

What Respect Life Means to Me - 7th grade winner - Megan Vore

The definition of life according to the Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary is the sequence of physical and mental experiences that make up the existence of an individual; a way or manner of living. When I read this definition it makes me think of how many different types of life we live as humans and how we all have our own experiences that make up those lives.

Respecting life should mean respecting all life and not putting lives into categories. For instance, is the homeless man living under the bridge any less of a person than the rich doctor that saves lives everyday? Is the doctor's life worth more respect? Or how about someone who eats healthy and goes to the gym every day to stay in shape? Is a baby in the womb less valuable and important than an elder in a nursing home?

I think that God intended for all life to be respected and treated with equality. I can't imagine God would be happy that we treat certain people more harshly than others just because of our physical appearance or what we do for a living.

Anything we do to harm or mistreat or end life including our own is a sin against God and is disrespectful to the gift of life that God gave us. Respecting life means to take care of it. We're not supposed to pick and choose which lives we take care of and respect, we're supposed to cherish each and every one.

Sometimes it's hard to see why certain lives deserve respect, but then I remember it's not up to me to decide who deserves it. My job is to do what God asks.

We have been taught that life begins at the moment of conception. From that moment, God has given a life. After that it is our responsibility to treat life with respect. We should not take life for granted. We may think it is long and there is a lot of time to make up for our mistakes, but it is very, very short and fragile.