

Forget Me Not

UPPER 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 with respectful themes (like hearts or smiley faces)

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into strips long enough to make headbands for each child.
- Write 'Leviticus 19:32' on each strip with a marker.

Do This:

1. Discuss the meaning of Leviticus 19:32 with the children, focusing on the importance of respecting elders. Ask them to share stories of how they can show respect to the elderly in their lives.
2. Have each child decorate their headband with markers, crayons, and stickers. Encourage them to think of symbols or words that represent respect and reverence as they decorate.
3. Once the headbands are decorated, help the children fit them around their heads and secure them with tape. Encourage them to wear their headbands for the rest of the day as a reminder to 'Stand up in the presence of the aged' and show respect, just as the verse instructs.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Bible or printed copies of Leviticus 19:32

- Large poster board and markers
- Digital camera or smartphones with camera capability
- Access to a printer for photos
- Envelopes and stamps
- Craft supplies (stickers, glitter glue, colored paper, etc.)

Get Ready:

- Print out or bookmark Leviticus 19:32 in several Bibles.
- Set up a crafting area with all the supplies laid out.
- Prepare a list of questions to help guide the children in their discussions about respecting the elderly.

Do this:

1. **Introduction to Leviticus 19:32**: Start by reading Leviticus 19:32 together. Discuss what it means to "stand up before the gray head and honor the face of an old man." Ask the children why they think this is important and how it applies to their lives today.
2. **Interview and Photo Session**: Pair up the children and have them interview each other pretending one is the grandparent. They should ask about favorite memories, wisdom for future generations, and how to show respect to elders. Take photos of each pair, capturing their interactions and expressions.
3. **Create a Tribute Poster**: Using the poster board and markers, each child creates a tribute to their real or imagined grandparent, incorporating quotes from their interview and Leviticus 19:32. They can decorate with craft supplies to personalize it.
4. **Photo Printing and Mailing**: Print the photos taken during the interviews. Each child attaches their photo to the poster or creates a separate card. Write a message to their grandparent or an elderly person they admire, explaining the project and how

they've learned to show respect based on Leviticus 19:32. Mail the posters/cards to the grandparents or elderly friends.

5. ****Reflection and Sharing****: Conclude the activity with a reflection session. Have the children share what they learned about respecting the elderly through this project. Discuss how they can apply Leviticus 19:32 in their daily lives, not just on Grandparents' Day.

Snack Activity: Respectful Treats for Grandparents' Day

You'll Need:

- Round cookies (store-bought or homemade)
- Frosting (white and gray)
- Writing icing in various colors
- Edible silver or gold sprinkles
- Small candies or chocolate chips
- Parchment paper
- Plastic knives or small spatulas for spreading frosting

Get Ready: Prepare a clean workspace and lay out all your materials on the table. Make sure the cookies are easily accessible to everyone. Mix a small amount of black food coloring into white frosting to create a gray shade, symbolizing the hair of wisdom.

Do this:

1. Spread a base layer of white frosting on each cookie to represent the respect and honor we should give to the elderly, as mentioned in Leviticus 19:32.

2. Use the gray frosting to create hair-like designs at the top of each cookie, symbolizing the wisdom that comes with age.
3. Decorate the cookies with writing icing to draw glasses, smiles, or other respectful and loving features that remind you of your grandparents or elderly people you respect.
4. Add a sprinkle of edible silver or gold sprinkles to symbolize the value and honor we should give to our elders.
5. Place a small candy or chocolate chip in the center as a 'pearl of wisdom' they've shared with you.
6. Share these treats with your grandparents or an elderly person you admire, explaining the symbolism of each part of the cookie decoration as a way to show respect and love, in accordance with Leviticus 19:32.

Game Activity: Respectful Runners

You'll Need:

- A large open space (gym or outdoor field)
- Cones or markers to create boundaries and obstacles
- Bandanas or light scarves (enough for half of the participants)

Get Ready: Set up a large 'playing field' with cones or markers, creating a start and finish line at opposite ends. Place additional cones or markers in the field to serve as obstacles. Divide the children into two teams: 'Elders' and 'Youths'. Elders wear the bandanas or scarves to distinguish them.

Do this:

1. The game is a relay race with a twist. The objective is for the Youths to navigate the field from the start to the finish line, going around the obstacles, while showing respect to the Elders. The Elders are positioned throughout the field, and the Youths

must perform a respectful gesture (e.g., a bow, a verbal greeting) when they encounter an Elder.

2. Once a Youth reaches the finish line, they take a bandana or scarf, becoming an Elder, and the next Youth in their team starts the race. The former Elder joins the end of their team's line to wait for their turn to run as a Youth.

3. The game continues until all participants have had a turn to be both a Youth and an Elder. The team that finishes first, with all members having completed both roles, wins. Throughout the game, emphasize the importance of Leviticus 19:32, discussing how we can show respect and honor to the older generation in our daily lives.

Craft Activity: Honoring the Aged: A Grandparents' Day Bookmark

You'll Need:

- Cardstock or heavy paper
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Ribbon or yarn
- Hole punch
- Stickers or photos of grandparents (optional)
- Bible or a printout of Leviticus 19:32

Get Ready: Cut the cardstock into rectangles (about 2x6 inches) to serve as bookmarks. Each student should have one or more to decorate.

Do this:

1. Read Leviticus 19:32 together and discuss what it means to 'stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly.' Ask the children to share stories or qualities they admire about their grandparents or an elderly person they know.
2. On one side of the bookmark, have the children write the verse Leviticus 19:32 and decorate around it with drawings or stickers that remind them of their grandparents or the elderly they are honoring.
3. On the other side, encourage them to write a personal message or prayer for their grandparents or an elderly person they admire. They can also decorate this side with drawings, stickers, or attach a photo.
4. Punch a hole at the top of the bookmark and thread a piece of ribbon or yarn through it to finish it off. Encourage the children to give these bookmarks as gifts to their grandparents or an elderly person they respect, as a token of honor and appreciation.