

IMPLEMENTING GOD'S WORD...

YEAR TWO | SUMMER QUARTER
BIBLICAL ONE ANOTHERING



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SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM
FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

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LESSON SEQUENCE

SUMMER QUARTER

The **Lesson Sequence** gives the teacher an overview of the entire quarter. The central goal of the **Implementing God's Word...** curriculum is to equip youth to put the truths of Scripture together in their minds and to work in their hearts, by the help of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON ONE	Honor One Another
LESSON TWO	Live in Harmony
LESSON THREE	Welcome One Another
LESSON FOUR	Bear One Another's Burdens
LESSON FIVE	Bear with One Another
LESSON SIX	Be Kind to One Another
LESSON SEVEN	Teach and Admonish One Another
LESSON EIGHT	Stir Up One Another
LESSON NINE	Confess Your Sins to One Another
LESSON TEN	Pray for One Another
LESSON ELEVEN	Submit to One Another
LESSON TWELVE	Show Hospitality
LESSON THIRTEEN	Agree with One Another



DEDICATED TO THE YOUTH MINISTRY OF
PEAR ORCHARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

LESSON ONE --- HONOR ONE ANOTHER

OVERVIEW

Honoring one another as Christians begins from a stance of humility. You have to NOT think more highly of yourself than you ought to be willing to honor someone else. According to Romans 12, we are to OUTDO one another in honoring one another. Lifting each other up and esteeming one another should be the main hobby of Christians! Since we are all members of the body of Christ, we should all be held in high honor.

Christians are also called to give honor to all those in authority over us. Our governing authorities are owed honor, whether or not we agree with their policies. So, just as they deserve honor, so do all other Christians, great or small. We are commanded to honor them even if we don't think they deserve it.

The Pharisees are presented as an example of people who sought to honor themselves rather than other people. They chose the best places at the parties. They wanted people to look up to and esteem them. When Jesus was at a feast and noticed people selfishly choosing the "places of honor," He taught a parable about choosing the lower places instead. He said that we should humble ourselves rather than exalt ourselves. We should honor even the poor and the lame amongst us instead of seeking to be honored. Only then will we be honored by the LORD!

Finally, the greatest of honor must be given to the one worthy of honor—the LORD Jesus. And we can honor Him by choosing to honor one another!

TEACHING ENCOURAGEMENT

What would it look like for your students to be honoring one another? Is that too much to expect of young people? That sort of humility certainly would make you suspect that there is actual spiritual growth going on! Expect your professing Christians to start to honor others above themselves. As their teacher, give them an example to follow. Show them honor as fellow members of the body of Christ. Don't be surprised if they begin to honor you as well. As always, point them to the ONE who they should be showing honor—the ONE who deserves it!

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Proverbs 13:15-16
2–3 mins.

DRILL TIME

Communication
Review
3–5 mins.

MIND-IN-TRAINING

Reading to Think
6–8 mins.

BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

Honor one another
30 mins.

MIND-IN-ACTION

From dishonor to honor
3–5 mins.



WELCOME

THE WELCOME SERVES AS BOTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GREET YOUR STUDENTS AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO HELP THEM GET FOCUSED.

EACH WEEK, YOU WILL BEGIN WITH A PASSAGE FROM PROVERBS THAT WILL "CALL" THEM TO STUDY AND GROW IN WISDOM!

DRILL TIME GIVES YOUR YOUTH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL AND REHEARSE WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IN THE PAST. THESE WILL BE QUESTIONS FROM A PREVIOUS LESSON OR FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

Greet the students. Welcome visitors. Open with prayer.

*As we begin our studies today, listen to God's Word. **Read Proverbs 13:15-16.***

¹⁵ Good sense wins favor, but the way of the treacherous is their ruin. ¹⁶ In everything the prudent acts with knowledge, but a fool flaunts his folly.

Studying God's Word always makes GOOD SENSE! It is the favor of God to you and me!



DRILL TIME

Now, we will move on to DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have learned from God's Word. Are you ready?

Today's questions: *What do our words show the world? What is the solution to lying? Why does gossip deserve the wrath of God? What does it mean to REVILE someone? What are we to be "slow" to do and "quick" to do? Why do we need bridles for our tongues?*

Call on students to answer.

