



# Flight Plan

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## Read 1 Samuel 24:6

## Day 1

Sometimes we don't feel like the person in charge over us really deserves that position of authority. Maybe it's a teacher who you feel like always picks on you, or a bus driver who doesn't seem to have control of the kids on the bus. Those people can be the hardest to obey because, when they don't seem to be doing a good job, we don't understand why they are in charge. But the truth is, God has allowed them to have that position, and we have to respect them.

Pray and ask God to help you have respect for everyone who's in charge, especially that person who's really hard to respect. Then get some paper and markers and make a card or write a short thank you note to that person, and give it to them the next time you see them. Tell them you understand their job must be hard, and tell them you're praying for them.



Even when it's hard,

**THANK** those in charge of you for what they do to take care of you!

## Read Romans 13:7

## Day 2

Being respectful is one thing if it just means saying, "Yes, sir" or making your bed like your mom asked. But what about when it means actually giving something up, like your hard-earned money to pay taxes or a fine (just ask your parents about that one!) or respecting a law or rule you think is silly or even wrong (ask your parents about driving the speed limit!)? Sometimes we don't like the rules, but that doesn't mean we don't have to obey them.

What is the hardest rule for you to follow because you just think it's lame?

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What would happen if everyone stopped respecting the rules they thought were unnecessary or silly?

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**ASK** God to help you respect rules and authority, even when you don't agree with them.



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## Read 1 Peter 2:17

You might be hearing a lot about politics these days. It's easy to get caught up and take sides or to start seeing people who think differently than you as the enemy. It's important to remember that just as God put kings in charge, He is also the authority over our leaders and presidents of today. Even when we don't agree with what they say, we need to have respect for their position, responsibility, and authority.

The next time you hear someone speaking disrespectfully about someone in authority—whether it's the president or your teacher, try to come up with a way to (respectfully!) remind them that God expects us to respect those in authority. We don't have to agree, but we do need to think before we speak and act.

**LOOK** for ways to be respectful to those you disagree with.



## Day 3

## Day 4

## Read 1 Peter 2:13

Grab a flashlight and turn it on. Now turn off the light in the room and see how bright the light shines. Now cover up the light with a blanket. Does it shine brightly anymore?

If we are disrespectful or disobedient to those in authority over us, we are not a good example for those around us who know we love God. For those of us who love and follow God, disrespecting authority is a lot like taking a flashlight, turning it on, and then covering it with a blanket. The blanket gets in the way. Yes, we still love God so His light is inside us, but others can't see it because the disrespectful ways we are treating those in charge are covering up our light. This week, try to shine your light brightly by being respectful to everyone in charge.

**KNOW** that respecting authority is a great way to shine God's light to others.