

## 1. Christian Values

Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always. (Deuteronomy 11:1 NIV)

**G**od has given us instructions in his Word about how we should live and what we should say and what we should think. We are sinful when we are born and we do, say and think things that are wrong every day. But the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God came to this earth to save us from our sins.

Through his death we have forgiveness for sins. He lived the perfect life that we find impossible. Yet by his grace our lives can be changed and with his help we can try to live in a way that is pleasing to God. When we fail, the Lord is willing to forgive, if we come to him and ask for forgiveness.

## 2. Admit You are Wrong

Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another. (James 5:16)



**W**hen we do something wrong, we sometimes try to cover it up or to make excuses and blame someone else. The right thing to do is to admit that we are wrong and to say sorry. It is most important that we admit our sins to God and say sorry to him.

Jesus told a story about a son who left home and behaved badly. When he came to his senses and his need was great, he decided to go back home and tell his father he had sinned. The father welcomed him with open arms. This story shows how God welcomes sinners to himself.

## 3. Appreciation of Others

Outdo one another in showing honour. (Romans 12:10)

**H**ow often we say “Me first!” We want the first turn, the best seat or the biggest piece of cake. God tells us to think and act differently. You ought to think of: Jesus – first, Others – next, Yourself – last

If you have Jesus, Others, Yourself in that order – that spells JOY.

## 4. Care about Speech

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 4:29)



**C**areless talk can get you into trouble. Gossip or unkind remarks can hurt another person deeply. It is good to stop and think before we speak about somebody. Ask these questions to yourself. Is it true? Is it necessary?

God hears every word. Make sure that what you say is true, kind, pure and wholesome. Jesus warned us that we will have to give an account of every idle word, in the day of judgement (Matthew 12:36).

Our words indicate the state of our heart. Evil words come from an evil heart. Good words should come from a heart changed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

## 5. Confidence in God

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5, 6)

**G**od is in control and does everything well. Even when life is tough and things seem to be going wrong, God understands. When we trust in our own abilities we will make big mistakes.

Peter the disciple boasted that he would never deny the Lord Jesus, but he failed miserably. He was trusting in himself at that point rather than in God.

God has promised guidance and direction when we commit everything to him. Jesus encouraged his followers to believe God and trust in him. “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me,” he said (John 14:1).

## 6. Contentment

Godliness with contentment is great gain. (1 Timothy 6:6)

Be content with what you have. (Hebrews 13:5)

**S**ometimes we can be so unhappy because we wish we were better looking, or more clever or had more money. God tells us that it is a great blessing to be content with what we have. Happiness does not depend on things or circumstances. True happiness is from God.

Paul, who had many hardships in his life, could say that he had learned to be content in any situation (Philippians 4:11). We should pray that we would learn to be content too.



## 7. Forgiveness

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32)

**I**f someone does something hurtful or makes an unkind remark about you, how do you react? Do you want to get your own back? Perhaps say or do something unkind too?

God tells us to be forgiving, remembering that we also do and say what is wrong. We need forgiveness from God through Jesus Christ and so we ought to give forgiveness to others through Jesus Christ.

Ask God to help you to show forgiveness. Jesus himself prayed for those who were nailing him to the cross. “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34 NIV).

## QUESTION, ANSWER AND MEMORY

1. Who made you?

God. (Genesis 1:27)

2. Why did God make you?

To glorify him and enjoy him. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

3. What else did God make?

God made all things. (Genesis 1:31)

MEMORY VERSE 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1) Everything in this universe was made by God. He had no beginning and will have no end – He is eternal. He is worthy of our praise and honour.