



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for August 10, 2008
Released on Wednesday, August 6, 2008

"Honor All People"

Memory Verse: "Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" (James 2:5).

Scripture Lesson Text: James 2:1–13.

James 2:1–13

- 1** My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.
- 2** For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;
- 3** And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:
- 4** Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?
- 5** Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?
- 6** But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?
- 7** Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?
- 8** If ye fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well:
- 9** But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.
- 10** For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.
- 11** For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.
- 12** So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.
- 13** For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath showed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

TEACHER'S NOTES ON THE LESSON

Although the early church practiced sharing everything with one another (Acts 2:44-45), they later had conflict among social classes. The rich were prized and the poor despised in the local assembly.

This is something we must guard against today. Wealth and prestige do not equal spiritual maturity. Sometimes believers give value to those who seem more socially acceptable.

God has a special love for the humble and the poor. They were most often the ones who accepted His Son on earth, and they are usually the ones who quickly acknowledge their need for Him.

James 2:8 reiterates God's second great commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matt. 22:39). We must love all brothers and sisters in Christ and not be partial toward some, specifically in matters of judgment.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach children to honor all people without using any man-made standard.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. It is sin to treat some people within a church differently because of the way they are dressed.
2. God chooses many poor, humble people to be His children.
3. We should love and help everyone, no matter what their skin color, how they are dressed, where they live, or how much money they have.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Telling the Lesson, bring a gold ring and a piece of clothing that is stained or worn out.

For Helping to Remember, bring a supply of paper along with crayons or markers.

BEGINNING THE LESSON

When their parents went on a trip to New Mexico to work on a Navajo mission church building, Ben and Amber went too. Sometimes there were jobs they could do, but much of the time the children were free to play.

"Did you play with the Indian children?" asked her classmates when Amber arrived home. "Were they really strange? Are they different?"

"The first day was a little uncomfortable," Amber admitted. "We were shy, and they were shy too. When we saw some Navajo children playing kickball, we watched them. Before long they asked whether we wanted to play with them. After that, we played with them every day."

"We are different from them in some ways. They live in hogans (a Navajo lodge covered with earth). They eat mostly beans and tortillas. But they made us welcome," Ben commented.

Sometimes people do not want to be with people who are different from themselves, but God loves everyone. We should love one another too.

TELLING THE LESSON

James told believers to honor everyone in their church. When decisions are made, do not give someone special treatment because he dresses nicely and has lots of money.

When a man wearing a gold ring and beautiful clothes (display ring) came to church, these early Christians gave him the best place. But when a poor man came (display clothing), they told him to stand back or to sit in an out-of-the-way corner.

A person who is poor and does not have fancy clothes to wear should be treated just as well as the person who is rich and dresses nicely.

Wearing designer clothes and the latest style is often too important today. Many Christians are concerned about what people think.

We should be concerned about what God thinks. The Bible says to be content with the food and clothes that we have (1 Tim. 6:8). We should want to be like Jesus, not like

movie stars and sports heroes or popular boys and girls who do not love and obey God's Word.

God tells us to honor all people. It is evil to think a person is right just because he has money and dresses nicely. It is evil to think a man is wrong just because he is poor and does not dress nicely.

Many humble and poor people trust Jesus as their Saviour. They realize that they are nothing and can do nothing to save themselves. Often rich people trust in their riches and abilities. They may think they can earn or buy salvation from sin. Jesus Christ is not important to them.

God's law tells me to love my neighbor as I love myself. This means that I should do for others what I would choose to do for myself. That is easy to understand.

You want people to be kind to you. If a boy makes fun of you because you do not have a new bike, you feel bad. You are hurt if all your friends are invited to a girl's house but you are not. Instead of acting in a hurtful way, you should love others the way you want them to love you.

You should love and help everyone, no matter how they are dressed, or what their skin color is, or where they live, or how much money they have. Talk kindly to everyone.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

"We have a new student today," said Mr. Hill. "Carlos and his family just moved to our town."

All the children looked at the new boy. His hair and skin and accent told them he was different from them.

"Welcome, Carlos," said Dan. "I am glad you came to our Sunday school. Where do you live?"

When he learned Carlos was starting classes in his school, Dan said, "I will meet you at school tomorrow. I can introduce you to the boys in our class and show you where to go."

Dan welcomed Carlos and tried to help him. God wants us to honor all people.

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Tell each child to draw a picture showing some way that he can be like Christ and obey God's command to honor all people. Discuss examples.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE

"Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" (James 2:5).

God loves poor and humble people. His kingdom of believers includes many who are without money and respect here on earth. Because they love God and walk by faith, He has promised them eternal life with Him.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "Speak Wisely." If we love and obey God, His Spirit will help us speak wisely. Study James 3:1-18.

Lesson Summarized by:

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“Honor All People” Puzzle (James 2:1–13)

P W R G N F W R U L P Y S T E
A A R E D E O A I I H F R R V
R V T L S B S B L T T A Y W V
T F O N H P E O R X N A T Y N
I G D G E R E O H S F A L K G
A M I M T M W C G C F A I T H
L E R Y W S E R T U Z S U R E
N Y C R E M E G J S P A G R R
P R O M I S E D D E R R B O U
R L N I S J I V A U I I Y O T
O O W O Z M E K I C J D E P P
Y V R V I L E S H L R R Z H I
A E V Y Y M V U U H C G Z M R
L M S C X L O O T S T O O F C
M O D G N I K B K U Q Q Q O S

CHOSEN
FOOTSTOOL
HEIRS
KINGDOM
LOVE
PARTIAL
RESPECT
SCRIPTURE
TRANSGRESSOR

EVIL
GOLD
JESUS
LAW
MERCY
POOR
RICH
SIN
VILE

FAITH
GUILTY
JUDGEMENT
LIBERTY
NEIGHBOR
PROMISED
ROYAL
SPEAK
WORTHY

27 of 27 words were placed into the puzzle.

"Honor All People" Puzzle Solution (James 2:1-13)

P + R + N + W R + L + Y + T +
A + + E D E O A I + H + R + +
R + T L S B S B L T + A Y + +
T + O N H P E O R + N + T + +
I G + G E R E O H S + + L + +
A + I + T M W C G C F A I T H
L E + Y + + E R T + + S U + E
N Y C R E M E G + S P + G R R
P R O M I S E D D E R R + O U
R L N I S J + V A U I I + O T
O O + O + + E K I C J + E P P
Y V R V I L E S H L + + + H I
A E + + + + + U + + + + + R
L + + + + L O O T S T O O F C
M O D G N I K + + + + + S

(Over,Down,Direction)
CHOSEN(10,6,NW)
EVIL(7,9,SE)
FAITH(11,6,E)
FOOTSTOOL(14,14,W)
GOLD(2,5,NE)
GUILTY(13,8,N)
HEIRS(14,12,NW)
JESUS(6,10,SE)
JUDGEMENT(11,11,NW)
KINGDOM(7,15,W)
LAW(9,3,NW)
LIBERTY(10,1,SW)
LOVE(2,10,S)
MERCY(6,8,W)
NEIGHBOR(1,8,NE)
PARTIAL(1,1,S)
POOR(14,11,N)
PROMISED(1,9,E)
RESPECT(3,1,SE)
RICH(12,9,SW)
ROYAL(1,10,S)
SCRIPTURE(15,15,N)
SIN(5,10,W)
SPEAK(12,7,SW)
TRANSGRESSOR(14,1,SW)
VILE(4,12,E)
WORTHY(7,6,NE)