



What does it mean?

Must be performed means must be done.
Radiance here means shining with happiness.
Offering means giving something with love and devotion.
Utmost here means the greatest possible.
Permissible means allowed.



Fill in the missing words:

“Every must be performed in a spirit of
 and If a person is willing to make his
 with utmost, its acceptance is”





1. How should every deed be performed? (See lines 1 & 2 of quotation)
2. When is our offering of Huqúqu'lláh accepted? (See lines 2,3 & 4 of quotation).
3. If we are not happy and willing to give Huqúqu'lláh, is our offering accepted by God?
4. How would you feel if someone gave you a present and grumbled about giving it?
How would you feel if someone was pleased and happy to give you a present?
Which way is best?

5. Here is a game you can play

Use sweets if possible (or counters, or some coloured pieces of paper) as your "treasure".

Taking turns, give some to your teacher.

If your teacher returns your "treasure" to you, try to guess why! (If you know the secret from the beginning, don't tell the others till the end of the game).



A Gift for a King

Fernando woke up one morning feeling very happy. The sun was shining and the trees on his farm were full of figs. Fernando was very poor and he had many children to feed, but he was content and he sang all day as he worked among his fig trees.



"Now the figs are ripe," Fernando said to his wife, "I must pick them and take them to the market to sell."

As he was picking the figs, he noticed something very unusual. Figs usually grow singly on the twigs, but Fernando was surprised to see three large, sweet figs all growing on one twig. "I have never seen such a thing," thought Fernando. "Nor have I ever seen such large, juicy figs. Wouldn't it be wonderful to take such a rare and unusual gift to the King?"

He carefully cut off the bit of twig with the figs. His wife made a small basket out of reeds and placed some fresh green leaves in the bottom. Then Fernando laid the figs in the basket and began to walk the many miles to the palace of the King.

It was a very long way but when night came Fernando continued to walk. In the dark he tripped over a stone and one of the figs fell out of the basket and was lost. He was very upset. Now he would only have two figs to give to the King. But he walked on, all through the next day and through the next night. Then, to his dismay, because he was so tired, he tripped again in the dark and another fig fell out and was lost. Now he only had one fig left. Fernando was very sad, and he wondered if he should return home. "Maybe," he thought, "my gift is not really good enough." However, he loved the King so much he decided to continue his journey until he reached the palace.

When he arrived, he told the guard at the gate that he would like to see the King. The guard told him to wait. Fernando happily sat at the palace gate for a long time until eventually the guard came back and took him into the palace.

Fernando explained to the King what had happened to the other two figs, but the King was delighted with the one that was still in the basket. He was so pleased that he filled Fernando's little basket with gold. Fernando had not expected to be given anything, and his heart was full of happiness.

Now Fernando had a neighbour, called Antonio. Antonio had a large farm and was very rich and greedy. When he heard about the figs and the basket of gold, he filled up a whole wheelbarrow with figs and took it to the King, hoping that the King would fill it up with gold in return. When he arrived at the palace the guard told him to wait. But Antonio was impatient. He did not like to be kept waiting. He jumped up and down, demanding that he be taken to the King immediately.

At last Antonio was taken into the palace and he offered the barrow full of figs to the King. But the King refused to take them. He told Antonio to go back home and take all his figs with him.

As Antonio ran away from the palace, he was puzzled. He could not understand why the King had refused to accept the barrow full of figs he had brought, yet had been so pleased with Fernando who had only given him one.

(Adapted from a folk tale)

