



## Our Core Values

Our Core Values are both actual and aspirational. We seek to see these lived out through our people and our ministry; and continually try to grow and improve in expressing these values.

### **Biblical Truth**

We value the Bible in its totality for it reveals clear truth regarding the character, nature and intentions of God. There is no other person we must know and be made right with more than God. Since the Old Testament points to the Gospel, and the New Testament reveals and explains the Gospel, we affirm both the Old and New Testament as God-breathed and necessary for our enjoyment of God. We further value both propositions (statements of truth) and a Person (who embodies truth). Truth is both for the head and the heart. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 14:6)

### **Transformational Teaching**

The Gospel transforms an individual and the church. Our teaching therefore must be Gospel-Centered, with an aim of transformation of a person into Christ-likeness. While we appreciate the biblical knowledge that can be gained from bible study, we value application and implementation of that knowledge which results in life-change. (James 1:19-27)

### **Ministry Courage**

We value the fact that God calls us to take great risks in ministry ventures as we seek to proclaim His Gospel to our world. We further understand that ministry courage is not something that can be manufactured apart from the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 4)

### **Biblical Community**

We define biblical community as "Living life together in the light of God." Due to this definition, we desire to see a group of people being transparent, vulnerable, and authentic about who they are and where they are in their relationship with Jesus and with others; a people not afraid of challenge and accountability-but rather desiring it. Biblical community is seen through a people who have been and are being transformed by the power of the Gospel and are embodying the Gospel as they live life together. (Acts 2:42-47, 1 Corinthians 12)

### **Focused Excellence**

If our purpose is to glorify God, then we as Christ-followers should aim to do the best we can with what God has given us. We reject the aim of being the "best" or trying to outdo other churches. However, we aim to do everything with excellence to honor, please and glorify God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

### **Missional Living**

We value seeing all of our life as being on mission with God, i.e. showing and sharing the Gospel. In essence, we don't just "go on mission trips" as much as the whole of our lives being a mission trip, with all of us being missionaries. Since we are God's unique work, we value working out what God has worked in us with the totality of our lives. God has placed us in this time, in this city for His purposes and under His direction. (Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 2:8-10)

### **Serving People**

Since we desire to be Christ-like and display Him, we seek to be His hands and feet to people all over our world. If Christ loves people we must love people. We don't wish to make the world just a nicer place before people go to hell, but we wish to display God's generosity in the gospel through tangible acts of kindness and service to people that highlights the gospel to the world. (Matthew 20:28-9, Titus 2:10)

### **Intentional Disciple-Making**

We believe that discipleship leading to maturity happens on purpose. We value helping people grow through intentional, sequential discipleship methods that root them in the Gospel, and equip them to serve others using their spiritual gifts to build up the church and change the world. (Matthew 28:18-20)

### **Kingdom Partnerships**

We value partnering with other churches for the sake of the Gospel in community, city, and global ministry ventures. Partnering allows us to leverage resources, ideas, and prayer for the mutual strengthening of churches as we seek to advance the cause of Christ in our area.

### **Cultural Engagement**

We define culture as "a place in which we live that shapes how we think and live." We value saturating our area with the Gospel in a language that is understandable to our various cultures. We seek to engage and change our culture through the contextualization and content of the Gospel. (1 Corinthians 9, Acts 17)

### **Prayerful Dependence**

We value a posture of dependence on God for all of our needs; both individually and corporately. We further believe that all ministry ventures should and must begin with prayer as we humble ourselves before the mighty hand of God. Since God has graciously met our deepest need (being made right with Him through Jesus Christ) we can approach Him with humble confidence to hear our prayers and answer them as He sees fit. (2 Chronicles 20; [Acts 4:31](#))

### **Godly Generosity**

We value the generosity that God has displayed through the Gospel. Therefore, we want to be like Him in the way we treat our resources. Having freely received, freely giving our time, our talent, and our treasure to further the great cause of the Gospel around our world. (2 Corinthians 8-9)