

Use The Scene to introduce “Rebel or Respect?”, the High School Sunday school lesson for November 23, 2014. The lesson is found on page 77 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

His name is Matt Basile, but he is known in Canadian cities as Fidel Gastro. His career can be summed up by the name of his TV reality show, *Rebel Without a Kitchen*.

Food was always a huge part of Matt’s life. As a child Matt would watch his Italian grandparents cure meat and make bread from scratch. As a teen he worked in butcher shops, and he cooked a lot as a college student. Nevertheless, he did not see himself going into the restaurant business.

“I knew I definitely loved food,” says Matt, “but I never wanted to work as a line cook in somebody else’s restaurant.” He considered going to culinary school to become a trained chef, but he opted to go into advertising instead.

While Matt was working as an advertising copywriter, his boss encouraged him to cook part-time. Matt started cooking in pop-ups (temporary restaurants) at Toronto street fairs and other events. In this underground food venue, Matt developed Canadian-style Cuban fare he calls Extremo Sandwiches. Because of his unorthodox approach to food service, he adopted an identity that was a play on the name of the notorious Cuban revolutionary and dictator.

“Fidel is my alter ego,” Matt jokes. “He’s the guy behind the street food revolution in Toronto. He’s loud, energetic. Someone once said he’s the DJ of sandwiches! He’s a pretty cool guy, you should meet him.”

The success of his reality show on the Travel Network has allowed Matt to sample street food in other cities in North America. “My goal is to really learn about the street food of North American cities and then do my own take of that food,” says Matt.

Street food makes the most sense for Matt since he never went to culinary school. He sees operating out of food trucks and pop-ups as the perfect platform to blend family recipes with other street food ideas.

“I don’t even consider myself a chef—I specifically call myself the ‘rebel without a kitchen’ just because I never was trained,” he explains.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:

Explain why Matt sees himself as a rebel. Think of some products that use the word *rebel* in their names. (Ex: Honda Rebel motorcycle) What does the name communicate about a product? Are there certain products for which *rebel* would not be a good name?

Think of a time that you rebelled against authority. What did you do, and why did you do it? If you had to do it over again, would you? Why or why not? Do you see a difference in being labeled a rebel and just being called rebellious? Explain.

Some tend to glamorize the idea of being a rebel. The word seems to communicate the idea of originality and creativity. But while some rules may be made to be broken to inspire ingenuity, do we really want to be known as being rebellious? Let’s see what the Bible says.



MEETING GOD FACE-TO-FACE

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