

6.6

Etiquette

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12

Objectives:

Recruit

1. Demonstrate the proper way to answer a phone.
2. List ways to show respect to parents and other adults.

Camper

1. Demonstrate ways to show respect to an adult.

Frontiersman

1. Demonstrate the proper way to conduct yourself in the following locations:
 - a. Church
 - b. Restaurant (not fast-food type)

UNIT 6

SKILLS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

CHAPTERS 1-6



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TIPS TO REMEMBER

Although you will not know the background of every child, where he is coming from, or how he is thinking, you can be confident that teaching and leading with prayer and in Christian love will touch each boy's heart and make a difference for him.

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #1

2 Corinthians 8:21 *For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.*

We choose our behavior continually every day. We choose to act according to our habits and upbringing. Sometimes we choose to get mad or we selfishly get others to do what we want them to do. Etiquette is the right way to do things in our country. Why should we do things the right way? Why should we be polite?

Being polite is not always easy. Being polite means respecting the other person and acting in a respectful way. Saying "Please" or "Thank You" shows that you know the other person could do things another way, but they are being helpful and you are letting them know that you noticed it.

The Apostle Paul was careful in the way he handled other people's money that they had placed in his care. They had given it as an offering to God, so that it would be used to buy food for hungry Christians where there was a famine. Paul showed that he respected the givers by the way he was careful with their offering. He had witnesses come along to watch the money, so that they could tell others that no one took any of it. All of it was going to be spent to feed the hungry Christians in Jerusalem. God wanted Paul to use the offerings given for his purposes very carefully. Paul also made very sure that all people would approve of the way he handled the money. There is a right way of doing things, and that is how Paul did them. He wanted to be sure that his manner of doing things brought glory and praise to God. By this, people who listened to his message about Jesus would see that they could trust him in what he said. He always strived to do the right thing in the right way. In the 21st verse of the 8th chapter in 2nd Corinthians he says, "For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men."

We show caring and respect for others by following the rules of etiquette. This backs up the message that we are Christians. We are God's people. We represent God to each other and to the world. People see how God feels toward them by the way we treat them.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, you want all people to know how much you love them. Help me to tell others about your love. Help me to learn the right way to do things, so I can find more ways to treat other people with respect and kindness. Thank you for Lutheran Pioneers, where I can learn about etiquette and manners. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

HYMNS: 442 v. 1-2 (TLH) 486 v. 1-2 (CW)

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #2

TEXT: Psalm 33:1

THEME: Worship Etiquette

Do you ever watch closely how someone else makes their way through a video game, so that, when it's your turn, you will know the best way to get through? It is helpful to learn as much as we can about the best ways of doing things, so that we can do our best.

There are also a proper ways of doing things as worshiping Christians. This may be described as worship etiquette. For instance, the right way to conduct yourself during a song in church is to sing along. We express our joy in praising our wonderful God. Psalm 33:1 describes this as fitting for us to do.

We also praise God by being reverent in church. It is a place we set apart for worship of our God. We show respect for God by walking, not running there. We only go up the steps to the altar if we have a special reason. We don't play there. In these ways we show our awe for our awesome God. What are other ways we can show our worship etiquette?

PRAYER: Dear Father in heaven, thank you for showing us that we can worship you with true joy. Help us to learn the right ways of praising you with all of our heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN: 44 (TLH) 248 (CW)

DEVOTION #3

TEXT: 1 Peter 2:17

THEME: Christians use Etiquette Toward Others

OUTLINE

1. Etiquette is a way of showing respect to other people. We express this differently toward different types of groups.
2. God wants us to do this because we love him. He forgives our failures and inspires us to try again.

Additional References:

- Leviticus 19:18
- Leviticus 19:32
- Proverbs 20:11
- Ecclesiastes 3:1
- Micah 6:8
- Matthew 22:37-39
- Romans 12:10
- Romans 14:8
- Galatians 5:22-26
- Philippians 2:3-4
- 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
- 1 Timothy 5:1-2
- Titus 2:12
- Titus 3:1-2
- Hebrews 13:17
- 1 Peter 2:17
- 1 Peter 3:8
- 1 Peter 4:7-9

1 Introducing the Lesson

Etiquette and chivalry are arguably dying arts. Why do we teach and include them then? This answer is probably obvious to you. Proper etiquette is just one part of living a God-pleasing life, as we strive to love our neighbor as ourselves. Precisely because they are dying arts, we teach them in *Pioneers* to provide the training and Christian examples that may be lacking in the home, in the media, or in other parts of everyday life.

