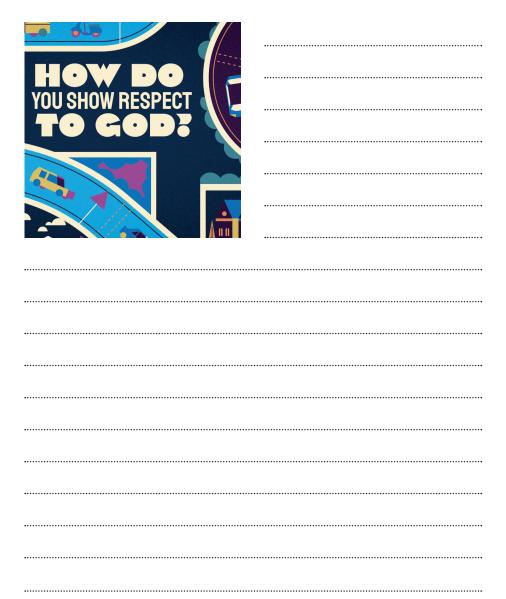
Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.





Day 1

Go to https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

Read Matthew 8:5-13

After you read Matthew 8:5-13, arrange the following events in order.

- The commander asks Jesus to help his servant
- Jesus told the commander his faith was the strongest in Israel
- A Roman commander came to Jesus
- Jesus was amazed
- Jesus healed the servant
- The commander tells Jesus he is not worthy for Jesus to come in his house
- Jesus offers to heal the commander's servant

Can you imagine being in charge of so many people, yet still realizing your importance is small compared to God? That was how it worked for the commander. He could have reminded Jesus how important he was and insisted Jesus come with him to heal his servant. But instead, he remembered God is most important, and that faith saved his servant!



Day 3

Have you ever wondered why some people pray by closing their eyes and bowing their heads?

Or what about when some people even get on their knees and clasp their hands to pray? Why do you think they do that? Usually, it's because they want to show respect to God.

We certainly don't have to bow our heads or get on our knees by our bed to talk to God—we can talk to God anytime, anywhere, in any position. But sometimes using our physical bodies to demonstrate respect can help us remember how God is most important.

As you pray the prayer below, find a position that you feel like communicates respect to God. It doesn't have to be on your knees or with your hands clasped but try choosing something that's a little different from how you usually pray.

Dear God, You ARE the most important. I want to show You respect not just in how I talk to You, but also in how I live my life. I want to show others how You are the most important by my actions and how I love others well. Please help me to remember that no matter whether I sit or stand or kneel when I talk to you, the most important thing is to take time to talk to You. Please help me live my life in a way that shows You and others that You are the most important. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

Day 4

Remember God is most important.

Have you ever seen an acceptance speech when someone received an award—maybe it was a movie or TV star or a famous athlete. Sometimes others poke fun at these people because they acknowledge or thank God in their speech. But the truth is, we should all be acknowledging every day that God is the most important, and the One who we should be giving credit for all the good things in our life!

Write your own acceptance speech. Pretend you've been given an award for being an amazing human. But don't just give credit to God at the end. As you write the speech, look for ways to acknowledge God at work in everything good. Maybe God gave you amazing parents, or gifted you with the ability to play sports or draw. Write your speech, then pick a family member to listen as you deliver it.



How do you show respect to God?

Hopefully you delivered an amazing acceptance speech yesterday, showing respect to God. But obviously you can't give a speech every day. So how can you live in a way that shows respect to God?

Think through a regular week of your life. How can you show respect to God in your everyday life? Unscramble the words below to see some ideas.

- NIOBECDEE
- FLLT SORTHE TAUBO ODG
- HKNTA OGD
- SHIROWP SUEJS
- AERD IBBLE
- SDNEP MTIE IWHT DGO
- OD ODOG ISGNHT NI UESSJ' EMAN

Did you see one or more that looks like something new you could do this week? Circle at least one thing that you can work on to show respect to God. Try to do it every day until it becomes a habit. Before you know it, you'll be living in a way that reflects the truth that God is most important!



GOD, DO GOOD THINGS IN JESUS' NAME
GOD, WORSHIP JESUS, READ BIBLE, SPEND TIME WITH
MAWGENEY OBEDIENCE, TELL OTHERS ABOUT GOD, THANK