



Better

**DISCIPLESHIP FROM
THE INSIDE OUT**

STUDENT LESSON

LESSON 6

Student Impact

Several of our campus ministries in our local high schools and middle schools are called Student Impact. That name is purposeful because we want students to make an impact on their school by how they live their lives. Making an impact on others ties into our “Better Discipleship” theme by being better relationally with others. We challenge our students to live out three things: Prayer, Care, and Share:

Prayer: Find creative ways to engage in prayer for your school.

Care: Look for tangible ways to care for students and faculty at your school, believing that every student and faculty member is incredibly valuable and important!

Share: Share words of hope and encouragement with students and faculty, believing that our words make a difference and can positively impact the culture of our school. “Every student hearing the gospel from a friend!”

As we dive into this week's study, we want every student, whether you are public, private or homeschooled to live out God's calling to prayer, care, and share in their lives, not just at school but at home, work, on your sports team, and everywhere you go.

Icebreaker

(Read the intro above first before answering this question.)

Thinking about your own life—at school, at home, or with friends—which of the three principles (Prayer, Care, or Share) do you feel is the most natural for you, and which one feels the most challenging? Why?

Daily Devotions

Day 1 : Read It

Read 1 Peter 2:11–17.

1. What does Peter urge his readers to do in verse 11?
2. According to verse 12, why does Peter say believers should keep their conduct honorable?

3. What reason does verse 15 give for why we should do good?
4. How does verse 16 describe the balance between freedom and responsibility?
5. What four groups of people are mentioned in verse 17, and how are believers instructed to relate to each one?

Day 2 — Today's Theme: Our Citizenship is in Heaven

Read 1 Peter 2:11.

If you watched the way Jesus impacted people, it was mainly through personal relationships. If you are going to make an impact for Christ, your life has to reflect Christ living in and through you. We need to first understand that we are "temporary residents and foreigners" (1 Peter 2:11 NLT) in this world. Philippians 3:20 says that we are citizens of heaven. We should live lives that reflect our citizenship since this world is not our home. In 1 Peter 1:16 Jesus calls us to be holy because He is holy. Holy means that we are to be set apart from the way the sinful world lives and live a life that matches up with our citizenship in heaven! When we do that, no one can call us out for living a hypocritical life, but instead when God comes to judge the world one day, they will give glory and honor to God because of our good conduct.

6. What does it mean to you personally to be a "citizen of heaven" but a "temporary resident" on Earth? How does that identity impact your perspective in daily life?
7. "Holy" means being "set apart from the way the sinful world lives." What are some specific ways we can be "set apart" in our relationships, our use of time, or our media consumption?
8. "Good conduct" will cause others to one day "give glory and honor to God." Can you think of an example of when you saw someone's good conduct and it pointed you toward God?

Day 3 — Today's Theme: The War Within

Read 1 Peter 2:11–12.

The Bible tells us we're in a spiritual war. As 1 Peter 2:11 says, our worldly desires "wage war against your soul." But we don't have to be defeated. The strategy for victory is simple: **stay away**. Don't go near the world's temptations.

Think of it like seeking refuge from a physical war. I've spent the last four summers on mission trips to Poland, and I have friends from Ukraine who've been at war with Russia for four years. They found safety by fleeing to Poland, far away from the battles. In the same way, we must run from the passions of our flesh and flee to Jesus, who is holy and set apart from sin.

Jesus didn't just come to save us from the hell we were headed to but also the "hell" we are going through. He gives us the power and victory we need to overcome sin, which brings death and destruction into our lives.

9. What are some of the "worldly desires" or temptations that you feel "wage war against your soul" the most?

10. The strategy for victory is to "stay away" from worldly desires. What do you think this looks like in a practical, daily sense?

11. What does it mean to "run to Jesus" when you feel tempted? What does that action look like for you?

Day 4 — Today's Theme: Respect Authority

Read 1 Peter 2:13–15.

At Village Students, we have our student ministry “10 commandments” and one simple “commandment” covers all the rest: **respect authority**. When a leader points out a mistake, corrects your behavior, asks you to stop...you have a choice. You can show respect by listening, apologizing, and correcting your behavior, or you can choose disrespect by talking back or ignoring them. Choosing disrespect is the quickest way to get a phone call to your parents and be sent home.

This principle extends beyond our ministry. **1 Peter 2:13** tells us to "submit to all human authority." This includes your parents, teachers, coaches, bosses, or any other authority figure in your life. Some authority figures may not always be kind and respectful to you, but you need to submit and show respect to them. Jesus didn't retaliate when they hurled insults at Him, but instead He entrusted Himself to the Father who judges justly.¹ By respecting and submitting to them, you are doing the will of God and, in doing so, you **silence the ignorant talk of foolish people**. (However, if you are in a situation where you are being abused or you feel unsafe, then you need to seek out help. Share with a trusted adult.)

12. What are some of the most common ways students show disrespect to authority figures?
13. Think about a time you found it challenging to respect an authority figure. What made it so difficult? How did you respond, and what could you have done differently?
14. What does it mean that our respectful behavior "silences the ignorant talk of foolish people"? What kind of "accusations" do you think this refers to?

¹ 1 Peter 2:23. Read 1 Peter 2:18–25 to gain a better idea of the context.

Day 5 — Today's Theme: Honor

Read 1 Peter 2:16–17.

What's your most memorable birthday?

For me, it was the birthday I was "kidnapped" by some guys in my youth group a number of years ago. I was their youth pastor. I was just sitting in my basement when they surprised me, taking me on an **overnight road trip to Devil's Lake State Park in Wisconsin**. That gesture of unexpected attention made me feel deeply **honored** and special.

Birthdays are a yearly tradition where friends and family celebrate *you*, showering you with gifts, messages, and parties. At its core, a birthday is a chance to **honor your impact** on the lives of others. This connects well with today's verse, which speaks about honoring others.

The Greek word for honor means "the amount at which something is valued." Honor is "a decision to express high value, worth, and importance on another person, viewing that person as a priceless gift, and respectfully granting him or her a place in our lives." Dishonoring is "when we choose to treat another person, either consciously or unknowingly, with little worth, weight, or value."²

Peter's call for us to "honor everyone" (1 Peter 2:17) is about seeing people as truly valuable. This means actively listening with genuine interest, showing up in their lives, and offering support, even when it's inconvenient.

This is a two-way street: you can't expect to have a voice in someone's life if you're unwilling to be vulnerable and open up your own.

Authentic relationships are built on trust, honesty, and care. You develop these by asking thoughtful questions, remembering the details, showing up consistently, being present with your undivided attention when you are with them and having the courage to let people see your own struggles and hopes. Your words should build others up, not tear them down. It's about learning to speak truth with grace, noticing moments where you can lift someone up or lovingly challenge them.

When you lead in this way, influence becomes less about convincing people and more about the powerful act of simply walking with them.

15. Honor is "the amount at which something is valued." How does this definition change your understanding of what it means to honor someone?

16. "You can't expect others to let you speak into their life if you're unwilling to open up your own." Why is vulnerability a key part of building trust and authentic relationships?

²<https://media.focusonthefamily.com/free-downloads/pdf/honoring-marriage-event-2017-sermon-notes.pdf>

17. How can we balance being honest with a friend about a difficult topic while still showing them that we value and care for them?

18. True influence is "less about convincing people and more about walking with them." What's the difference between trying to convince someone and simply walking with them?

This study was written by Pastor Mario Arindaeng, based on the adult study written by the VBC Pastoral Team.