

OUR CORE VALUES

We Value:

- **The Bible as God's inspired Word and accept its authority**

We value the Word of God and accept it as the complete authority in the Church and our personal lives. The Bible is inerrant and relevant to all issues. It should be the center of church teaching, training, and counseling.

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness
2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

- **Christ centered homes**

We value the home as the center of our family lives where Christ is demonstrated in Biblical marriages as well as purity in singleness. It is where the mother and father are honored, the children are loved and encouraged to grow in the strength and stature of the Lord, and each person seeks to serve the Lord. The home is where everyone learns about walking daily with Christ, and the church is responsible for equipping and supporting parents, young adults, and children under the authority and protection of the church family through Christ.

Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deuteronomy 11:19 (NIV)

But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 5:33-6:4 (NIV)

- **Evangelism as an act of love and obedience to Jesus Christ**

We value sharing the good news of what God had done for us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Sharing the truth of salvation and our personal testimonies to others, both saved and lost, is one of the greatest ways to love and obey our Lord. Establishing new believers in the word is part of the sharing process. Evangelism is the overflowing of our abundant life with Christ onto others. It is done in love by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

2 Timothy 4:2 (NIV)

- **Authentic and loving relationships that encourage one another**

We value relationships within the church and in the community which serve as the primary means to love and encourage each other. Relationships are the glue which bonds our hearts in love and can build a bridge of sharing and openness to others. Strong relationships breed a spirit of accountability and discipleship among individuals and groups. Christ was the ultimate example of using relationships for demonstrating truth, love, and encouragement.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35 (NIV)

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

- **Prayer as vital to growth and connection to God**

We value the power of prayer as the means to connect to God in the act of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and specific requests. Praying as a family and a congregation builds unity in the body and helps us see what God is doing in our midst. Individual prayer enables us to come before the Father of the universe, honor His name, and be still in His presence in order to

discern His will and direction in our lives. Praying for the ministry, outreach, and the leadership of the church should take place on a continual basis.

"This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name
Matthew 6:9 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

Matthew 21:22 (NIV)

- **God given gifts/talents/skills and their use in building the kingdom**

We value people and their individual gifts. The gifts given to us by the Father are all used within the church body for the building of the kingdom here on earth. These gifts are developed through the work of the church ministries and the encouragement and fostering of fellow believers. The different gifts provide diversity of talents and skills, but are given by the same Spirit to work in harmony. We should know each other by our God-given gifts, talents, and skills.

¹Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. ²You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.^[b] ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by^[c] one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

¹⁴Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

21The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

27Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 28And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. 29Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues[d]? Do all interpret? 31But eagerly desire[e] the greater gifts.

And now I will show you the most excellent way.

1 Corinthians 12 (NIV)

So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.

1 Corinthians 14:12 (NIV)

- **Stewardship as our testimony that all belongs to God**

We value giving. We cannot out-give God. Giving, or stewardship, is taking care of what God has given us and using it to advance His kingdom. Honoring the Lord with our wealth means giving back the first of all our fruits for meeting the needs of ministries, benevolence, and missions. Stewardship is not just about money. It is the wise use of our God-given time, talents, and treasures both individually and corporately.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

Psalm 24:1 (NIV)

Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

Luke 16:10 (NIV)

The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

Acts 17:24-25 (NIV)

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)