

Lesson 3 / June 15, 2008

Who Honors Whom?

for use as

STEP 1 **Lesson 3
Focus:**

Honor your parents.

**Lesson 3
Bible Basis:**Exodus 20:12-13;
Mark 7:9-13;
Matthew 5:21-22

Students will hear of how a grandfather honored his grandson and brainstorm ways to honor their parents.

An article in the *Huffington Post* provides an example of how a grandparent honored his grandchild and will open up discussion for how children can turn that around and honor their grandparents and parents.

- ▶ How many of you ever use the Internet?
- ▶ What do you use it for?
- ▶ How would you feel if all Internet use was taken away from you?
- ▶ How would your life be different?

There was a recent news story about a young person who couldn't use the Internet because of a disability—autism.

Read the following summary of the article and ask the following questions. Allow children to provide their own creative and personal answers.

John LeSieur loves to work with computers. He also has an autistic grandson. Autism is a disability that impairs the way one thinks, communicates, and lives. This makes it very hard for autistic children to use the computer and Internet.

Recently, LeSieur created a new web browser specifically for children with autism. It blocks negative content and highlights educational and entertaining games, puzzles, and music. More importantly, for Zackary (LeSieur's grandson) it simplifies the computer controls so he will not be overwhelmed. Using the computer used to be very frustrating for him. Now Zackary and other autistic children can use a computer and interact with games and music on the Internet like other kids their age.

LeSieur named the browser "Zac Browser" in honor of his grandson. In fact, this whole project honors his grandson's desires to learn, play, and maintain a sense of normalcy.

Lesson 3
Memory Verse

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise.

—Ephesians 6:1-2

What John LeSieur invented is incredible, but it is not uncommon for grandparents to do things to help their grandchildren. In fact, it is not uncommon for parents to do things to help their children.

- ▶ **What things do your parents or grandparents do for you on a daily basis—things that you might normally take for granted?** (*Make lunches, drive me to school or practice, give me a house to live in.*)
- ▶ **What are some ways your parents and grandparents have gone above the daily things, and helped you?** (*Teaching me things, attending my special events—games, recitals, a special vacation or treat, etc.*)

No matter what fights you may have had, or hard times you've gone through, your parents or grandparents do a lot for you. Now let's find out what God's Word has to say about honoring parents.

Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your *Middle School Teacher's Guide*; Step 4 appears below.

Source:

"Grandfather builds Web browser for autistic boy"

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/06/04/grandfather-builds-web-br_n_105116.html

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Who Honors Whom?

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STEP 4 

Lesson 3 Focus:

Honor your parents.

Lesson 3 Bible Basis:

Exodus 20:12-13;
Mark 7:9-13;
Matthew 5:21-22

Honoring and obeying our parents is hard when we disagree with them. Remember though, that when we honor and obey our parents we are honoring and obeying God. He is pleased when we show respect for our parents.

Honoring and obeying our parents doesn't always sound like a fun thing, but we have learned today that there are blessings to doing so. Not only that but we can also get creative in the ways we honor our parents which will make both you and your parents happy.

It may be less often that children think to honor their parents. You may not be able to dedicate a web browser to your parents, but maybe there are other things you could dedicate to them.

- ▶ **What can make it hard to honor your parents?** (*Disagreements, not consciously trying, focusing on myself*)
- ▶ **What are some actions you could dedicate to your parents?** (*Chores, helping siblings, etc.*)

Remember John LeSieur and his grandson Zackary? Zackary had a special need and his granddad helped to meet that need.

- ▶ **What are some needs your parents might have this week? How can you help them?**
- ▶ **What are some special things you could do to honor your parents—something you wouldn't necessarily do every day?**
- ▶ **John LeSieur worked on a project with his grandson. Is there a project that you could do *with* your parents, so that you could work together on something?**

Pray with your class for God's guidance for your students as they look for ways in which their parents may need their help or respect this week, and pray for the desire to honor them like they have honored us.

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