

# Hot Topics

## Authority Figures

### Leader Guide

**Theme:** Being respectful to those in authority over you can lead to blessings for you. Children, teens, and even adults all have someone who leads them. Learning to honor your leaders as well as forgive them when they don't lead well are character qualities that will help you mature in life.

**Note to Leaders:** This can be a tricky issue for teens. This could be an awesome opportunity for you to challenge your girls to make changes in their relationships with their parents, the way they treat their teachers, and even the way they view their government.

As a teenager it can sometimes feel as though you are caught between two worlds—childhood and adulthood. Because you are developing independence it's easy to find yourself challenging the authority figures around you.

*Which authority figure(s) in your life do you find it most difficult to respect?*

#### **Read Titus 3:1–2.**

- Name some examples of authority figures.
- Talk about the different attitudes and actions we're supposed to demonstrate. What do they each mean?

#### **Read Romans 13:1–2.**

- Why do you think God create a hierarchy of authority?
- What makes an authority figure easy to respect and obey? What makes an authority figure hard to respect and obey?
- What should you do if you don't like or respect your authority figure?
- Think of some of the authority figures from the Bible. What was life like for the people he or she had authority over?

#### **Read Colossians 3:20.**

- What is your reaction to this verse? Is this hard for you or easy?
- Talk about a time when your parents asked you to do something you didn't want to do, and you pleased the Lord by obeying them.

#### **Read Ephesians 6:1–3.**

- Why are we supposed to obey our parents?
- What is the promise that comes if we obey our parents? What does that mean?
- What are some ways you can better honor and obey your parents?



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### **Read Matthew 28:18.**

- Who is our ultimate authority? Why is this important to remember?

### **Read 1 Timothy 2:1–2**

- Why is it sometimes hard to pray or give thanks for our authority figures?
- Talk about a time when you had a really hard time being okay with something that happened with an authority figure. How did you handle it?

### **Read Philippians 2:3–4**

- Think about the life of Jesus. How did He act in His relationships with other people? How can we have a Christ-centered mind-set when it comes to our authority figures?

**Prayer:** Pray with the girls to have a heart of submission to those in leadership over them and to ultimately submit their actions of honor unto the Lord so they will be blessed!

For more topical Bible studies for teen girls, visit [www.myhealthychurch.com/teengirls](http://www.myhealthychurch.com/teengirls)

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### *For Student*

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