



## RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH Core Values

Values define how we want to behave when we are working on our mission, purposes and vision. They are ranked so that we know which values have more value when they conflict in any given situation. The questions tied to each value provide a way to keep them practical for each individual within the church.

### **Biblical Authority**

There is truth. It exists. God is the definer of it. Truth provides secure guidance, reliable hope, clarity among confusion. God has spoken and revealed truth to us through the Bible. We value the Bible as the final authority over our lives.

Deuteronomy 4:1-2; Psalm 19:7-10; 119:11, 89, 105, 140; Matthew 5:17-18; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 1:25

Are your priorities consistent with Scripture?

### **God-Inspired Teaching & Coaching**

Understanding the Bible and applying it are not simple tasks. We aren't easily motivated. Change is tough. Sin is too easily justified. Habits happen. So, we all need teachers, coaches, who explain and motivate in relevant, understandable, God empowered

ways. We value God-inspired, biblical teaching and coaching, believing it is the catalyst for life-transformation.

Romans 12:7; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; James 1:23-25

Are you engaged with a teacher and coach?

### **Dangerous Wonder**

Risky. Counter-intuitive. Amazing. Awe. The faith life is dangerous. The Christian journey is fluid. The church's map is unmarked. God is mysterious, wonderful, present, distant, and enjoys doing more for us than we can ever imagine. To follow him is not always safe. To live for him is always exhilarating, contagious, dangerous. We value living so zealously for God that we continually see the wonder of his movements in response to our dangerous faith.

Isaiah 55:8-11; Jeremiah 29:11-13; Matthew 17:20; Acts 2:43; Ephesians 3:14-21

Are you risking for God?

### **Acceptance & Challenge**

All people matter to God and to us. There is no experience necessary. Everyone is welcome. Love is the foundation of all our relationships. We value accepting all people just as they are while challenging them to become all that they can be in a spirit of love and unity.

Matthew 18:14; Luke 5:30-32; Luke 15; John 17:20-21; 1 Corinthians 13

Are you welcoming all people equally?

### **Relevance & Purity**

God's teachings are relevant today. They fit. They make sense. They work. The truth must remain pure while our efforts to communicate it must flow with the shifting of culture. We live in ancient modernity. We value designing our messages and our environments to be culturally relevant while remaining doctrinally pure.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23; Galatians 2:11-14

Are your messages and environments appealing, engaging, and truthful?

### **The Intimate Journey**

Intimacy with God is possible. Transformation happens there. It's our greatest goal. It's a process, a journey, a fascinating one. God wants us to continually be engaged in the journey of life with him, becoming more familiar with his mystery and intimate with his being. We value the journey of seeking by pre-believers and the journey of passionate pursuits by believers toward intimacy and transformation with God.

John 3:16; Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 12:1

Are you moving along in your journey?

### **Relational Evangelism**

The saving message of Christ--it's the hope of humanity. It is the best gift ever. Barriers, misunderstandings, bad experiences, untruths all hinder its progress. Friendships, relationships, love, care and prayer all expedite its power. We value personal relationships as the most effective way to communicate God's message of forgiveness and life through Christ.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Matthew 9:9-13; Acts 2:42-47

Are you building relationships with unsaved people?

### **Unleashed Gifts**

Time, talent, treasures. Experiences, spiritual gifts, personalities, and passions. All are God-given. All are given to be given again. Strategic alignment of people's gifts creates maximum impact. Opportunity to give full-expression to one's gifts not only produces fruit but tremendous personal fulfillment. We value the discovery, equipping and unleashing of the gifts within people so that the church is effectively and efficiently led and served by those who are qualified.

Nehemiah 1-2; Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4; Psalm 133:1; Acts 6:2-5

Are you serving where you are most fruitful and fulfilled?

### **Authentic & Strategic Connections**

Growth, care, and impact happen best when people synergize their lives with others. We value authentic connections around God-honoring purposes, first of all engaged around church membership and ultimately lived out in various kinds of small groups.

Psalm 27:17; Luke 6:12-13; Acts 2:44-47

Are you on the team and in a small group?

### **Creative Excellence**

God is the ultimate creator. We are creative beings. He is honored and we are inspired by originality, ingenuity and the pursuit of excellence. We value creativity and excellence in everything we do.

Colossians 3:7; Malachi 11:6-14; Proverbs 27:17

Are your ideas fresh and your efforts excellent?

Still Have Questions?

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