Answers:

1. Our hearts.
2. To think about others, and tell the truth.
3. Because it destroys relationships and does violence to the truth.
4. To taunt, or to speak evil of in an abusive manner.
5. Slow to speak. Quick to listen.
6. Because God requires self-control, and our tongues are impossible to control on our own!

God's Word trains us to be godly communicators!



MIND-IN-TRAINING

Say: *Each week in this class, we will continue to take time to TRAIN our minds how to THINK. We need the help of the Holy Spirit to glorify God with our minds!*

*Reading books can be very enjoyable. When you read a novel, for example, the plot and the characters can be so engaging that you lose all track of time. It is almost like you get “sucked into” the book, and are living it out as you read. Has that ever happened to you? **Allow discussion.***

*So when you read a story, how is your mind ENGAGED? **Allow answers.** The story actually DIRECTS your thinking. It raises questions in your mind about why something happened the way it did. Or, when something doesn’t make sense, it causes you to think more deeply about it. While you may be entertained by the book, stories always cause you to THINK.*

I guess my main point is that it is not just school textbooks that force you to think. Reading anything at all makes the wheels of your mind turn. You may just be trying to figure out who killed the wealthy baroness (the butler always did it); but even that is a good exercise for your mind.

Reading the stories of the Bible should also cause you to think. First of all, they should direct your thoughts to Jesus. But they should also make you think about yourself, and which character you are in the story. Just as you enter into a good novel, the Bible should always suck you into its stories.

We’ll talk more about the power of READING on your minds in the future. This week, when you are reading a book, think about how it is changing your mind. Some books improve how you think about God, yourself, and the world, while others have a more negative effect. Think about that as you read whatever you are reading!

THE MIND-IN-TRAINING SECTION IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOUR STUDENTS TO LEARN TO THINK.

THIS ELEMENT TEACHES A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE MIND AS WELL AS USEFUL TOOLS TO ENGAGE YOUNG MINDS.



BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

THE BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION TIME IS THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE WEEK'S LESSON. IT TAKES THE STUDENT ALL THROUGH GOD'S WORD, SYSTEMATICALLY TYING IT TOGETHER TO BUILD A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW.

ALL SCRIPTURE TEXT INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM IS FROM THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV).

THE BIBLE READING IS TAKEN IN SHORT SECTIONS, SEPARATED BY TIMES OF DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS, AND APPLICATION POINTS.

THIS FORMAT ALLOWS AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO STOP, THINK ABOUT AND DISCUSS WHAT IS BEING READ.

Introduction: *This quarter, our studies will focus on the "one anothering" passages of Scripture. Christians are instructed to be in relationships with ONE ANOTHER. The Bible gives many different specific things we are to do FOR and WITH one another. These "one anothering" lessons will help us to act as members of the Kingdom of God, in relationship to one another.*

*Let's begin in Romans 12. **Read Romans 12:3.***

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

Discussion: *Why are we tempted to think more highly of ourselves than we ought? **Allow answers.** We love to be praised and honored, don't we? Our sin nature is all about pride.*

*Look at the next verses. **Read verses 4-8.***

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Discussion: *This should be a familiar passage to you. The Apostle Paul is saying that since ALL Christians are part of the body of Christ, that makes us ALL important. Do you really believe that? Do you treat ALL other Christians as though they have gifts to serve the LORD?*

*Read the next two verses. **Read verses 9-10.***

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Discussion: *We have talked about our responsibility to LOVE other Christians. But we are also to "outdo one another in showing honor." What does it mean to HONOR another person? **Allow answers.***

Application: *To HONOR is to give great respect, or to hold in high esteem. It is to hold someone higher in your mind than you even hold*



yourself! So Christians are to “outdo” each other in giving the highest of regard for each other. Think about what that looks like as we read more in God’s Word.

