

# Forget Me Not

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Grandparents' Day

**Scripture:** Leviticus 19:32

**Memory Verse:** Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD. - Leviticus 19:32

## The Children's Sermon

The Bible tells us in Leviticus to rise in the presence of the aged. We are to show respect. (everyone may be seated) In days gone by, children were taught to stand with respect when an adult entered a room. We've become much more informal in our relationships these days. Maybe that's not been a good thing.

In April of 1999, the "forget me not" flower was adopted as the official flower for Grandparents Day. That was a great choice! Sometimes when we're young, we don't make time for people older than us. We can forget to go visit grandma at home or grandpa in the nursing home. We need to remember to be respectful and to give our time and love to our grandparents. They have contributed so much to our lives and they have so much wisdom to give us.

Here's a little "forget me not" flower for you. You may want to give it to one of your grandparents along with a hug, or you may want to take it home and set it somewhere to remind you to take time out for your grandparents and older relatives.

Respect for the Elderly is like a special gift we can give every day, not just on Grandparents Day. It's like saying "thank you" without words. When we listen to their stories, even if we've heard them before, we're showing we care about what they have to say.

Imagine all the changes they've seen in their lives! They were once kids like us, then grew up without many things we take for granted today, like smartphones and the internet. By listening, we can learn about history from someone who lived it. That's pretty cool, right?

Respect for the Elderly also means helping them when they need it. Maybe your grandma needs help carrying groceries, or your grandpa could use a hand with yard work. By offering to help, we're showing we value and appreciate them. It's like being a superhero for your family!

Sometimes, showing Respect for the Elderly is as simple as spending time with them. You could play a board game, work on a puzzle together, or even teach them how to use a new gadget. Sharing these moments can make them feel loved and important.

Remember, Respect for the Elderly is not just for our grandparents. It's for all older people we meet. Holding the door open for an elderly neighbor or saying "hello" with a big smile can brighten their day. It's about making kindness a habit.

Let's talk about patience. Sometimes, older people might move slower or repeat themselves. It's important to be patient and kind. Imagine how you would want people to treat you when you're older. Being patient is a big part of showing Respect for the Elderly.

Did you know that by showing Respect for the Elderly, you're also learning? Yes, you are! You learn about patience, kindness, and history. You also learn about love. Loving others, no matter their age, is what makes us better friends, better family members, and better people.

So, next time you're with someone older, remember the "forget me not" flower and what it stands for. Think about how you can show Respect for the Elderly. Can you listen to a story, offer a helping hand, or simply spend some time together? Every little act of kindness counts.

In closing, let's make a promise to ourselves and to each other. Let's promise to show Respect for the Elderly every day. Let's be the reason they smile and feel loved. And let's start today! Who knows? Maybe one day, someone will do the same for us when we're older. That would be pretty amazing, wouldn't it?

Now, let's bow our heads and say a quick prayer. Dear God, help us to always remember the importance of showing Respect for the Elderly. Guide us to be kind, patient, and loving to everyone, especially those who are older than us. Thank you for our grandparents and all the elderly people in our lives. Amen.

Remember, kids, showing Respect for the Elderly is a beautiful thing. It's like planting seeds of kindness that will grow into something wonderful. Let's all be kind gardeners, spreading love and respect wherever we go. Thank you for listening, and don't forget to give that "forget me not" flower to someone special.

**Bible Memory Verse**

## **Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD. - Leviticus 19:32**

You Will Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or stamps with hearts or respectful symbols
- Photos of students' grandparents or elderly family members (optional)

Get Ready:

- Gather all materials on a table accessible to the children.
- If using photos, have each child bring a photo of their grandparents or an elderly family member they respect.

Do This:

1. Begin by reading Leviticus 19:32 together and discussing what it means to show respect to the elderly. Talk about ways we can show respect to our grandparents and other older people.
2. Have each child choose a piece of construction paper and markers or crayons. If they brought photos, they can place them in the center of the paper. If not, they can draw a picture of their grandparents or an elderly person they admire.
3. Encourage the children to decorate around the photo or drawing with stickers, stamps, and drawings that show love and respect. They can also write the memory verse on the paper.
4. Once everyone is finished, allow the children to share their artwork and explain how their picture shows respect for the elderly. Conclude by praying together, asking God to help you all show respect and love to older people.

# Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A children's Bible or a printout of Leviticus 19:32
- Construction paper (various colors)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Photos of students' grandparents or family elders (optional)
- Stickers or decorative items (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut construction paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- If using photos, ensure each child brings a photo of their grandparents or a family elder. Alternatively, they can draw a picture.