Emphasize as you teach this lesson that each boy should show by his actions that he is a redeemed child of God, living in love for God and love for his neighbor. Each has the opportunity to set a Christian example by his life for those around him.

In this lesson, it is more important for the boys to understand what is appropriate in different situations than to learn a set of rules to follow for each scenario.

You can introduce the lesson by a role play with older *Pioneers*, giving examples of good and bad etiquette. You can also set up a dinner table in the front of the room or go into the church to focus the attention of the boys on those things.

Chapter 6 -Etiquette

Etiquette is a word you may not have heard. It was used more in years past. Today we refer to it as having good manners but it really is even more than just that. Etiquette is the way you act that is appropriate for the situation you are in.

Using proper manners will be different around different people, in different places and in different situations. In general, you will be using good manners if you do not make someone else feel uncomfortable or embarrassed by what you do.

Etiquette also involves showing respect for people, places and situations. God tells us to show respect and honor to our parents and anyone else who has authority over us. When we talk about those who have authority over us we are talking not only about our parents but also about anyone God has put in a place of responsibility over us. Included in this group would be older family members, teachers, pastors, Lutheran Pioneer leaders, police officers, government officials, people we work for and in general most adults.

God says in Genesis 20:12 *"Honor your father and mother so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving to you."*

Martin Luther in his small catechism explained this commandment in this way:

"We should fear and love God that we do not dishonor or anger our parents or others in authority, but honor serve and obey them and give them love and respect."

Showing this respect is not only for you as boys but also for all adults. One way we show this respect is by using good manners when interacting with parents, other adults and those who are the same age as us.

Possible Materials for Teaching and Demonstrating this Lesson

Video from the Lutheran Pioneer Office

Articles for a full table setting for at least two people

Two or more telephones

Single or multiple course meal

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

We can show respect and practice proper etiquette in many ways. When you are in a group in a public place like a mall, store, school or church activity or fast food restaurant, you may find that you have to wait in line. Be ready to do that. Don't push to the front or "cut" in front of others. If you are in line with your brothers or sisters or friends, don't begin pushing each other or fighting with each other. You certainly can visit with each other but don't shout or use crude or coarse language. While this may be funny around a campfire with just the "guys" or during an athletic event, it is not appropriate in a public place.

When possible; let others go first, especially if they are older or if they are females. This shows respect for the other person.

When talking with others, adults or other kids your age, listen to what they are saying. Don't interrupt the person talking, rather take your turn in the conversation. No one really appreciates someone trying to dominate the conversation all of the time.

If you are invited to a friends home for a meal or if you go out to eat with your family or friends, you should also show respect for those with you. Don't talk with your mouth full of food. It doesn't look very nice and spoils everyone's meal. Take your turn in the conversation if you are involved in it. Keep in mind that adults will often carry on a conversation that is not meant for you to participate in.

There are other things that you can do to show respect but in general if you treat others as you would like to be treated you will do fine. By showing respect to others, especially those that God has given authority over us, we show respect and love for our God.

USING THE TELEPHONE

Another time when manners will come into practice is when you answer the telephone or place a phone call to someone else. Because of sin and the problems it causes in our world, we need to be careful when answering the phone. Talk with your parents

- You might visit a nice restaurant with a small group of boys to practice ordering, use of table settings, polite eating, and other general principles of etiquette.
- You can go into the church to set the stage for and practice church etiquette.
- Nearly any other public outing will give the boys an opportunity to practice their etiquette.

Other Resources

There are a few other resources to help you learn more about etiquette. These might give you new ideas or tools to use for your presentation.

2

Teaching the Lesson

This should be a fun and useful lesson for you to teach and for the boys to learn. Role playing will be a major part of teaching in most cases, and opportunities for application will present themselves constantly.

"Expert" Presenters

Because there is no special skill involved in this lesson (just Christian love and respect), there are many people to choose from to teach it to the Pioneers. Because of the chivalrous respect for females taught in this lesson, this lesson is best taught by a man (or a couple). If you choose to have someone else present the lesson to the boys, here are some suggestions.

- An ODP is a good candidate for teaching etiquette.
- Senior citizens, who are more familiar with the time when chivalry and etiquette were a major part of society, can present this lesson with stories and general application suggestions.
- A home economics teacher can address the proper use of table settings.

