

# Joyful Generation

## Obedience to Parents—Respect for Authority



Honor thy father and mother  
Ephesians 6:2

The child who says, 'I will not' to his parents shows disrespect, dishonor, and discourtesy. He also rebels against the Heavenly Father who commands obedience to parents (Luke 2:51; Colossians 3:20). Parents must teach respect for authority while children are young. If they do not, soci-

ety will later, and often in a much severer way. A prominent officer said: 'Crime prevention should begin in the high chair' (cf. Proverbs 3:12). At the same time, discipline should not be administered in anger or revenge (Ephesians 6:4). Harsh or unfair punishment is not intelligent (it produces resentment) nor is it Christian (it is not imitating our Father's discipline of us, Hebrews 12:6-10; 1 Peter 1:16).

God hates all lying

(Colossians 3:9; Ephesians 4:25). All lying—the 'little sugar coated, white lies' as well as the "big black, wooly lies" (Revelation 21:9). In school, if we borrow the answers off of someone else's paper, sign our name to it, and hand it in, we are guilty of deceiving the teacher. That's lying.

HousetoHouse.com

## Memory Verses—NKJ

**Matthew 28:18**—And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

**Ephesians 6:2**—"*Honor your father and mother,*" which is

the first commandment with promise:

**John 14:15**—"If you love Me, keep<sup>[a]</sup> My commandments.

**1 Peter 2:17**—Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

## Respect for Authority

- > **Definition:** To show consideration or esteem for person(s) in command.
- > **Slogan:** "GOD said it... that settles it!"



Respect For Authority

## They played by the same rules.

It was historic! It had been more than forty years since it had last happened; but, in this generation of seeing walls come down and records broken, it was not really surprising. Perhaps you saw some of it. I speak of the baseball game between the Cuban National team and the Baltimore Orioles. It happened on May 28, 1999 in *Cuba*. Fidel Castro himself attended, attired in his official garb, and watched the activities with the mostly solemn crowd of by-invitation-only fans. The Orioles eventually won. What was amazing was that both teams played by the same rules and no disagreements broke out. Why was this amazing? Because these teams came from different cultures, lived under opposite forms of government, and spoke different languages. Sure, a few could speak the other's language, but, by and large, they were from different worlds. Yet, the game went off without a hitch. Why? The reason is simple: they had one rule book to govern what they did. The standardized

rules of baseball are the same in Cuba as in the United States; they are the same in Spanish as in English. The language barrier did not prevent them from playing the same game. The culture barrier did not hinder their competing in the same fashion.

Spiritually speaking, we have one "rule book" (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3). The Bible says the same thing to every individual (2 Pet. 1:20). Why is it, then, that there are so many people "playing by different rules?" To answer simply, it is because of a lack of respect for the authority of God's Word (1 Chron. 15:13). What would have happened in the historic game if the Cubans had decided to interpret the rulebook how they wanted and the Orioles had done the same? There would have been total chaos and confusion—which is exactly what happens when men turn away from the only source of authority in religion.

God is not the author of confusion (1 Cor. 14:33); in fact, He wants us all to

"speak the same thing," be "perfectly joined together," and be of the "same mind and judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10). Man—not God—is the author of division and confusion in the religious world. In an attempt to make religion more pleasing to himself, man has modified, altered, changed, added, and deleted what God said. This amounts to a serious lack of respect for God.

The Cuban Nationals and the Baltimore Orioles would never have been able to play the game of baseball had they adopted the ideas of the religious world. If two baseball teams can see the need for authority and seeing matters alike, why can't we in the religious world? Think about it...

—adapted from Eddy Gilpin

**"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD..." —Isaiah 1:18**



### Family Bible Stories

**Acts 23:5**—Respect for Authority.

**John 13:4-5**—Respect for the Elders.

**Ephesians 6:1-9**—Parents and Children

**Matthew 23:1-12**—Woe to the Scribes and Pharisees.



**Respect God's Word**

### More is Caught than Taught—[HouseToHouse.com](http://HouseToHouse.com)

If a child is taught that he is his own authority, he will look upon all other authority with disrespect. If a child is taught that God and His word are final authority, he will look upon all authority emanating from Him with respect.

If a child is taught he is part of the theory of evolution, he will look upon Himself as an advanced animal. If a child is taught that he is created in the image of God, he will look upon himself as an immortal soul.

If a child sees the Bible is only read in church assemblies, he will look upon it as unrelated to daily life. If a child sees the Bible read and obeyed in his house and education, he will look upon it as a guide to life and eternity.

If a child is taught that there is no absolute truth, he will look upon morals as subject to his emotions of the moment. If a child is taught that God's word is absolute truth, he will look upon morals as subject to firm biblical precepts.

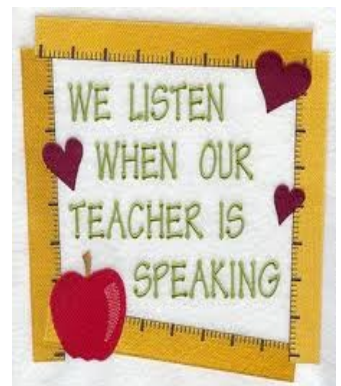
If a child is allowed to read profane and foul literature, he will look upon life as permissive and perverted. If a child is taught that God hears and answers prayers, he will look upon prayer as a source of strength to help through life.

