

CORE VALUES



The Core Value: Every One Matters (John 3:16)



A. The Author of Love: God



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B. The Magnitude of Love: so loved



Agape Love

- Unconditional
- Uninfluenced
- Eternal
- Immutable



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B. The Magnitude of Love: so loved

C. The Object of God's Love: the world



How Do We Know the World is All Humanity?

- The world that rejects Him will be condemned (vs. 18).
- John uses “world” to refer to humanity (John 6:33; 17:21; I John 2:2).
- We must love humanity (Mark 12:31).



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- E. The Gift of God's Love: His only Son**
- F. The Design of God's Love: that whoever believes in Him should not perish**
- G. The Benefits of God's Love: but have eternal life**



The Core Value: Every One Belongs (Selected Scriptures)



The Term “Church”

- From Greek term meaning “called out ones”
- From Hebrew term meaning “assembly of God’s people”
- Used 114x in the N.T.



What the Church Is Not

- A structure
- A national religion
- A denomination



The Local Church and the Universal Church

- Local – gathering of believers in a place
- Universal – all Christians in all areas through all history



Every Christian:

- belongs to the body (Eph 1:22-23; Col 1:18).
- is a branch (John 15:1-5).
- is a part of Christ's bride (Eph 5:23; Rev 19:7).
- is a part of the temple (Eph 2:19-21; I Tim 3:15).
- is a member of the priesthood. (1 Pet. 2:9)
- is a sheep (John 10:27).



The Core Value: Every One Grows (Eph 4:17-24)



Ephesians 4:1

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,



Romans 1:21

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.



Maturity is the process by which we continue to put on the new and put off the sinful flesh that encumbers us from godliness.



Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.



II Corinthians 4:16

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.



“The change is even more radical than the change that will take place at death... Salvation is not a matter of improvement or perfection of what has previously existed. It is a total transformation. The New Testament speaks of believers having a new mind, a new will, a new heart, a new inheritance, a new relationship, new power, new knowledge, new wisdom, new perception, new understanding. They also have a new righteousness, new love, new desire, new citizenship, and many other new things - all of which are summed up as ‘newness of life’. ...

John MacArthur



... At the new birth a person becomes ‘a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.’ It is not simply that he receives something new but that he *becomes* someone new.”

John MacArthur



The Core Value: Every One Serves (1 Cor 12:4-6)



Spiritual gifts are “abilities empowered by the Holy Spirit and used for ministry in the church.”



Spiritual Gifts

- “Gifts” - a generic word that refers to any enabling for a spiritual purpose
- “Service” - a word that can refer to the active ministry in a church
- “Activities” - is more about the power of their use



Ephesians 4:7

*But grace was given to each one of us
according to the measure of Christ's gift.*



A Simple Way to Determine Your Spiritual Gifts

1. Where do I believe I am gifted?
2. Do others affirm a certain area of giftedness?
3. Is there fruit of ministry from using these gifts?

