

The Attackers: Review: Ps 34:11: The *Shama*, Children Must Be Taught by Heterosexual Parents; Failure of This System Leads to National Decline; Respect for Authority Is Facilitated by Parents; Failure Produces Disrespectful, Self-Centered Adults; Development of Respect for the Lord Requires a Process: Nine Visuals that Develop the Steps & Stages of the Process

8. The word “listen” is the Qal imperative of the verb **שָׁמַע (shama’)**: to listen with interest and concentration and obey what you hear.¹
9. There is nothing for one to hear unless someone is teaching. This is the Piel imperfect of the verb **לָמַד (lamath)**. The Piel is intensive. Effective teaching must be organized, disciplined, and repetitious.
10. The imperfect tense indicates that the learning never stops; professionalism demands that knowledge must continue to be built on knowledge.
11. The conscience of the child must be continuously taught respect for the Lord. Doctrine provides knowledge of the divine attributes that define the Lord as our loving, benevolent, but just God.
12. All the major English versions of the Bible use the word “fear” to translate the noun **יָרֵא (yare’)**.
13. There is a good reason for this since that is how the word can be translated. However, it is not the only way. It is intimidating to be told that your course of study is designed to illicit fear.
14. The best translation of *yare’* is “respect.” It emphasizes fellowship with God instead of enmity.

Respect. To view, treat, or consider with some degree of reverence, deference, or courtesy; to feel or show honor or esteem for.

The act of holding in high estimation, deference, or honor; a feeling of esteem; regard.²

15. Principle: A person’s relationship with the Lord involves a process. It starts with humility from which respect emerges.

16. Respect is the recognition of “one’s betters”:

Better. One of superior rank or standing; one entitled to precedence: generally in the plural; as, he stood in the way of his *bettors*.³

Better. One’s superiors, especially in social standing, competence, or intelligence.⁴

Better. With the possessive pronoun: One’s superior: in some personal quality or attainment; in rank or station.⁵

¹ The word **שָׁמַע (shema’)** introduces what the Jews consider the most important prayer of their prayer services, “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is One!” (Deuteronomy 6:4) The prayer is referred to as The Shema and consists of Deuteronomy 6:4–9; 11:13–21; and Numbers 15:37–41. Deuteronomy 6:7 is important to our study: “You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” (NASB)

² *Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary: Unabridged*, vol. 2, s.v. “respect.”

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1, s.v. “better.”

⁴ *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, s.v. “better.”

⁵ *The Oxford English Dictionary*, s.v. “better.”

17. This mental attitude is developed in the organized humility of the home where respect for the knowledge and wisdom of those holding the office of “parent” is understood and revered.
18. When parents do not exhibit the integrity their position implies, then it is virtually impossible for the child to acquire respect.
19. The breakdown of the heterosexual, two-parent family in our nation has introduced into our society three generations of disrespectful, self-centered adults.
20. Disrespectful, self-centered adults produce disrespectful, self-centered spawn.
21. The development of proper respect for one’s betters is instilled by parents who have proper respect for their Betters: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
22. When respect is engendered into the souls of children, then, once saved, they are able to comprehend the next increment of the process: respect for the Lord who is the Better of us all.
23. Respect for the Lord is not a singular act but rather a process, a term that needs to be defined:

Process is particularly appropriate when progress from a definite beginning to a definite end is implied and the sequence of events can be divided into a sequence of steps or stages.⁶

Process. 5. Something that goes on or is carried on; a continuous action, or series of actions or events; a course or method of action, proceeding, procedure; a systematic series of actions, physical or mental, directed to some end.⁷

process. A series of actions, changes, or functions that bring about an end or result. To put through the steps of a prescribed procedure. To prepare, treat, or convert by subjecting to some special process.⁸

24. Spiritual maturity does not occur overnight. This is why Peter uses the word “grow” to describe the process leading to it in:

2 Peter 3:18 - Grow [present active imperative of the verb αὐξάνω (auxánō)] in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

⁶ *The Merriam-Webster Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms*, s.v. “Process.:

⁷ *Oxford English Dictionary*, s.v. “Process.”

⁸ *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, s.v. “process.”