

# Respect

Pages O-1 through O-4  
Fireside Catholic Youth Bible - NEXT

**Song:** We Will Remember  
**Words and Music by:** Susan J. Paul

CD 2, Track 5  
FCYB Music CDs

## **Materials Needed**

**Fireside Catholic Youth Bible - NEXT**, FCYB Music CDs, CD player, recording of song “RESPECT” by Aretha Franklin and paper, pens/pencils for Setting the Stage, markerboard or chalkboard for “Word Web” Large Group Discussion, prepared phrases, poster board and markers for “Respect for My Body” Large Group Discussion.

### **Setting the Stage/Opening Prayer (10 minutes)**

As teens are arriving, play the song “RESPECT” by Aretha Franklin as an introduction to the theme. Assign these letters to teens as they arrive. Have them write a one line prayer beginning with that letter. R-E-S-P-E-C-T (example: **T**hank you for all that you have done.) When finished, allow each teen to read their “RESPECT Prayer” aloud to the group as their contribution to the Opening Prayer.

### **Large Group Discussion/Activity - “Word Web” (10 minutes)**

Ask each teen to write a definition of the word “respect.” Have them share their definitions with the group as you make a “word web” on a markerboard or chalkboard. To create a word web, write the word RESPECT in large letters in the middle of the board. Draw a circle around it. As the teens give you words or phrases that are related to respect, write them on the board, circle them, and connect these new circles to the larger circle surrounding the word RESPECT or, to each other.

### **Small Group Discussion – “Role Play Respect” (10 minutes)**

There are two ways to say everything. Divide the group into small groups. Give each group some phrases to communicate to each other. Have two teens at a time in each group come forward and role-play each scenario, the first time respectfully – the second disrespectfully. Discuss the results.

Examples: To a Police Officer: I wasn’t speeding!  
To your Dad: Dad, I don’t want to mow the lawn.  
To your little brother: You are bothering me.  
To your teacher: I don’t see the purpose in this assignment.  
To your Mom: I need gas money.  
To a stranger: This seat is taken.

### **Large Group Discussion - “Respect for My Body” (10 minutes)**

Read the 1 on 1 With Christ article found on page O-4 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**. Have the group brainstorm ideas of ways teens show lack of respect for their bodies. Make a poster featuring a collage of the answers. Included in the list could be things such as: abusing drugs, abusing alcohol, pre-marital sex, skipping meals, lack of exercise, eating junk food, drinking lots of pop, driving fast, anorexia, staying up late. Challenge the teens to identify one good habit they could begin practicing this week in order to show greater respect for their body.

## Closing Prayer - "Beatitudes Prayer Service" (10 minutes)

- Reader 1: Happy are the poor in spirit...those who know their need of God; those who can admit they don't have all the answers; those who have an openness to God; those who recognize their dependency on God. **Response: Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.**
- Reader 2: Happy are the meek...those who are gentle; those with a sense of real humility; those who recognize their self-worth and that of others; those who can be mellow enough to lead by listening. **Response: They shall have the earth for their heritage.**
- Reader 3: Happy are those who mourn... who express concern for others, and act on it; those who are sensitive to suffering and pain in life; those who can show their own feelings realizing that in weakness, there is strength. **Response: They shall be comforted.**
- Reader 4: Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right...those who seek holiness; those who seek justice for others; those who know the difference between God's will and their own. **Response: They shall be satisfied.**
- Reader 5: Happy are the merciful...those who are kind; those who possess a healing love that respects the dignity of others; those who are forgiving; those who respond quickly to a need without worrying if they'll get something back. **Response: They shall have mercy shown them.**
- Reader 6: Happy are the pure of heart...those who have but one master; those who reflect God; those who possess a sense of personal integrity; those who are their real selves, open and honest, allowing God to show through. **Response: They shall see God.**
- Reader 7: Happy are the peacemakers...those who possess a sense of inner peace; those who desire reconciliation; those who are able to heal broken relationships through their care and understanding. **Response: They shall be called sons of God.**
- Reader 8: Happy are those who are persecuted in the cause of right...those who have the ability to take a stand for what they believe in despite the obstacles; those who are willing to suffer for their values and pay the price; those who can take criticism from others without acting defensively. **Response: Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.**
- Leader: Respecting ourselves means recognizing that that God created us for a purpose. Respecting others means seeing them through the eyes of Christ. Make us Your hands, make us Your feet, make us Your love that overflows. Heavenly Father, inspire us to hold all of life holy and pure. Help us remember what we are to You. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Response: Amen.**

## Song Reflection (10 minutes)

Play the song "We will Remember" by Susan J. Paul. CD 2, Track 5 of the FCYB Music CDs.