Field Trips

There are a few locations that naturally lend themselves to the teaching or practicing of etiquette.

- The Lutheran Pioneer Library has a video dealing with proper telephone use for children.
- There are books about manners (e.g., Miss Manners) that can be used with care, mindful of differences in our motivations and actions as Christians.

Projects & Activities

Getting the boys involved in activities will keep them interested in the subject matter and make it memorable for them. Here are some ideas for teaching *Etiquette*.

- Use two phones, and let the boys role play different telephone scenarios.
- Set up a dinner table, and have the boys role play as two (or more) people ordering from one person acting as a waiter. You may have food there to use, so that they can also practice eating politely.
- Since proper church etiquette should be a given for boys of the Frontiersman rank, consider having them volunteer as a church usher to demonstrate proper conduct in that setting.
- Set tables for a church dinner or breakfast.
- Have parents serve a meal to the boys, so that they can demonstrate proper table etiquette.
- Let the Pioneers serve an active role in greeting at a church service or in filling many roles in a Youth Sunday.

20

to see when they want you to answer the phone and when they think it is best if you don't answer it.

A good way to answer the phone is the following:



“Hello, Smith residence, this is Jim. Can I help you?”

If the phone call is one of your friends calling to talk with you, have a nice talk. Remember to not tie up the phone for too long since others may want to use it. If you are going to have a longer conversation, you may want to ask your friend if you can call him back and then first check with your parents or other family members to see if it is okay for you to talk for a longer time. Then you can call your friend back.

If the person asks to speak with someone else in your home, politely ask who is calling and then go get the person they want to talk with. Don't hold the phone in your hand and holler for the other person to pick up the phone. If your phone has a hold button, use that before you go and get the other person.

If the person they want to talk with is not home, take down any message and a phone number your family member can use to call them back. To make sure you have the message and phone number correct, repeat it to the person calling.

If you should be home alone and answer the phone, don't let the person calling know you are home alone. If they ask to speak to your mother or father and neither one is home, you may want to just say that they can't come to the phone right now.

When you are calling someone else you should let them know who is calling when they answer. Tell the person answering who you want to talk with. If you know your conversation will take some time, ask if it is a good time to talk or if you should call back later.

Try not to call someone during meal time. When they answer, ask if they are busy or if this is a good time to talk. Also, try not to call after about 9:00 PM. Some people need to go to bed early because they must get up early.

AV Materials for This Chapter

Available from Lutheran Pioneers

AV 607 TELEPHONE TIPS FOR KIDS - 21 Minutes - Ages 6-13

If the person you want to talk with is not home you can leave a message or tell them that you will call back later. If you get a wrong number, apologize for the error and hang up. Check your number before calling again.

If you get an answering machine when you call, you can leave a message asking them to call back or telling them you will call back.

Remember, the telephone is a tool we use to communicate with others. It is not a toy.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

Your church is often referred to as the Lord's House. It is a very special place to us as Christians. Our church is where we gather with fellow believers to worship and praise our God. Out of respect to our loving God and in respect to other worshippers, there are some things we should do when attending a worship service.

When you are in the part of the church where we worship (we call it the sanctuary) and you need to tell someone something before the service begins, use a quiet voice. There will be people who are listening to the pre-service music, saying some silent prayers or are studying the Word of God they will hear that day. You do not want to disturb them.

Once the service begins, participate. Here is your opportunity to join your fellow believers in worship. Follow along in the hymnal during the liturgy and join in the singing. A worship service is not a time for sleeping or for games. Listen to what God is saying to you through your pastor.

Try to arrive at church with enough time for you to get to your seat and prepare yourself for the coming worship service. You will want to ask God to guide your thoughts during the service.

Don't get up and leave to use the rest room unless it is really necessary. You may disturb the worship of someone else.

3 Practicing and Testing the Material

The only way to practice and test this material is by putting it into use in real situations or role plays. While you can discuss the information of the lesson in review, it is not possible to actually see whether it has sunk in unless the boys are put into situations with other people where they need to use it.

You might use one situation to teach the lesson (e.g., role play of dinner) and another to "test" the material (e.g., dinner at restaurant).

With the role plays, you could also have the boys critique the performances of their fellow Pioneers (their etiquette, not their acting).

