

“How About Some Respect”
Ephesians 4: 29-32

Introductory Comments:

“Show respect to everyone...” 1 Peter 2: 17

“Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your
heart be glad when he stumbles.” Proverbs 24:17

- In order to love others you need to respect others.
 - Respect isn't optional.
 - Respect doesn't mean you have to be in agreement with others.
1. Respect is rooted in our understanding and application of Scripture.
 2. Man is created in the image of God, therefore, all human life is sacred.
 - “In the beginning God...” Genesis 1:1
 - The big issue is Creation vs. Evolution (Genesis 1: 26-27; Psalm 139: 13-16)
 3. Respect is rooted in our relationship with Christ.
 4. Respect is rooted in the manner in which we model for others.
 - What do you model for your family?
 - What do you model for your friends?
 - What do you model for strangers?

Four Major Areas Today Where Respect Is Needed! (*though often lacking*).

1. Bullying
2. Racial Prejudice
3. Handicapped
4. Elderly

Application:

1. Would I be willing to commit myself to begin praying for someone that I am having a difficult time respecting?
2. Do your children hear or perceive a disrespectful attitude toward a person or group at home? What are you willing to commit to that will make a positive and God honoring change?
3. Is there someone that really “bugs” you and as a result you find it very difficult to respect that individual. What steps are you willing to take to make a much needed change?