Do this:

1. **Read and Discuss Leviticus 19:32**: Start by reading Leviticus 19:32 together from a children's Bible or a simplified printout. Explain that this verse teaches us to respect and honor older people, like our grandparents, because they have a lot of wisdom and love to share.
2. **Grandparents' Day Heart Craft**: Give each child a large heart-shaped piece of construction paper. Ask them to think about what they love or appreciate about their grandparents or an older person in their life. They can draw pictures or write words on the heart that represent these thoughts. If they have brought a photo, they can glue it in the center of the heart.

3. **\*\*Sharing Circle\*\***: Once everyone has finished their heart craft, gather the children in a circle. Invite them to share their heart and talk about what they wrote or drew. This is a great time for children to express their feelings and learn more about their classmates' families.

4. **\*\*Display or Gift\*\***: Decide as a class whether to display the hearts in the classroom as a Grandparents' Day tribute or encourage the children to give their heart craft as a gift to their grandparents or the elder they chose.

This activity combines a meaningful Bible lesson with a creative project, helping children express love and respect for their elders in the spirit of Leviticus 19:32.

## Snack Activity: Respectful Sandwich Bites

You'll Need:

- Bread (white or whole grain)
- Peanut butter (or any nut/seed butter for allergies)
- Jelly or jam of choice
- Banana slices
- A heart-shaped cookie cutter

Get Ready: Make sure your working surface is clean, and wash your hands well to show respect to those who will eat the sandwiches, just like we show respect to our elders according to Leviticus 19:32.

Do this:

1. Spread peanut butter on one slice of bread and jelly on another. This is like spreading love and respect in our families, especially to our grandparents.

2. Place banana slices on the peanut butter slice, then put the jelly slice on top, making a sandwich. The banana slices represent the sweetness that grandparents add to our lives.
3. Use the heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut out the sandwich. This heart shape reminds us to always respect and love our elders, as God teaches us.
4. Enjoy your Respectful Sandwich Bites with your grandparents or family, and share why we honor our grandparents on Grandparents' Day.

## Game Activity: Respectful Steps

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- A wide, open space like a driveway or a sidewalk
- Pictures of different activities that can be done with grandparents (e.g., reading a book, cooking, going for a walk) - these can be drawn or printed

Get Ready: Before the game, draw a large hopscotch grid on the ground with the sidewalk chalk. In each square, place a picture of an activity that can be done with grandparents.

Do this:

1. Gather the children and explain that we show respect to our elders, like our grandparents, as the Bible teaches us in Leviticus 19:32. Today, we're going to play a game that helps us think of ways we can spend time with and show respect to our grandparents.
2. Each child takes a turn tossing a small stone or bean bag onto the hopscotch grid. They then hop through the grid, skipping the square their stone landed in. When they reach the end, they pick up the stone on their way back.

3. When they land on a picture square (either going or coming back), they must pause and share how they could do that activity with their grandparents, showing respect and love. For example, if they land on a picture of cooking, they might say, 'I can help my grandma bake her favorite cookies and listen to the stories from when she was young.'

The game continues until every child has had a few turns. This activity not only encourages physical activity but also sparks conversations about respecting and spending quality time with grandparents.

## Craft Activity: Respectful Trees for Grandparents

You'll Need:

- Construction paper (green, brown, and other colors for decorations)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers or crayons
- Photos of grandparents (optional)

Get Ready: Cut out a tree trunk from brown construction paper and several leaf shapes from green paper. If using photos, cut them to fit within the leaves.

Do this:

1. On the tree trunk, write Leviticus 19:32, 'Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly,' to remind us why we're making this craft.
2. Glue the tree trunk onto a larger piece of construction paper. Arrange and glue the green leaves around the top of the trunk, creating a full tree. If using, glue a photo of a grandparent on each leaf.



3. Use markers or crayons to decorate the scene around the tree, and write a special message or draw pictures for your grandparents. This could be things you love about them, favorite memories, or why you respect them, inspired by today's verse.

## Prayer Activity: Grandparents' Day Prayer Flowers

You'll Need:

- Construction paper in various colors
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons

**Get Ready:** Before the class, cut out flower shapes from the construction paper. Each child will need one flower. Write Leviticus 19:32 at the top of a whiteboard or poster for the children to see: 'Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord.'

Do this:

1. Start by reading Leviticus 19:32 together and discuss what it means to respect and care for elderly people, especially grandparents. Explain that today is Grandparents' Day, a special day to honor and pray for our grandparents.
2. Give each child a flower cut-out and markers or crayons. Ask them to write a prayer for their grandparents on the flower. If they have more than one set of grandparents, they can write a prayer for each on the same flower or make additional flowers if time allows.
3. Once everyone has finished writing their prayers, gather the flowers and create a 'Prayer Garden' on a wall or bulletin board in the classroom. Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God for their grandparents and asking for blessings, health, and joy for them. Encourage the children to share their prayers aloud if they feel comfortable.