

To the Teacher

The information below is to help you in teaching the lesson. DO NOT read this page to the students. Instead, teach the information in your own words. Be sure to finish the student's lesson as well. The Scripture references in parentheses are for additional study, to round out the information given in the lesson. Become familiar with these passages as well, to provide additional Scriptures to your students.

Lesson 5 – The Lord of All (Teacher's Lesson)

Opening: Ask students the opening questions. Explain that our childhood experiences with authority figures can affect the way we respond to God's authority, but we should remember that God authority over us is always tempered by His love for us.

Study Notes:

1 Timothy 6:13-16

Fill in the blank: God is the blessed and only Ruler.

The word «Ruler» is defined as “he who has much power or influence.” This passage also indicates that God in the only ruler.

Genesis 17:1

God is called, “God Almighty.”

Genesis 18:14

Nothing is too difficult for the Lord. His power is limitless.

Job 26:12-14

The power of God is beyond our understanding. The facts that we can see are only “a sample” of His power.

Job 42:2

God can do everything. His plans cannot be frustrated.

Matthew 19:26

With god, all things are possible.

1 Peter 1:3-5

God gives us new birth because of His mercy, and He protects us by His power until our final salvation.

Summary: God is all-powerful. Whatever He wants to do, He can do. His only limitations are limitations that He places on Himself (for example, He doesn't force anyone to accept His forgiveness, even though he could.)

Romans 9:21

God is the Creator and can do with His creation as He pleases. In verse 17 of this chapter, God says that He raised up Pharaoh precisely to glorify Himself. He didn't cause Pharaoh's disobedience, but He used it to exhibit His power.

Acts 1:7

God fixes the time and date of His return according to His own will. He doesn't answer to anyone. He reveals His will to us (John 15:15), but not every detail.

Matthew 28:18

So that all authority be given to Jesus, the Father had to have all authority. You can't give what you don't have.

Matthew 7:29

The authority of Jesus was demonstrated in His teaching. The teachers of Jesus' time derived their authority to teach from other teachers that had come before them. They quoted other Rabbis (Jewish teachers of the Scripture) to give authority to their teachings. Jesus spoke with His own authority.

Matthew 9:6

Jesus also has authority to forgive sins. For those who didn't believe that Jesus was God, this statement was blasphemy. His power to heal verified His authority to forgive.

Romans 13:1-5

Obedience to earthly authority is based on our obedience to God.

Summary: God has the ultimate right to do what He wants to do. This authority isn't granted by any other person. The fact that He is the Creator gives Him the right to do with His creation as he pleases.

Special – Submission to Earthly Authorities

All earthly authority comes from God. However, there are times when people or governments directly oppose God. Christians that have lived under these regimes have wrestled for years with obedience to the earthly authorities. A good rule is that we should follow earthly authority, unless obedience to those authorities leads us to disobedience to God.

Application: Help students to find at least one area in which they can work this week to get closer in their obedience to Christ. Encourage them to write something specific and explain that we need to hold each other accountable as we grow in our relationship with Christ. Perhaps you can form accountability teams of two-three people who can share their worries and struggles and encourage each other to grow.

Lesson 5 – The Lord of All

Who is the Boss?

When you were growing up, was just one parent the authority figure or was the responsibility shared? Did you consider your parents strict or permissive?

The Only Ruler

Read 1 Timothy 6:13-16. At the end of this passage, Paul writes to Timothy about the power and authority of God. Fill in the blanks below.

God is the _____ and _____ Ruler.

For someone to govern effectively, two things are necessary. They are power and authority. Power is the capacity to govern. Authority is the right to govern. Authority without power is ineffective, and power without authority is illegitimate. God is the source of all authority and power. Consider the following verses about the power and authority of God.

The Power

Genesis 17:1 –

Genesis 18:14 –

Job 26:12-14 –

Job 42:2 –

Mateo 19:26 –

1 Pedro 1:3-5 –

The power of God is obvious from the verses.

The Authority

Romans 9:21 –

Acts 1:7 –

Matthew 28:18 –

Matthew 7:29 –

Matthew 9:6 –

Romans 13:1-5 –

We can see from the verses above that God is, in effect, the only Ruler. All power and authority proceed from and belong to only Him. However, He gives human beings the freedom to decide to submit to His authority or refuse it. If we are Christians, we have decided to accept and obey the authority of Christ over our lives. On the line below, mark the place that you think best represents your current state of obedience to the Lordship of Christ.

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Perfect and Immediate Obedience Deliberate Rebellion

In the space below, write at least one thing that you can do this week to move that mark more towards the left on the line above.

Scripture to Memorize:

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Romans 14: 8