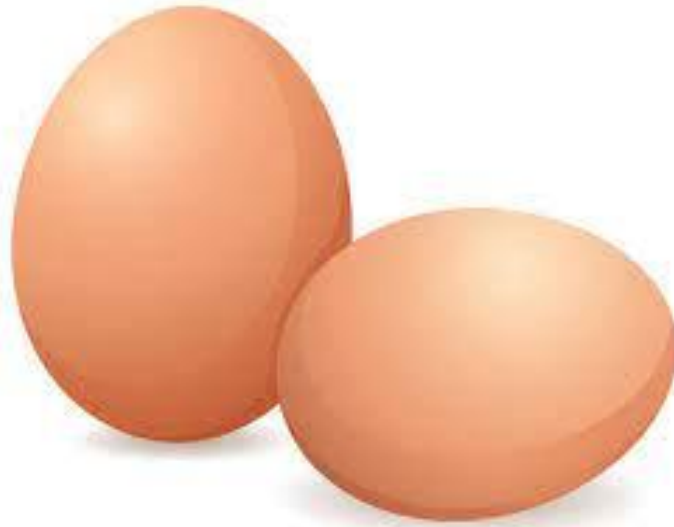


# What values can I learn from an EGG?



Like the shell of an egg, values keep our caring hearts and feelings safe.

Ask an adult to put a whole, raw chicken egg in a glass bottle with white vinegar. Keep an eye on this egg and see what happens. After two weeks, the egg will become really big. Ask someone to help you take the egg out. What has happened? The hard shell of the egg has become soft. The egg is no longer safe in its shell. Would someone want to eat that egg?

Values are like the eggshell. They keep our tender hearts and insides safe. This shell also makes us look beautiful. If we live with bad values and manners, it eats away at our shell like the vinegar ate away at the eggshell. For this reason, we really want to learn how we can live with beautiful and good values. We are going to give a colour to each value to make it easier for you to remember.

## Respect – like gold

Gold is very expensive. It is also very special. People wear golden rings and this makes them feel special. God also told us that we are special, because we take after God. Like a mirror, we reflect God's image in our lives. Therefore, people recognise God in our lives (Genesis 1:27). We know that God is very special, therefore we speak nicely to God, with great respect. We want other people to speak nicely to us, with respect. So, we should also respect others. God has told us that we must deal kindly with others, just as we would want them to deal with us (Matthew 7:12). We must treat them, and ourselves, like gold, because we are all very special.

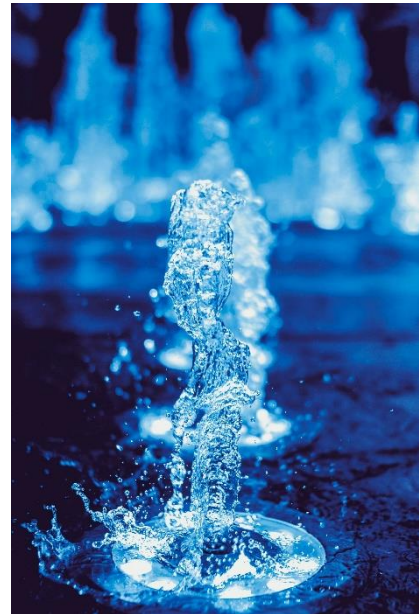


To treat others and ourselves like gold means:

- That we must care for our bodies and not talk badly about ourselves – we must respect ourselves. Every one of us is very special – we are worth more than gold.
- That we do not hurt others with our words, or hit or kick them – we must treat others with respect.
- That we speak kindly to adults and teachers.
- You also do not take something that is not yours, because then you do not have respect for the one it belongs to.
- We do not speak in a mean way or do mean things to people just because they are different from us.
- When we talk about God, or talk to God, we do it with great respect.

## Reliable – like clear-blue sparkling water

We can see through water. Water does not conceal anything. So, we think of water as something which we can trust. In 2 Corinthians 8:21 we read: “For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man”. We want to live in such a way that we live righteously before the Lord and other people.



People must also be able to rely on us.

- People trust us when we speak the truth and do not tell lies. Sometimes we lie because we are afraid that we will get into trouble. Even then, we must still tell the truth.
- When someone tells us a secret, they trust us not to tell it to others. But if the secret scares you or makes you sad, tell it to someone you trust. For example, it is not a good secret if someone touches the private parts of your body and asks you to keep it a secret.
- People trust us to be on time for school. They trust us to do our homework. When we say that we will do something, we should do it.

## Responsibility – like green grass



When we go outside and see how beautifully green the grass and trees are, we enjoy it. Everyone likes to sit beneath a beautiful green tree when it is hot in summertime. If we do not take care of the trees, or if we break off the branches, all the green leaves will fall to the ground and then the tree will no longer be beautiful. Therefore, we must take care of the nature around us. We must act responsibly. If we do not take care of it, then we have to admit that it is our fault when the tree dies or becomes

ugly. In Romans 12:14, we read: “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse”. We will all one day have to account for our own actions before God.

We are acting responsibly when we:

- Do not run away when we have done something wrong.
- Do not do something which is wrong just because our friends and other people are doing it.
- Listen to the Bible or decide with people who truly love us (our parents, grandma or grandpa or teacher) whether something is right or wrong.
- Think or dream about the future. We save money for food, clothing and school fees, and we do not use the money on ourselves immediately after we get it.

## Fairness like an orange

If we are many kids who have to share a fruit, we would rather like to share an orange. Nobody wants to get the smallest piece, and the slices of an orange are all the same size. In the Bible, we are told that God is a righteous God who loves people who live righteously (Psalm 11:7). This means that we walk the right path because it pleases the heart of God and that he loves us.



To treat people fairly means:

- When we share, we do not grab the largest share.
- We listen to every person, because everyone can have something to say which we can learn from.
- We do not just take something which does not belong to us.
- We do not act like one person is more important than another.

## Love like red hearts



We all like to know that someone loves us. Love is important in the Bible too. Romans 13:8-10 tells us that to love is the most important value to have in our lives. Everything that we do, we must do with love. Christ came to teach us what love is; he came to show us God's loving heart. When Jesus came to die in our place on the cross for our sins, he came to show us how much God really loves us. So, we can also love others, just as we love ourselves.

To love other people means:

- That we care for adults and teachers and listen to them.
- That we care for our family and animals and friends and that we do not hurt them.
- That we care for our own bodies and do not allow others to hurt our bodies. If it does happen, we must tell someone about it.
- We must love ourselves and not hurt ourselves by drinking or using drugs.

## Citizenship – like a purple coat

Kings always wore purple coats. This made them very important. These purple coats also showed that the kings cared for their country and the people of their country. Jesus is our king and just like he loves us and cares for us, we must also love one another. The Lord would like us to live in a safe and clean country, where everyone is happy and at peace with one another. In Zechariah 8:4, we read about what such a country, for which we must all work together, would



look like: “Once again men and women of ripe old age will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each of them with cane in hand because of their age. The city streets will be filled with boys and girls playing there.” When we belong to King Jesus, and we do as he asks, he will help us to live in such a country again, where there is peace and people are happy.

People who care for their country:

- Listen to the laws and obey what they say.
- Give back to their environment by working without payment and making life better for other people.
- Listen to people of authority, such as the police, headmaster, teachers, parents, or class captain.
- Take care of nature and pick up papers and trash to throw it in a trashcan.

