to see what he has to say about good leadership. While we watch, try to notice what characteristics he seems to value in a leader.

Share this video with your students [5:24]:

Leadership Explained in 5 minutes by Simon Sinek

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZTyvbmW92M>

- **What did Simon Sinek say is important for leaders to be effective?** (Accept all reasonable responses, which may include building good habits, being consistent, and caring about the people they serve. Write the students’ answers on the board as they share them.)
- **What do you think? Do those traits make a good leader? What traits would you add or subtract?** (Answers will vary. Write any additional traits on the white board or screenshared document.)
- **What kinds of leaders are there in the world?** (Presidents, ministers, teachers, coaches, military leaders, leaders among peer groups, etc.)
- **What other traits would you add to the list if we include these types of leaders as well?** (They’re kind, thoughtful, willing to work hard, fair, charismatic, etc. Write these traits on the board as well.)

Different people, cultures, and time periods have valued different traits in their leaders. In God's view, though, the most important trait is always that the leader trusts in Him. Today's lesson will teach us about a leader that trusted God, even when those around her didn't.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Respecting Godly Leaders

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STEP 4 

Lesson 10**Focus:**

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5:1-2, 7

Lesson 10**Memory Verse:**

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Materials:

- Internet access
- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Optional: Markers/colored pencils or smartphones

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

Ask a volunteer to read 1 Thessalonians 5:12b.

- **Who are some of these people in your life? Who works hard and cares for you in the Lord?** (Students might mention: teachers, pastors, parents, coaches, etc.)
- **What are some ways that you could show these godly leaders respect and acknowledge their work?** (Answers might include: listen to them, thank them, stick up for them if others are acting up, etc.)
- **Do you think your thanks could have an impact on a leader in your life? Why or why not?** (Answers will vary.)

This week, challenge your students to show respect to a godly leader in their lives by acknowledging their hard work and thanking them.

Give out paper and pens/pencils to the class (or invite students to have supplies ready at home). Add markers and colored pencils if you have time for them to get creative. Ask each student to choose one leader in their life that they can acknowledge this week (someone they know personally, not a national leader or famous person).

Then, have each student write a letter of thanks to that leader. Encourage them to list specific things they are thankful for (thank you for staying after school to help me with math, etc.). When they've had time to write, encourage them to either deliver the letter to the recipient or (even better) read it aloud to the recipient at some point this week. An alternative would be to have them write out their tribute and then have someone film them reading it on their smartphone so they can send it to their leader of choice via text message.

Come back together as a whole group. Ask for volunteers to share who they wrote to and how they plan to deliver their letter this week.

End with a prayer, thanking God for the godly leaders in our lives and asking for God's help in respecting and acknowledging those leaders.

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