If a child is taught that reasonable parental discipline is an infringement upon his right, he will look upon his parents and teachers with contempt. If a child is taught that parents are responsible to God to discipline him for his highest eternal good, he will look upon his parents with love and respect.

**“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).**

**“Fathers,  
provoke not  
your children  
to wrath”**

**Ephesians 6:4**



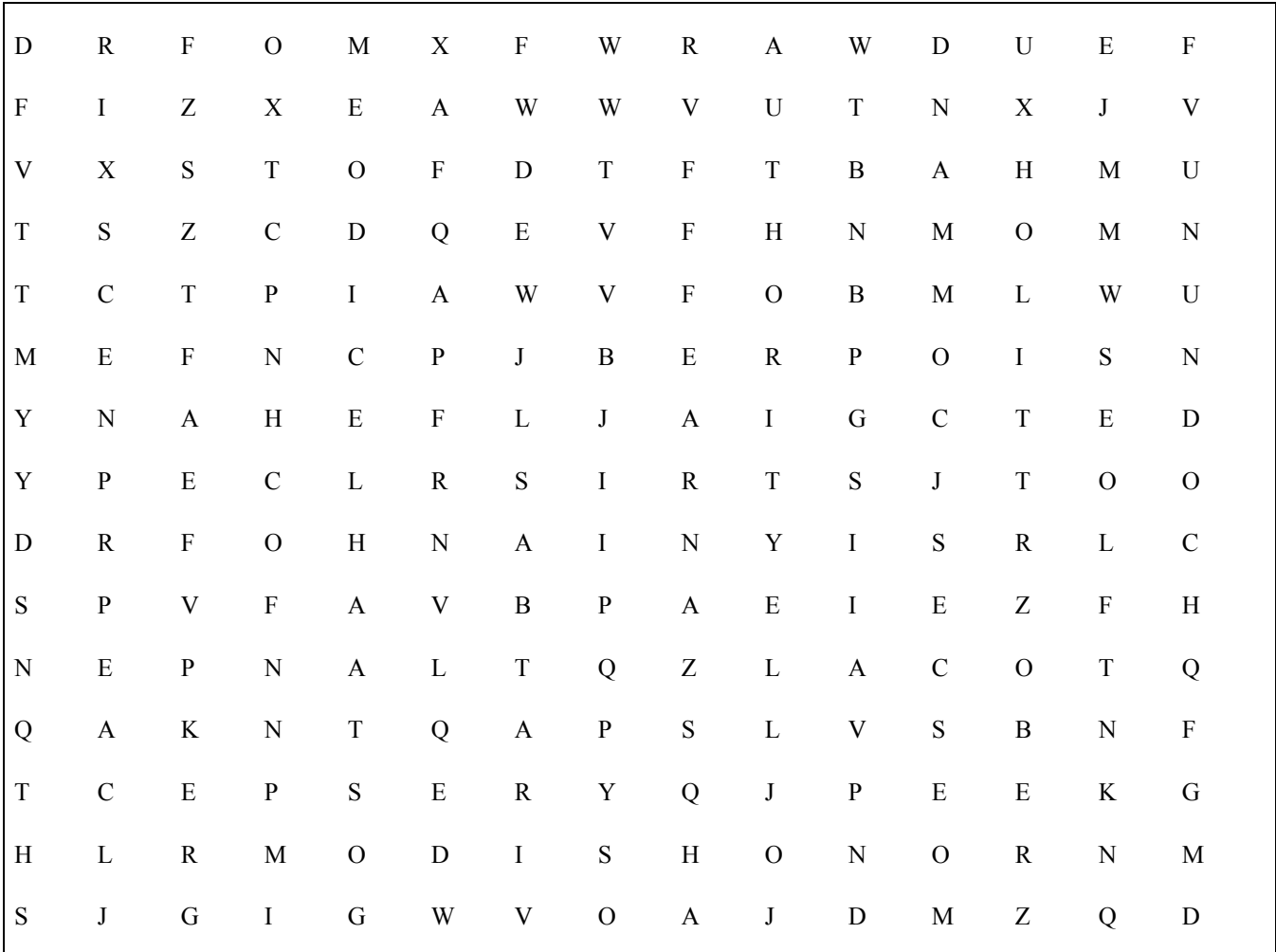
Overseeing Elder: Larry McDuffie  
Deacon: Brian McLaughlin  
Publisher: Travis Clark

Youth Devotion Tonight  
After services - 1st Sunday each Month  
Pizza Provided, Bring Drinks & Deserts.

Respect for Authority

God said it, That settles it!

## Word Search



AUTHORITY

FEAR

LISTEN

RESPECT

COMMAND

HONOR

LOVE

TEACH

DISCIPLINE

KEEP

PARENTS

TEACHERS