

CORE VALUES

The Things We Really Believe Are Important

Discussion Guide
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Sermon Title

“Our Church Values”

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Introduction: We have just concluded a short series of study examining the various analogies used in the New Testament to describe the nature of The Church. But what about our own local congregation? What are we like? What do we value and what is our particular mission? These are the questions I hope to answer in the next few messages.

Sermon Outline

- I. **The Public Worship Gathering**
 - A. Celebration—we come worshipping
 - B. Focusing on the Lordship of Jesus Christ
 - C. Recognizing cultural diversity
- II. **Preaching & Teaching the Word of God**
 - A. Public proclamation of the truth of Scripture
 - B. Teaching the Bible throughout our gatherings
 - C. Focusing on the centrality of Jesus Christ throughout the Scriptures
- III. **Fellowship & Communion of Believers**
 - A. Building up one another in love
 - B. Recognizing the value of small groups
 - C. Encouraging *koinonia*, **prayer**, and discipleship
- IV. **Loving People in Practical Ways While Pointing Them to Jesus**
 - A. Manna ministry
 - B. Children’s and Youth Ministries
 - C. Operation Love
- V. **Obedying the Great Commission**
 - A. Recognizing the call to pray, go, and give in obedience to Jesus Christ
 - B. The world-wide ministry of the C&MA
 - C. Support of those who have gone out from us regardless of affiliation
 - D. Encouragement to participate in short term mission experiences
 - E. Faithful **prayer focus** of mission needs and missionaries
 1. Weekly prayer meeting
 2. Alliance Women
 3. Men’s breakfast
 4. Woven into all ministries of the church fellowship
 - F. Focus on local people groups with openness to multicultural unity & diversity

Conclusion: We are a fellowship of local believers from many backgrounds but who hold in common certain values: corporate worship of Jesus Christ, preaching and teaching the Word of God, encouraging fellowship, loving service, and Great Commission focus. These are our important values, our core values.

“And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? ... we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.”
Acts 2: 8, 11

and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ...
Ephesians 6: 19

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.
I Thessalonians 5: 11

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.
I Corinthians 13: 3

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28: 19-20

