

# Show Some Respect

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## OPENING QUESTION

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Who do you respect the most from the following: law enforcement officer, movie star, pastor, janitor, school administrator.

## READ Malachi 1:1—27.

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### 1. How has God demonstrated his love to you?

- A. Giving me life, and so much more.
- B. Jesus came and died for me.
- C. Placing the Holy Spirit in my life.
- D. It's been a little spotty at times.
- E. The presence of key people in my life.
- F. It's a feeling I feel when I feel that God feels close to me.
- G. Sometimes it seems strong; but at other times it seems weak.
- H. Communication through prayer and Scripture.
- I. Other.

### 2. How have you honored God?

- A. Everything I do honors God.
- B. I'm not sure I have.
- C. I obey God in the most important things.
- D. I follow God when it fits with what I want to do.
- E. With my language. I don't take God's name in vain; I don't swear.
- F. I demonstrate respect to religious leaders.
- G. I give generous offerings.
- H. Through my consistent worship.
- I. Other.

### 3. What best describes the items you donate?

- A. I wouldn't want them.
- B. I give them to God; the entity that receives it doesn't matter to me.
- C. Rather than throw things away, I donate them to charity.
- D. I give to God first.
- E. My donations come after I've first paid my bills.
- F. I give sacrificially—it costs me something and I feel it.
- G. I'm more likely to give if it's tax-deductible or makes me look good.
- H. Other.

**4. Who shows God more honor than you do?**

- A. I can't think of anyone.
- B. Just about everyone I know.
- C. Widows with mites.
- D. People who have more money than I have.
- E. Those who are obedient.
- F. Praise and worship leaders.
- G. Children.
- H. My friend \_\_\_\_\_.
- I. Other.

**5. How difficult is it for you to “serve the Lord” (vs. 13)?**

- A. “Serving the Lord” is my mantra.
- B. Easy on good days; hard on bad days.
- C. It's a constant battle.
- D. I rarely think about it.
- E. I like the concept, but the details are hard to figure out.
- F. I'm willing to serve God, but not other people.
- G. Easy as long as I can set the terms.
- H. Other.

**6. Have you ever made a promise to God and then cheated on your promise?**

- A. No.
- B. I don't make promises.
- C. Once, maybe twice.
- D. All the time.
- E. “Cheating” is probably too strong of a word.
- F. Hasn't everyone?
- G. I don't think about it; I just let it go.
- H. Other.

**7. When you honor God, how does that affect other people? How does it affect you?**

**8. Based on how you live out your faith, what do others think about your God (not what do they think about you)?**