

# The 7 Core Values of our Church



# 7 CORE VALUES of Our Church

**train yourself to be godly. physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.**

**1 Timothy 4:7-8**

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## 7 CORE VALUES of Our Church

# 1. GO

## OUT WITH A PLAN

The follower of Jesus has an outward focus. We are to live our lives in a way that our friends, family, teachers, teammates and even strangers can see Jesus in us. Our lives should make people want to hear about this Jesus guy. We are to be involved in helping others become followers of Jesus.

*“You are the light of the world-like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts in under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”*

Matthew 5:14-16

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## How can I grow in this value?

- ❑ Spend time thinking about how your life reflects Jesus.
- ❑ What are ways you can love others, meet a need, say a kind word, encourage someone, build someone up, and lend a helping hand without expecting a reward?
- ❑ Before people become followers of Jesus, they first see Jesus in others. How can you show others Jesus as you go out into this world?

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# 2. GROW UP INTENTIONALLY

PHYSICAL growth happens automatically but SPIRITUAL growth must be intentional. Spiritual growth is a combination of knowing the Bible and doing what it says. It is a commitment to understanding more truth and the application of truth to your personal life. Spiritual maturity is a reflection of how much you FOLLOW not how much you KNOW. As we depend on God for increased understanding of truth and His power to help us obey, the mystery of spiritual growth takes place. He causes the growth in us.

*This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.*

Ephesians 4:13

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## How can I grow in this value?

- ❑ Develop the habit of reading the Bible every day. Get the YouVersion Bible on your phone and begin a reading plan. Did you know each series we teach in FSM has a Bible plan that goes with it?
- ❑ Attend Youth Group and church on Sundays to increase your knowledge of the Bible
- ❑ Always attend with the intention to do what you're being taught
- ❑ Ask God as you read and as you attend how He wants you to live out what you learned

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# 3. GIVE

## GENEROUS CONSISTENTLY

Giving money is a characteristic of every follower of Jesus. Generosity is more a reflection of our heart and character than the amount we give. Without generosity, our hearts will serve another master besides Jesus. Our loyalties become divided and we serve material things. Therefore, we grow in a lifestyle of consistent giving to our local church to walk in obedience and further advance the Kingdom mission.

*Remember this-a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

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## How can I grow in this value?

- Begin the habit of giving each month
- Make the habit easy – through giving online, or utilize the giving boxes at entrance of FSM or the back of the church auditorium
- Be consistent with your giving but also let it grow over time
- Trust God by allowing it to grow to 10% of your income. The word tithe means 10%. Watch God's provision as you trust Him with generosity
- Listen for God's prompts on your heart to give at other times

# 4. WORSHIP

## GOD PASSIONATELY

To worship God is to love Him. To worship God passionately is to love God passionately. Worship is not just singing songs. Worship is a heart issue. The songs we sing are simply a reflection of our heart. We worship God when we sing; we worship God when we serve others; we worship God when we enjoy nature; we worship God when we love our family; and, we worship God when we follow Him in obedience. Worship (love) is a lifestyle.

*But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. John 4:23*

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## How can I grow in this value?

- Tell God you love Him every day
- Thank God for specific ways you see Him work and for the blessings in your life
- Thank Him for the beauty of nature, for your family and the joy of serving others
- Worship Him in song whether it is during youth group or at a church service or worship songs you listen to on your own. Reflect and worship God for the truth you sing

# 5. WORK

## WILLINGLY

Doing work in the Kingdom of God should be a fun experience done with excitement. Every follower of Jesus is uniquely gifted and shaped to serve. When we do work that matches our gifting and our design, it's natural to serve with excitement. As every person does their work, the influence of the church in our world is multiplied and the Kingdom of God advances.

*So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15:58*

*A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. 1 Corinthians 12:7*

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## How can I grow in this value?

- Get involved in one of the many ways to serve at Foothills...Kids Church, Middle School (High Schoolers only), or on the tech and worship teams.
- Ask your small group leader or youth pastor what gifts they see in you and for potential places to serve
- Keep experimenting with different ways to serve until you find something that lights up your enthusiasm

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# 6. LOVE

## OTHERS RECKLESSLY

The love described in God's word is reckless. God's love for us was so reckless He became man and died on a cross for us. As His followers, we are to love others as He loved us. This means love is at times sacrificial, others oriented and radically different than the world. Love is the distinguishing characteristic of followers of Jesus.

*"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35*

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## How can I grow in this value?

- Consider who you need to forgive and don't allow bitterness to grow in your heart. Unforgiveness kills love in our hearts
- Evaluate how you talk about people. Are there unloving habits you need to remove from your life such as gossip, bullying, joking and unloving social media posts?
- Who can you love recklessly? Who has God put around you who desperately needs to see God's unconditional love? What loving things can you do to show them?

# 7. PRAY

## ALWAYS PERSISTENTLY

Prayer for the follower of Jesus is a lifestyle, not a duty. Persisting in prayer is our ongoing dialogue with God throughout our day. We persist in prayer regardless of our circumstances or agendas. This commitment to pray grows our awareness of His presence with us and deepens our dependence on Him.

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. Ephesians 6:18*

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## How can I grow in this value?

- Start your day with prayer. Set aside a specific time each day
- Confess your struggle with sin daily. Daily ask and receive His forgiveness
- Create reminders on your phone with prayer prompts to remind you to pray during the day
- Learn to see emotional reactions like stress, fear, and even anger, as prompts to pray

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