Expanding the Lesson—Foreign Cultures

If you are looking for ways to expand this lesson either for Troopers who have already completed their Frontiersman requirements or simply to mix it up and give your boys a little more information, consider addressing how etiquette and manners are different in another culture. You might bring in a foreign language teacher or, better yet, a foreign exchange student to talk about table manners, chivalry, church etiquette, and other related items of interest as they apply to their culture (or the culture they teach about). Let the boys ask your guest speaker questions and then practice the different principles of etiquette.

You may have a variety of utensils to use with your meal. In general, you work from the outside toward your plate when using the utensils. Usually, if you have multiple items they will be spoons or forks. The spoons are usually for soup and for use with coffee or dessert. The forks that you may have would be a salad fork, a meal fork and a dessert fork. The utensils are not toys so don't play with them. Use them in the way they are meant to be used.

If your meal includes soup, it will usually come first. Use the soup spoon, usually more round in shape, to eat the soup. Don't pick up the bowl and drink the soup. Another little trick that helps to keep you from spilling on yourself, is to use the spoon moving away from you rather than toward yourself.

The second item you may get is a salad. If there are parts of the salad you don't like, eat around them or push them to the side of the plate with your fork. Don't put them on the table or in your napkin.

How you handle your food in the main course will depend on what you are eating. If you are having steak you will probably get a steak knife to use in cutting the meat. Cut it into small pieces and if you trim off waste push it to the edge of your plate but not off. If you are eating chicken, turkey or duck you can use your hands to hold the meat while you tear off pieces with your fork. Ribs are eaten in the same way, with the hands. You will need to wipe your hands often when eating these items.

The last course of your meal may be dessert. Often this needs to be ordered separately and there may be a menu just for dessert. Depending on what you are eating, you will use your dessert fork or a spoon.

While you are eating there are several things you will want to keep in mind. Don't talk with your mouth full. It looks terrible and can spoil the meal for those with you. Don't burp loudly, if you must burp, cover your mouth with your napkin. Visit with your friends in a quiet manner. There is no need for loud, boisterous talking. You can have a good time without disturbing everyone around you. If you need to talk with the waiter or

A worship service is a special time for you and the other people worshipping with you. Use it to thank God and praise Him for all He has done for you.

RESTAURANT ETIQUETTE

For this section we are talking mainly about a nice family restaurant where you sit down for a meal and have a waiter or waitress who will serve you. This is a very public place and there will usually be many other people there so you need to use some special manners.

When you first get to the restaurant, you will probably need to register. You may be asked if you want to sit in a smoking or non-smoking section if that is an option. Your hostess will then take you to the table. As you follow her be careful not to bump into other tables or people who are eating. That means no shoving or fooling around. When you get to your table, wait for any females with you to be seated first. You can hold the chair for them so they can be seated and then seat yourself. When you sit down at the table, keep your elbows off the table. Don't sprawl across the table, it is meant for eating.

When you get a menu, look through it. Most menu's are set up the same with a section for appetizers, another for sandwiches, another for full meals, a section for drinks and another for desserts. Read through the menu and don't be afraid to ask any questions of your parents, if they are with you, or of the waitress.

You may want to ask the waitress what types of potatoes come with the meal, what kind of salad dressings they have with the salad and anything else you aren't sure about. Make your decision about your meal. If you need more time to decide, ask the waitress to come back. This gives her time to help someone else and then get back to you.

Depending on how fancy the restaurant is you will have different types of items to use in eating your meal. You may have a bread plate that you can use. You will also have a napkin that is for your use. Once you have ordered, you should put the napkin on your lap.

NOTES

waitress, motion for them to come or watch for them to come near your table and then get their attention. There is no need for you to holler loudly or wildly wave your arms to get their attention. A good waiter or waitress will be watching to see if you need anything.

When your meal is done, the waitress will bring you the bill. Again, depending on the restaurant, either you will take the bill to a checkout counter or the waitress will take your payment and bring you your change. In either case, you will want to leave a tip for your waitress. Usually, you will give a tip of 15% to 20%, depending on the service you receive. The tip should be left on the table when you leave.

CONCLUSION

These are just a few things you can do to make your life and lives of those around you more enjoyable. As Christians we represent our Lord and what we say and do reflects on how we feel about Him and what He has done for us. By showing honor and respect to others through the use of good manners and etiquette we demonstrate our love for our Lord and our willingness to serve Him.

“Etiquette is the grease that makes the world move smoothly.”