

7 Respect for Authority

Reflection

As students, did we always follow our school's rules and regulations? Can we share our story about a time when we did not? How did we feel about our disobedience?

Inspiration from the Holy Bible

Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been established by God. Therefore, whoever resists authority opposes what God has appointed, and those who oppose it will bring judgment upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear to good conduct, but to evil. Do you wish to have no fear of authority? Then do what is good and you will receive approval from it... (Romans 13:1-3)

Inspiration from the Holy Qur'an

"O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. And if you disagree over anything, refer it to Allah and the Messenger, if you should believe in Allah and the Last Day. That is the best [way] and best in result." (Surah An-Nisa 4:59)

Hadith

Recorded by Abu Hurayrah (RA). That the Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, "Whoever obeys me, obeys Allah, and whoever disobeys me, disobeys Allah. Whoever obeys my commander, obeys me, and whoever disobeys my commander, disobeys me." (Muttafaqun Alayhi)

Narrated by Anas (RA). That the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said, "Hear and obey (your leaders), even if an Ethiopian slave whose head is like a raisin, is made your chief." (Al-Bukhari)

How do we show respect for authority?

a. Respect our Constitution. It is the fundamental law of our country, the basis for all other laws which our Legislature enacted. As law enforcers, we swore an oath to uphold and defend our Constitution.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain. Stay there, and I will give you the tablets of stone on which I have inscribed the instructions and commands so you can teach the people." (Exodus 24:12)

b. Respect leaders in authority. Government is ordained by God. Our success as law enforcers depends to a great extent on respecting the PNP's chain of command, the duly-elected local government executives, the representatives of other government agencies, and our Commander-in-Chief.

For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority whether the king as head of state, or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right. (1) Peter 2:13-14)

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good. (Titus 3:1)

Challenge

life? What is our most significant learning today? How will we apply it to our own

Prayer

Praise God for His goodness and grace in our life. Ask forgiveness for our sins. Thank Him for the blessings we have received.

If we have any prayer requests, let us pray for one another.

We end the meeting with this declaration of faith: Bless us, Lord, and forgive all our sins, heal all our diseases, and protect us from all harm. Grant us Your wisdom and strength as we fight the good fight of faith. We do not lose heart in doing what is good because we know You are always with us.