

LESSON 15: RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY

Bible Study: Deuteronomy 21:18-21

1. Which two words are used to describe the son in these verses? _____

2. What do the parents do, and yet this son does not listen? _____
3. What are the parents to do when he does not listen? _____

4. What are the men of the town to do if all proves true? _____

Authority

In general two sorts or types of authority exist:

Examples: _____

Examples: _____

A fight in the hallway

Read the descriptions given of four people, the situation that follows and then answer the questions.

Mr. Sourpuss is 55. He's been an English teacher all his life. He thinks he's quite something. When he teaches a class, at least two children (and sometimes six!) will get sent out of class. Yet his classes are always chaotic and disorderly.

Mrs. Loveya is 30. She teaches mathematics. Students usually don't like maths. The weird thing is, though, Mrs. Loveya always finds a way to make lessons fun. She doesn't always finish her classes, so sometimes there's lots of homework. But then again, if something is bothering you, Mrs. Loveya will take time out to listen to you.

Angelina is in Grade 9. She comes from a well-to-do family and always wears the latest trends. She's quite the show-off. She's always trying to get people to like her, and will often buy others lunch. To be honest, nobody really does like her. But who's going to pass up a free lunch?

Robby is in Grade 10. His clothes are usually quite worn out (and dirty). He's always prepared to help someone else, but often does his own thing. Some of his friends smoke, but he doesn't. "I don't want cancer when I'm old."

The situation: Between classes, two students get into a fight in front of the library door. It happens when Mr. Sourpuss, Mrs. Loveya, Angelina and Robby are all nearby.

Imagine you are one of those fighting and one of the above four should try to break up the fight. Would you listen and stop fighting if it was:

- 1 Mr. Sourpuss? _____ because _____

2. Mrs. Loveya? _____ because _____

3. Angelina? _____ because _____

4. Robby? _____ because _____

5. Who of these 4 has/have official authority? _____
6. Who of these 4 has/have personal authority? _____
7. Who is most likely to succeed when interfering? _____
8. Who is least likely to succeed when interfering? _____

Authority and God

In a perfect world, all who have authority would have both official and personal authority. This world is not perfect: not all with official authority also have personal authority.

God's commandment is:

Why parents?

Fifth commandment

Don't _____
 And don't _____
 Do _____
 And do _____