

Core Values

Gospel, Community, & Mission

Gospel

The Gospel is broadly defined as the Good News of God's plan for reconciling all things unto Himself (2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Colossians 1:20), redemption through faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), and the restoration of all things heaven and earth that were lost in the Fall (Genesis 3; Revelation 21:1ff). This message is one that we proclaim, meaning, we must actually verbally share the message of God's salvation with people as the Holy Spirit leads us in relationships and conversations. This is also a message that we embody. Meaning, not only does the Gospel have the power to save us by simply hearing the message (Romans 10:17), but it also has the power to continue to change us into the image of our Savior as we continue to worship Him and destroy other idols that beg for our worship (Romans 8:29; Philippians 1:6). This message certainly saves us and continues to save us, but we must also recognize that embodying the message means, along with proclaiming the Gospel to people, we will also display holiness and hospitality to people in such a way that is in line with our message. The message we say and the message our actions send need to be in line with the Gospel. Are we preaching that God wants a relationship with others, that He loves them? Then, our actions should reinforce that by building relationships with people and tangibly displaying God's love to them through various acts of good works. Of course, proclaiming and embodying the Gospel will take on multiple forms as we yield to the Holy Spirit's leading in our lives and relationships.

Community

We are the body of Christ created in the image of God who exists in community (Gen. 1:26,27). The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have eternally existed in relationship with one another as one God in three persons (John 1). God is a relational being who created us as relational beings so that we could image Him (Gen. 1:26). As a community, this means that our behavior towards one another reflects a true understanding of God. In God, there is unity, equality, and submission (among other things). As a church and as a Community Group we are called to reflect His transformative power among us which makes us different but unified; It makes us equal but submissive to each other and to the leadership God has appointed in our midst. This certainly means: loving one another, forgiving one another as Christ forgave us, calling one another to confession and repentance for the purpose of reconciliation, and calling one another to lives that glorify God (Heb 10:24-26, 2 Cor. 5:18).



Mission

We are missionaries created in the image of a sent and sending God. God sent His son Jesus into human history to reconcile us to himself (John 1:14). God is in the business of gathering more worshipers to Himself. As his Disciples, our mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus so that more image bearers would come to a saving faith and give glory to God (1 Peter 2:12). As a community, we are called to live lives together that reflect God's glory, showing the world around us the saving, transforming love and power of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, we are called to live our lives intentionally and missionally, loving one another, and engaging with and loving our neighbors. We do this because we are commanded to (Matt 28:19, Luke 10:27, Jer. 29:5) and so that hopefully, our neighbors will see the glory of God being lived out in our lives, stirring their hearts so that they will answer God's call to their own salvation (2 Peter 3:9).

