



## MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE

### God's Way: Session 6

#### Honor Your Parents

Key Statement: The Fifth Commandment intends for children to 1) respect the authority of their parents, 2) reward them with joy, and 3) reflect the Savior to them.

#### ::CONNECT::

##### Option 1: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

- Challenge students to come up with situations where they can respect their parents' authority. Examples might include doing chores, respecting their curfew, not going to a party that their parents told them not to attend, etc.
- Break students into groups and assign each group a situation. Each group must put on three skits:
  - The ugly: in this skit, students must show an example of disrespectful disobedience to a parent.
  - The bad: in this skit, students must show an example of obedience but in a disrespectful manner.
  - The good: in this skit, students must show an example of respectful obedience from the heart.
- After the skits, discuss with students how we often fall into the "ugly skit" category in our lives, but we should strive for the "good skit." In order for respectful obedience to be a part of our lives, we must rely on the Holy Spirit to produce in us a new heart (Ezek. 36:26). Jesus died in order to win us the new heart. Spend some time praying with students for hearts that respect their parents, bring them joy, and reflect Jesus.

##### Option 2: Instagram & Twitter

- This activity will focus on the second point in the lesson—bringing joy to our parents.
- Pass out paper and pencils to students. Students are to imagine how they can bring joy to their parents now, in ten years, and in thirty years. They are to draw a picture of what their parents' instagram or twitter would look like for each of those milestones.
  - For instance, in ten years, their parents might post a picture of them receiving a Christian character award, or post a picture of their child

helping a homeless person, or tweet that their child has saved enough money to purchase a well for a drought-stricken developing country. Right now, the parent might tweet that their child stood up for a student being bullied, or ministered to another student, or spent their Saturday mornings volunteering with a program for the mentally disabled or in a nursing home, etc.

- Allow students a few minutes to complete their drawings, and then let them share with the rest of the group.
- Debrief by talking about how the Holy Spirit can help us make these instagrams and tweets happen now and in the future.

## :: CONVEY ::

If you are pressed for time this week, consider spending the majority of your Convey time by focusing on points one and two of the session.

Remember, this is merely a suggested outline adaptation for a middle school group. If you decide to incorporate one or more option into your group time, you will likely have to be very selective on the material you decide to teach through. Keep in mind that each class is different, and as the leader guide suggests, personalize the lesson content for your class by determining what elements are most applicable. Don't feel pressured to teach through all of the content in a single meeting, but instead help middle school students to see the main overall point and big picture the lesson is conveying.

## :: COLLIDE ::

See Leader Guide