Turn to Romans 13. **Read Romans 13:1.**

¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

Discussion: *We have talked about our submission to authorities before. Now I want you to think about this subjection in terms of HONOR.*

Let’s read more. **Read verses 2-7.**

² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Discussion: *Do you see Paul’s logic? The civil authorities are given to us by God. They are for our good. So, we owe them HONOR and respect.*

Application: *Do you HONOR your authorities? What keeps you from giving them the HONOR that is due to them? **Allow answers.** Connecting this to the other passage, Christians are to HONOR one another as if we were in high positions. In other words, you would probably show HONOR to the president if he paid a visit, even if you disagree with his policies. In the same way, we are to show HONOR to each other.*

Now go to 1 Peter 2. **Read 1 Peter 2:13-17.**

¹³ Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will

THIS SIDEBAR FOUND ON ALL PAGES IS FOR THE TEACHER TO WRITE NOTES AS HE OR SHE PREPARES THE LESSON.

OTHER TEACHING TIPS OR IMPORTANT EXEGETICAL INFORMATION WILL ALSO APPEAR ON THE SIDEBAR FROM TIME TO TIME.



of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

Discussion: *The Apostle Peter is dealing with the same subject. We are to HONOR those who rule over us. But did you catch verse 17? Who are we to HONOR? [Everyone!] In a unique way, Christians are supposed to hold everyone in high esteem.*

Now turn to Matthew 23. **Read Matthew 23:1-6.**

¹ Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ² “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, ³ so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. ⁴ They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. ⁵ They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, ⁶ and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues.

Discussion: *The Pharisees were highly HONORED because of their position as the religious leaders of the community. Yet did they really deserve that HONOR? [No.] Jesus says that they loved the “places of honor” at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues. It seems as though they enjoyed the “perks” of being Pharisees rather than the responsibilities!*

Application: *Can you and I be just like these Pharisees? Do you ever want the best seats or the first place in line? Do you sometimes do something just to be HONORED? When we follow the command to HONOR others above ourselves, we will not seek our own HONOR like the Pharisees did.*

Go to Luke 14. **Read Luke 14:7.**

⁷ Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them,

Discussion: *Jesus was at a wedding feast. What did He observe? [People were choosing the places of honor.] This is typical human behavior! Everyone wanted to be HONORED by having the best seat at the party.*

Listen to what Jesus says. **Read verses 8-11.**

⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit



down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹ and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Application: *Do you get what Jesus is saying? Instead of seeking to be HONORED, we should be humble, HONORING others rather than ourselves. Leave it to someone else to HONOR you!*

*Listen to the rest of Jesus' words. **Read verses 12-14.***

¹² He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Discussion: *Jesus delves even further into the human heart. We all love to HONOR our friends or people that can do something for us in return. But Jesus tells His disciples to HONOR the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. Why? **Allow answers.** There's a lot more to say about this passage, but it is a beautiful picture of HONORING others above ourselves. Only then will we be HONORED by the LORD!*

*We'll end in Revelation 5. **Read Revelation 5:11-13.***

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Conclusion: *Ultimately, it is the LAMB of GOD who is worthy to be HONORED! So when Jesus tells us that we HONOR Him by HONORING one another, what should we do? To put it another way, why wouldn't you HONOR each other if it HONORS Jesus?*





MIND-IN-ACTION

THE MIND-IN-ACTION SECTION IS DESIGNED TO MOVE YOUR STUDENTS TO ACTION. AS THEIR MINDS GROW IN KNOWLEDGE, THEY ARE CHALLENGED TO GROW IN WISDOM. THEY WILL NEVER TRULY LEARN IF THEY DON'T PUT WHAT THEY HAVE STUDIED INTO PASSIONATE ACTION!

Each week, we will end our time together with a MIND-IN-ACTION section. Often times, our minds are "Missing in Action!" It is vital you and I put what we learn from God's Word into action so we are DOERS of the Word, and not hearers only.

So, here is my challenge to you as we close today:

Resist the temptation to seek the HONOR of others.

The first way we HONOR others above ourselves is to stop thinking about ourselves! Next time you have the opportunity to have the best seat or be first in line, step aside for someone else. Make a conscious effort to humble yourself.

And the second part of my challenge is this:

Look for ways to HONOR someone else.

We don't honor someone by accident. It is something that is done purposefully. So look for someone in your life to HONOR. Find the best way to HONOR him or her. For a bigger challenge, HONOR someone you don't even like! See what that does for your relationship with the LORD.

Close in prayer.