



DAY 4

# WHO DO YOU RESPECT THE MOST AND WHY?

That's a good question, right? After all, there are lots of people you respect.

You've got people that you know personally: like your family members, your coaches, your teachers, your leaders at church, and your friends. Hopefully you're surrounded by lots of people that are good role models—people that make you say, "I want to be more like them."

Hopefully you can think of quite a few people you respect. But above all, it's great to know that you always have the ultimate example of the One you can trust, honor and respect: your Heavenly Father. You know that He loves you. You know that He knows what's best for you. You know that He's in charge of everything in your life—you're part of His amazing, incredible story!

**So here's a great challenge for you to show God that you respect Him the most. Make a plan for this week of ways your words and actions can show how important He is to you. Write your plan here:**

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DAY 1

## READ MATTHEW 8:5-13

In this passage from the book of Matthew, we read about a Roman commander who really understood **respect**. Respect is showing others they are important by what you say and do.

The commander showed respect when he approached Jesus. He knew Jesus was God's Son. He hoped that Jesus could heal his servant and he believed that Jesus was able to do it! But it was the way he asked that really impressed Jesus. The commander basically said, "I know what authority is all about. I've got people who answer to me. But Jesus, I know that you have the ultimate authority. If you say that you can heal my servant, I know that's what will happen."

Underline the word "amazed" in verse 10.

Jesus was *amazed* when He heard what the commander said. He was amazed by the commander's faith—by the way he respected Jesus and knew that Jesus could help. The commander's actions showed that he knew Jesus was important. And Jesus certainly noticed!

When we show respect to God, we do the same thing. We recognize that He's in charge of everything. We show Him that He's important to us by what we say and do.

**SHOW RESPECT TO GOD BECAUSE HE'S IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING.**

## DAY 2

In your life right now, there are probably some things that seem a little out of control. It may be hard to remember that God is really in charge of it all.

Go ahead and write down some of those “out of control” things in this thought bubble.



Now, spend some time talking to God. Ask Him to help you. Tell Him that you trust Him. Tell Him that you know He’s in charge of every part of your life—the good things, the tough things, and the uncertain things.

“God, right now I’m not so sure about . . .”

“But I know that you . . .”

“Thank you for . . .”

“Amen.”

## DAY 3

You know who has a great story about what it means to respect God?

Your parents. Your small group leader, too. Everyone who’s ever been a Christian has had to decide if they really respect God—if their actions are going to line up with what they say is true.

Most adults would tell you that their faith has gone in seasons. Sometimes they chose to trust God and show Him that He’s in control by making time to pray or reading their Bible, for example. Or maybe they made a choice that showed respect, because they knew it was what God wanted them to do.

There are probably times when they messed up—when they forgot to show God the respect He deserves. It’s easy to take God for granted and forget to thank Him. It’s easy to act selfishly and only think about what we want instead of deciding to live for Him.

So this is your chance to find out first-hand. Interview your mom or dad, or your leader, or maybe your older sibling—someone who you really admire for their faith in God. Ask them these questions and see what you can learn from their story.

**1. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU SHOW GOD THAT YOU RESPECT HIM?**

**2. HAVE THERE BEEN SEASONS IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU FORGOT TO DO THAT?**

**3. HOW DO YOU MAKE SURE THAT YOUR ACTIONS SHOW GOD THAT YOU RESPECT HIM?**