

UZIMA

THE GIFT OF A CHICKEN



THE EGG-ONOMICS OF CHICKENS

In Kenya, almost 75% of the population makes their living by farming and most by **subsistence farming**, or *growing just enough to feed their family*. This makes it hard to *also* have things like medicine or school books or a pair of shoes. And, if the weather is bad and crops fail, then there isn't even enough food to eat.

For subsistence farmers, **a chicken is tool. If they use it right, they can make better nutrition, extra income, and stability for their family.** You see, a chicken egg provides extra protein and nutrients and, when a farmer has extra eggs or when their chicken has babies, they can sell those to make money for things like school books. When families are healthier, they can work harder. When children have school books, they can learn more.

Does that sound like a lot from just one chicken? Well, the EGG-onomics of chickens is pretty impressive. Do some math: if one chicken lays 300 eggs in a year and one third hatch and grow up to be a chicken, how many chickens would a farmer have at the end of the year? See how one chicken can become LOTS of chickens very quickly?

Other useful things? Chickens can eat almost anything -- grass, bugs, fruit, vegetables, worms, MICE! They require little attention and help keep gardens healthy by eating bugs. And, their droppings make plants stronger and more nutritious!

When World Renew gives someone the "tool" of a chicken, we show them how to use it too, how to care for chickens and how to successfully sell eggs or chicks. We teach farmers about using chicken droppings as fertilizer and even teach farmers how to train their friends. **Can you see the eGGS-ponential EGG-fects of a chicken now?**

FUN FACTS ABOUT CHICKENS

- **CHICKENS HAVE GREAT MEMORIES AND CAN RECOGNIZE UP TO 100 FACES**
- **CHICKEN EGGS AREN'T JUST WHITE -- SOME HENS LAY BLUE, CHOCOLATE BROWN, OLIVE GREEN, AND EVEN PINK EGGS!**
- **THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF CHICKEN BREEDS INCLUDING THE DORKING, THE SCOTS DUMPY, THE TRANSYLVANIA NAKED-NECK, AND THE LIMOUSINE. WE'RE NOT MAKING THOSE UP!**



A CHICKEN EGG PROVIDES A PERFECT PROTEIN FOR A HUNGRY CHILD.



CHEEP GRACE

In his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer made famous the term "**cheap grace**" in reference to the preaching of forgiveness without repentance. He contrasted grace without discipleship or the cross or Jesus to "costly grace" -- the grace that "confronts as a gracious call to follow Jesus Christ," to repent and submit to Him.

For those who haven't repented or submitted, the cost can seem overwhelming. But we are told conclusively in the Bible that His "yoke is easy, His burden light" and those who have answered that gracious call testify to the terrible power of true grace, a gift beyond compare.

Caring for those in need around the world can present a similar tension, one famously expressed in the old adage "if you give a gal a fish, she'll eat for a day; if you teach a gal to fish, she'll eat forever." A "cheap" way to address poverty and suffering is to offer someone a fish. Or, in this case, a chicken.

But if we have accepted the yoke of Christ, **we know that He calls us to ensure abundant life not just for our own but all His people**. And, in the work of development in which World Renew engages, this means *we don't just send a chicken*. We work with those in need to determine if a chicken is best and, if it is, we teach them how to care for a chicken, and we walk alongside them as they become chicken farmers, ensuring not just an egg for one day, but nutrition and income and independence. **Abundance**.



FOWL PLAY

Add some EGG-citement to your lesson...

There are hundreds of versions of the **old folk tale The Little Red Hen**, popular for its moral of hard work. Reading it offers a great opportunity for kids to think about **how its message contrasts with the message of Christ**. An excellent book for reading side-by-side with *The Little Red Hen* that can encourage children to explore that comparison is *Mama Panya's Pancakes* by Mary and Rich Chamberlin.

3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070 STN LCD 1
Burlington ON L7R 3Y8
800-730-3490

1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids MI 49508-1407
800-552-7972
worldrenew.net

HOW MANY CHICKENS CAN YOU GIVE?

At \$3 each, a chicken is an easy way to introduce little ones to giving!

Here's an easy way to get your congregation EGGcited about chickens: have your kids write Bible verses or messages of love and support onto slips of paper and then put them in plastic Easter eggs. You can hold **an Egg Sale** during church coffee hour and, for added incentive, fill a few with a little something extra -- like a coupon for homemade cookies next Sunday or free valet parking for a month of Sundays. At \$1/egg, you'll soon have enough for a flock! (hint: plastic eggs are cheap on Amazon but even "cheaper" if you ask people to donate them)

Who made up the "messier-is-always-better" rule for Youth Group activities? Want to get the kids worked up? Set a goal and promise them that, if they reach it, you'll **let them throw eggs** at you. Hint: set the goal HIGH.

Schools might consider hosting a **Chicken Run** where kids are sponsored by the lap by friends and family. If you hold it during recess, this low-impact activity lets kids blow off their EGGstra energy.

For more ideas, visit
www.worldrenew.net/kidsfundraisingideas



If you have budding comedians or witty wordsmiths in your class, a **Why Did The Chicken Cross The Road? joke contest** is an EGGcellent way to play with words and get everyone laughing.

Want to really let your kids EGGxert themselves? Try an **egg-and-spoon race** -- a great activity for middle and high school youth groups.