### Bed Thinks

When you go to bed tonight ask yourself . . .

**How have I failed to show respect for God, for others or for my own body?**

*(Type this message on a small piece of paper and give to each teen as they leave.)*

# Respect

Pages O-5 through O-8  
Fireside Catholic Youth Bible - NEXT

**Song:** We Will Remember

**Words and Music by:** Susan J. Paul

CD 2, Track 5  
FCYB Music CDs

## **Materials Needed**

**Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**, FCYB Music CDs, CD player, markerboard or chalkboard to record teen responses in the What Jesus Said Large Group Discussion, a candle for use during the Closing Prayer.

## **Setting the Stage**

As the teens are gathering, have the song “*We Will Remember*” by Susan J. Paul playing in the background. CD 2, Track 5 of the FCYB Music CDs

## **Opening Prayer**

*A Disciple’s Prayer for Respect*

*Heavenly Father, I come to You with thanksgiving and praise.  
Help me always to let the decisions I make reflect the respect I have for myself.  
Every day, make me be an example for others of the love and respect I have for You.*

## What Jesus Said

### **Large Group Discussion – “Rules and Humility” (15 minutes)**

Brainstorm with the group a list of rules that we have to follow as members of society (These could include rules unique to teens). Use a markerboard or a chalkboard to record their responses. After the list is completed, pick two or three of the rules the teens have identified and discuss their answers to these questions:

What would happen if this rule wasn’t uniformly followed? What would the consequences be?  
How does following this rule show respect for those in authority or for each other?

Lead the teens into a discussion of humility answering these questions:

What does humility mean to you? (You might start with a definition from the dictionary.)  
Have teens give examples of how sometimes it takes humility to follow rules we don’t like.

After reading Luke 14:11 at the top of page O-6 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**, ask the teens to discuss how Jesus gives us a unique example of humility. How do people “humble themselves?” How do people “exalt themselves?”

Conclude by reading the What Jesus Said article on page O-6 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**.

## What Jesus Did

### **Large Group Discussion – “Women in Society” (15 minutes)**

Proclaim Matthew 15:21-28 from the text pages in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible - NEXT**. Then, discuss the teens’ answers to these questions:

Why was Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite women in this Scripture so significant?  
(Point out the societal norms of interaction between men and women in the time of Christ.)

Can you think of other times where Scripture records Jesus' encounter(s) with women?

What example is Jesus giving us here about how women should be treated?

What are some examples of how our society doesn't show respect for women?  
(i.e. abortion, prostitution, pornography, etc.)

Encourage the teens to think about how women are depicted in music, on the internet, in the tabloids, etc. Challenge them to recognize this and make choices that treat not only women, but all people with respect. Conclude by reading the What Jesus Did article on page O-5 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**.

### Putting My Faith Into Action

#### **Small Group Discussion (15 minutes)**

Divide the teens into groups of two or three to discuss the To Make or Break and Tips for Talking entries on page O-7 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**.

Make – Share how you typically respond when your mother asks you to clean your room or do other similar chores around the house. Discuss how you should respond.

Break – Share how you feel if you are involved in a conversation about someone behind his or her back. Brainstorm what you can say or do in this situation.

Tips for Talking – Role play a “bullying” scenario you have seen played out at school or somewhere else in your experience. Discuss how you handle a bully.

### In My Example

#### **Large Group Discussion – “Your Spiritual Receptors” (15 minutes)**

Read and explain in your own words the first paragraph of the In My Example article on page O-8 in the **Fireside Catholic Youth Bible – NEXT**. Ask the teens to imagine that there is a “spiritual receptor” in their brain that controls common sense and “Christ-like” values. Have the teens discuss their answers to these questions: What if the devil was able to turn off this receptor? What would happen? (See the 2nd paragraph for examples.) Why would the devil want to do this? How can you keep this “spiritual receptor” turned on? Why would you want to?

#### **Closing Prayer**

*Have teens form a circle. Pass a lit candle around the circle. As each person holds the candle, encourage them to say a prayer (out loud or silently) asking God to help them to always be motivated by respect for Him, respect for others, and respect for themselves. When each person has participated, close by praying the “Our Father” together.*

#### **Mindful in the Morning**

When you wake up in the morning, before you get out of bed . . .

**Remind yourself to turn your spiritual receptor on for the day.**

*(Type this message on a small piece of paper and give to each teen as they leave.)*