

# Respect



Everyone has a value, and everyone is special and unique.

We may not always agree with each other in the ways that we act or the things that we think and say, but showing respect is important.



## The Bible and Respect



Out in the dry, dusty wilderness, Moses was herding sheep. In the stillness, his thoughts returned to the land where he'd grown up: Egypt.

It had been a long time since he'd been there. He'd grown up in the Royal Courts, but left when he tried to defend his people and fell out with the pharaoh.

His people were still slaves there. He felt guilty – but what could he do? He was out in the wilderness – hardly a brave, **respected** leader! Who would listen to him?

Then, a little way off, Moses spotted a strange sight. Hungry flames were licking away at a desert bush, but the bush was not shrivelling up or turning to ash. In fact, its leaves stayed green. Moses went closer and as he did, God's voice called out from the bush, "Moses!"

Amazed, Moses stammered back, "Here I am."

"Take off your sandals, for you are on holy ground," replied the same voice from the bush.

With **respect**, Moses unstrapped his sandals and took them off, then he knelt on the ground.

"I am the LORD, the God of your ancestors, and I am sending you to Egypt to tell the pharaoh to let my people go! I have seen their tears, and I am sending you to release them from their slavery."

Moses wondered if God had the right person. Why would the king of Egypt show any **respect** to a simple shepherd?

"Do not be afraid; I will be with you," God assured him.

Moses still wondered. He still had his doubts. "What if my own people don't even listen to me?" he asked, "what if they don't believe me?"

God told Moses to take the staff in his hand and throw it to the ground. Moses did as he was asked and he marvelled as the staff turned to a real, live snake.

"Now, reach down and take the snake by its tail," God told him. Again, Moses obeyed and as he touched the snake it immediately returned to being a staff.

"When you show them this, they will **respect** you and believe," God said, "Now go as I've commanded."

On that ordinary day, many extraordinary events were put into motion. Moses went to Egypt and performed many wonderful feats with his staff as he believed God.

## Respect for Holy Books



### Respect Quote

'Everyone should be respected as an individual, but no-one idolised'

(Albert Einstein, mathematician and physicist)



Christians use the Bible as their Holy Book. In many churches it is read from a lectern made of precious materials.



Jewish people read from the Torah scrolls. They often wear a kippah (or yarmulke) on their heads to show humility before God.



The Qur'an is sacred to Muslims. It is kept covered when it is not being read, and is only touched with clean or gloved hands.



Sikhs read from the Guru Granth Sahib. Shoes are removed before entering the room where it is and



## Respecting the places where we live and play

As well as respecting other people, it is important to respect the areas where we live. Try to throw litter in bins, look after equipment and recycle whenever you can.

Lead Moses across the desert maze and back to Egypt!

