

Our Core Values

Our decisions and actions are shaped by three core values:

Every Person Matters to Us Because Every Life Matters to God

- Every person is created in the image of God and is of sacred worth.
So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1.27 NIV
- God's grace is available to everyone and is continually at work in our lives.
The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 Pet 3.9 NIV
For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8.38-39 NIV
- We commit ourselves to be in ministry with and for all persons.
We who are strong [in faith] must be considerate of those who are sensitive about things like this. We must not just please ourselves. We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. For even Christ didn't live to please himself. As the Scriptures say, "The insults of those who insult you, O God, have fallen on me." Romans 15.1-3 NLT

God Shapes Us through Scripture

- The scriptures are God's inspired Word and is the primary source and criterion for our faith.
The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever. Isaiah 40.8 NIV
- As we open our minds and hearts to the Word of God faith is born, our understanding of God and self is deepened, and we discover God's call to join Him in redeeming the world.
"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5.17-19 NIV
- The scriptures are God's living Word as the Holy Spirit reveals to us all things necessary for salvation and growing in our faith in Christ.

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2.13 NIV

God Gives Us a Resilient Faith

- Like the early Christians show us, it is possible to remain strong in our faith without being isolated from or giving into the prevailing culture.

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you.

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15.58 NIV

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6.10-11 NIV

- We seek to make disciples who stand firm in their faith through the various phases of life and the storms of life

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.

Philippians 1.27-28a NIV

- Faith is strongest when it is built in Christ-centered community and shared in life.

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5.13-16 NIV