

# Our Values

## Gospel-centered

**Ultimately, “the Gospel” is all about Jesus. Jesus gives new life and transforms lives through the power of the Holy Spirit. This truth is at the center of all we do.**

Jesus has revealed God’s reconciliation of people to Himself. God is making all things new through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The good news of Jesus is that He not only saves, but He also transforms. At the center of the Gospel is God’s ability to give us new life through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are a community of faith being transformed by the empowering presence of Jesus.

The Gospel drives our vision, impacting our decision-making along with how we apportion resources. We invest in joining God’s mission in this world. Knowing that we are only a part of the greater body of Christ, we seek to partner with individuals, organizations, and other churches, both locally and globally, that are likewise invested in multiplying the kingdom of God.

## Word-dependent

**God has chosen to reveal Himself to people through the Word – through both the written Word and the Living Word, Jesus. We build our lives upon God’s Word.**

As His followers, our lives are being transformed in His image. To be dependent upon the Word, we seek to understand what God has spoken through the Scriptures by the illumination of the Holy Spirit. We are then diligent in applying what the Spirit has revealed to our individual lives. Our lives are built upon doing what Jesus says, not simply building an archive of information of what God has said. To be Word-dependent is to believe in the authority, inerrancy, and sufficiency of the Scriptures for life and practice under the power of the Holy Spirit. Being Word-dependent is inseparable from being Spirit-empowered.

## Spirit-empowered

**God has given us His very presence – the Holy Spirit to lead, guide, and direct our lives. It is the Spirit of God who empowers us to follow Jesus.**

The Spirit gives us new life through regeneration and then enables us to live in an active relationship with Jesus experiencing God both personally and corporately. It is the Spirit who gives spiritual gifts and empowers a lifestyle of discipleship, prayer, worship, and service, equipping us to live in Gospel-centered community. Being Spirit-empowered is inseparable from being Word-dependent.

## Relationally Connected

**We were made for relational connection with God and other people.**

Prayer is the means by which we interact with the God who made us for relationships. God has spoken throughout time in both the written Word and in the Living Word, Jesus. This is the primary way God communicates, but this is not the exclusive way. At the core, prayer is a conversational relationship with God. The Holy Spirit empowers our prayer – not only in how and what we pray for or about, but also in understanding what God is communicating to us. It is through conversational prayer that we abide in Christ, both listening and speaking through the power of the Spirit within each of us.

We are meant to live in community with other followers of Jesus. Living life connected to others is essential in our personal journey with Jesus. It is also the basis for life in the local church. Community is where we live out a Gospel-centered life by loving God and demonstrating our love for others.

