

HCC CORE VALUES AND IMPLICATIONS*

Core Value	Implications
<p>GOD'S WORD Bible-centered preaching, teaching and training/ Unity around essentials</p>	<p><i>Because we value the authority, sufficiency, and infallibility of God's word and believe God's word is alive and relevant to our daily lives; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entire Scriptures, in context, is the basis or foundation of all our preaching and teaching. • We regularly remind and encourage people to make the time to read the Bible. • We proclaim the moral, ethical, and spiritual absolutes of God's truth in love, without compromise. • We promote spiritual growth by training people of all ages how to rightly handle the Word of God. • We equip the saints for the work of service by training them to use study tools, by studying together, and by applying newly discovered truths to our lives individually and corporately. • We listen to the Holy Spirit as God reveals truth in His Word. • We purpose to demonstrate obedience to God's Word. <p>2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Timothy 2:14-16; 2 Peter 3:14-18; Acts 17:10-12; Hebrews 4:12, Psalm 119:11, 105</p>
<p>THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST Transformation/ Discipleship</p>	<p><i>Because we value personal submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and His power to transform lives, and because we recognize our corporate responsibility to disciple and train one another toward growth, maturity, and making disciple-makers; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We demonstrate our submission to Christ as Lord of our lives by confession of our faith in Him as our Savior, and profession of our hope in Him alone. • We teach, train, and model that personal submission to the Lordship of Christ will transform our lives - We choose to relinquish control of our lives to God. • We focus on discipleship training in all areas of Christian Education • We design, teach, model, and train specific discipleship characteristics for all church leaders. • We equip the saints for the work of service by developing small groups where discipleship is practiced; and strongly encourage each church member to belong to a small group. • We expect to be transformed more into the image of Christ, and we structure all activities to this end. • We make disciples and they in turn will become disciple-makers. • We provide time in small groups, large groups, and corporate gatherings for members to glorify God with their testimonies of God's transforming work in their lives. <p>Philippians 3:7-21; Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:1-2</p>
<p>GODLY LEADERSHIP Authenticity/ Character</p>	<p><i>Because we believe it is essential for our church leaders/teachers/mentors to be imitators of Christ and led by the Spirit of God, and because we value a church culture and environment which encourages its members to be authentic and transparent; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We hold leaders accountable to set the example of Godly leadership that others can follow. Leaders are held to a higher level of accountability in their actions, using God's Word as the standard. • We hold one another accountable to functioning within the essential truths and the core values of the faith. • We study, teach, pray for, and practice being led by the Holy Spirit. • We create a culture that encourages all members to be authentic and transparent – to be real. • We release leaders by giving them the authority to perform the tasks associated with the leadership position to which they are called. <p>Ephesians 5:1-10; James 3:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-7</p>

*Scripture references are selected to provide a Biblical basis for the Core Values, but are not meant to be exhaustive. Members are encouraged to study these Scriptures (and others) as they read God's Word.

<p>RELATIONSHIPS/ COMMUNITY Commitment/Loyalty /Fellowship ("Koinonia")</p>	<p><i>Because we value relationships that express love, truth, commitment and loyalty, and value a "sense of belonging" in the church family, therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provide dynamic meaningful groups for connectedness, caring, and accountability (such as men's and women's Bible studies, couples groups, life groups, Sunday school classes, and retreats) • We encourage small groups that can build relationships and accountability. We also encourage members meeting together one on one – sharing and encouraging each other to be real and authentic. • We foster relationships through encouragement and love, without judgment and coercion, respecting each person's individual needs. • We agree to stand firm to this body regardless of personal differences and stay connected here unless God alone calls us away. • We make our facilities available in a variety of ways that are beneficial to the community as well as the church body. <p>John 13:34-35; Ephesians 4:15-16; I John 4:7-8</p>
<p>PRAYER/ DEPENDENCE ON GOD</p>	<p><i>Because we value prayer as a God-given, Christ-provided means for communication between God and His children, and because we value dependence on God and His Spirit through personal and corporate devotion to prayer; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We acknowledge our dependence on God through worship, prayer and intercession. • We make time to pray individually and together. • We wait upon the Lord in prayer, trusting His Holy Spirit to communicate with us. • We ask according to His will and believe in faith that He will answer. • When God speaks during prayer, we seek confirmation through His Word and through wise council. • We invite God's will into our lives through prayer, and determination to obey. • We trust God to hear and answer our prayers. We agree that His ways are best, even when we don't understand our life circumstances. <p>Colossians 4:2; Philippians 3:3; 4:6-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Hebrews 4:14-16</p>
<p>GENERATIONAL MINISTRY/ STRONG FAMILIES</p>	<p><i>Because we value change in people's lives through practical application of Scripture, we utilize a multi-generational approach to ministry in order to strengthen individuals, families, and the church family around a mutual, authentic relationship with Christ; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We ensure that all ministries – child, youth and adult should have practical application of Biblical truth. • We intentionally link the generations in our instructional, worship, and ministry opportunities. • We agree to be faithful in following through our commitment to come alongside those raising children. • We invest in families to pass on faith in Jesus Christ from one generation to the next – to see the fruits of today's children growing up into Christ followers and teaching others to do the same. <p>Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Proverbs 22:6; Acts 2:42-47; Matthew 19:13-15; 2 Timothy 1:5; 2 Timothy 3:14-15</p>

<p>MISSIONS/ EVANGELISM</p>	<p><i>Because we value the Great Commission to reach our world for Christ (across the street and around the world) we support missions, and teach and equip members for missionary work; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We participate in local and non-local mission outreach. • We pray for and financially support missionaries. • We commit a specific and significant percentage of our General Fund income to missions. • We teach, equip, train, and send missionaries into the world. <p>Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15; Romans 10:13-15; Isaiah 52:7</p>
<p>CORPORATE WORSHIP</p>	<p><i>Because we value worship which glorifies God and edifies the believers, that everyone is called to bring worship to the Lord and collectively we impact the heart of God during worship, therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We acknowledge that to worship the living God is to walk out our faith in reverence and obedience, and that worship is submission. • We believe the Holy Spirit provokes an intrinsic desire to worship and acknowledge Yahweh, the great I AM, the creator and sustainer of the universe, the Holy God. • When we gather together to worship God as a family of believers, we bring together our unique experiences and expressions of who He is in our lives. • We incorporate worship in our congregational time to give opportunity and encourage believers to collectively worship God, to glorify and praise Him, through songs and praise. • We acknowledge that God desires our praise. He is pleased with the sweet aroma of our sacrifice of praise. • We encourage and train those of all ages that wish to participate in bringing music in worship. • We walk in a spirit of excellence, not perfectionism. • We acknowledge that communion is part of worship. • We support individual expression of worship as the Holy Spirit leads (standing, kneeling, raising hands, etc.). <p>Psalms 69:30-31; Psalm 96; Ephesians 5:18-20; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 10:19-25</p>
<p>SERVING WITHIN YOUR GIFTING</p>	<p><i>Because we believe God has bestowed spiritual gifts to edify the body and carry out His work in the church, we value the active role and commitment of believers to live out their gifting in our church community; therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provide the tools and the venue necessary to discover those gifts and encourage believers to utilize their gifting. • We assist in the development and training of the gifts. • We seek areas where these can be employed for the edification of the body. • We know there is a specific function for each person to fit into the body of Christ and we make every effort to provide opportunities for people to exercise their gifts. • We encourage people to serve where they feel led to serve and in areas where they feel enjoyment in service. <p>Ephesians 4:7-12; 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12:3-8</p>