

The Values We Hope To Pass To Our Children

This worksheet will take some time and thought on your part. It should be completed separately by each spouse if you are married. By adding a comment after each value you select, you will clarify how you define the value for you personally. This will become your “true north” when faced with decisions throughout the planning process.

Our “legacy” is not simply the money we leave to nonprofit organizations in our community. We believe that our greatest legacy is our children and the impact that they will have on making this world a better place to live. Through both example and effort we have made in the past—and will make during our family meetings—we hope to pass on our values.

List three or four of the following values that are important to you, prioritize them, and write your comments describing how you interpret each value and/or how you want your children to live them out. Ideally, if you are married, you will mutually agree on your joint values.

VALUES

Abundance
Acceptance
Accountability
Achievement
Appreciation
Commitment
Compassion
Competence
Contribution
Courage
Dependability
Determination
Discipline
Education
Empathy
Ethics
Excellence
Fairness
Faith
Financial Independence
Fitness
Forgiveness
Frugality
Generosity
Gratitude
Health
Honesty
Honor
Humility
Independence
Integrity
Intelligence
Involvement
Justice
Kindness

Knowledge
Leadership
Love
Loyalty
Modesty
Patience
Perseverance
Pride
Productivity
Recognition
Respect
Responsibility
Restraint
Sacrifice
Self-Control
Self-Reliance
Self-Respect
Sharing
Success
Trustworthiness
Wisdom

Some examples:

VALUE	YOUR COMMENTS
Hard work	Hard work is a gift. It builds self-esteem and self-reliance.
Integrity	We want our children to always “do the right thing.” Especially when no one is watching.
Gratitude	We have been given many blessings. We must be thankful through our words and actions.
Modesty	Each of us is equal in God’s eyes. Be humble.

VALUE	YOUR COMMENTS
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____