**Gloves**

Authority is in place for our protection.

**Prep**

Get 2 pairs of thick waterproof winter gloves and a good bit of ice.

Get one umbrella.

Turn your Bible to Hebrews 13:17 and Romans 13:1.

**Demonstration**

Call up 4 volunteers and give only two of the volunteers a pair gloves to wear. Then give all 4 students some ice to hold in their hands. See who can last the longest- the students with or without gloves.

**Object Lesson**

“Sometimes it might be a little annoying to wear gloves, but you'll definitely miss them if it's freezing outside and you don't have any on to protect your hands.

In the same way, God has put something in our lives protect us—people who are in positions of authority.

What are some examples of authorities in your life? Right, parents, teachers, police officers, government figures, etc.

God has given us authorities to protect us. Another way to demonstrate authority is an umbrella. [Open the umbrella over your head]. Authorities are meant to be like an umbrella hovering over us, protecting us from the rain.

Sometimes we don't want to listen to those in authority because we want to do things our own way, but God says in Hebrews 13:17, "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account."

In the end our highest authority is the Bible. So, we should not do things that go against what the Bible says, but after the Bible we are to obey the authorities that God has put in our lives.

Because people are sinful, many leaders do not make good decisions, but this verse actually says that those in authority over you will be held accountable if they do the wrong thing.

Romans 13:1 says, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

And did you know one of the 10 commandments is actually to obey your parents!?”

It’s very important to God that we honor, respect and obey our authorities as long as they are not going against God’s Word—which is one big reason we need to know what God’s Word says!”

**Wrap Up**

“Next time you’re in the cold without your gloves on remember that, just like your gloves, people in authority are there to protect you. And when you do not honor them you are disobeying God and are most likely putting yourself in a dangerous or painful position.”