

GOD'S LEADERS HELP US LIVE RIGHT

Because God created us and everything in the whole universe, He deserves to rule us and to be obeyed. One way God helps us live right is by the people He puts over us.

People who watch over us are put there by God. They watch over us like God would. Some examples of God's leaders who watch over us are parents, school principals and teachers, police officers, and others. So we must obey God and the people who are leaders. The Bible says, "Obey your leaders..." Hebrews 13:17

To disobey someone who represents God is like disobeying God Himself. To be disrespectful to someone who represents God is like being disrespectful to God Himself.

Let's think about some examples of God's leaders who watch over us.



GOD'S LEADERS IN THE HOME

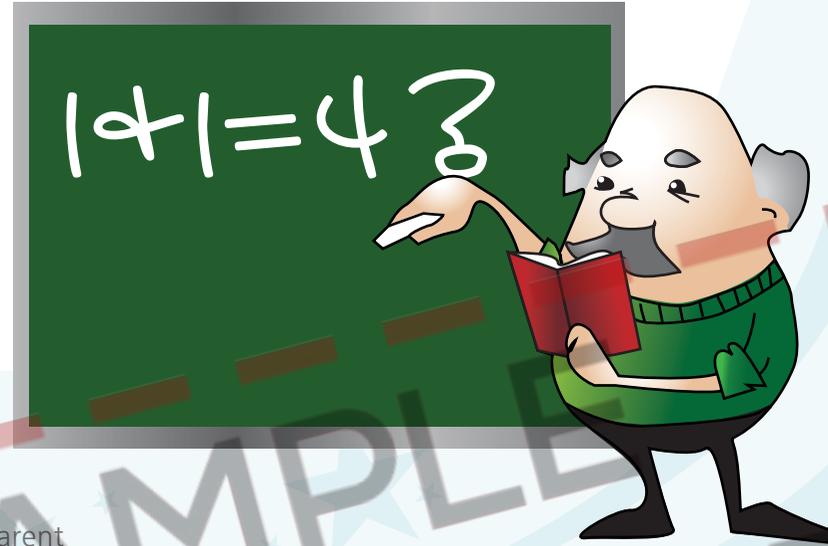
Children are to be under the leadership of both parents. The father and mother represent God's rule in the home, and it is right that the children should obey them. The Bible says, "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord." Colossians 3:20

When your parents set limits for you and tell you not to do something, it is because they love and care about you.

Sometimes a child goes to one parent and asks to do something. If the parent says, "No," the child then goes to the other parent and asks them the same thing. This is wrong. A child should accept and obey the first answer and not try to set one parent against the other.

The relationship between children and their parents is so important that God made it the subject of the Fifth Commandment. The Bible says, "Honor your father and mother so that you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you." Exodus 20:12

The word "honor" means to respect and obey. It pleases God when children respect and obey their parents.



NOTE: There are certain situations in which a family member or relative or other person who is a leader may tell you to do something that is against God's commandments, such as lying or stealing or something else that is bad. If this happens, do not obey the person but say, "I am sorry but God does not want me to do that." As quickly as possible, go to an adult whom you can trust and tell them about this..

“Honor your father and mother so that you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you.”

~ Exodus 20:12

GOD'S LEADERS IN SCHOOL

In your school, the principal is one of God's leaders. He or she is to be respected and obeyed.

In the classroom the teacher is also one of God's leaders. Because this is true, the teacher is to be respected and obeyed.

You may say, "But suppose I don't like my teacher. Do I still have to obey?"

Yes, you do. Your teacher is someone God has put over you, and you must obey your teacher, whether or not you like that teacher.

If you really want to please the Lord, you will study hard, and try to do your best in your school-work. The Lord Jesus wants you to do your work as though He Himself were your teacher! The Bible says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men..."

~ Colossians 3:23

