

# SESSION 4: RESPECT AUTHORITY

- **Welcome and Review Last Week's Homework:** 20 minutes
- **Session #4 Teaching:** *Respect Authority:* 10 minutes

So far, we have covered the importance of parents living a life of integrity, starting with a focused, personal relationship with Jesus, and the importance of our marriage being our second priority. The model we live out will dictate how our children live out their faith. As Christian parents, *everything* we do, even if we think it's in secret, sends a message to our children and to nonbelievers including this one: **Disrespect any of our leaders, visibly, and you teach your children disrespect.**

Instead, you might be thinking, "**Respect is earned!**", but as you study God's Word, you'll see that God doesn't give us a choice! The best reasons to respect authority spring from love —*our love for God, for our fellow man, and even for ourselves.* Because we love Jehovah above all else, we want to make his heart rejoice.

- **Read Romans 13:1-5**

When you start modeling respect for God, for your spouse, for the authorities over you, it will be much easier to expect that from your children. **You can't demand something you don't give!**

**Respect also is dependent on time.** *If you are constantly rushed, you won't give the needed attention to respecting authority or respecting your family.*

- **Small Group Discussion:** 15 minutes
  - **Are YOU modeling respect in your home?**
  - **How are some ways you disrespect each other? Other authorities in your life? YOUR OWN parents?**
  - **Discuss some practical changes YOU can make to be the best model of respect.**
  - **Discuss how time (or lack of) plays a part in examples of disrespect in your life.**
- **Small Group Wrap-Up:** 10 minutes

**What did you cover in your small group time? What were the biggest take-aways and action items?**

- **Discuss This Week's Homework:** 5 minutes
  - **Discuss how you can improve "respect" in your home.**
  - **Relook at your calendar and priorities if time is an issue with your lack of respect.**
  - **Discuss how you can better respect your children, in order to model your expectations.**
  - **Make a new "respect" plan together.**