

CORE VALUES AND FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

Relationship and Agreement

TC Ministries is very much founded on principles of service to the Body of Christ universal, transcending traditional denominational divides wherever possible. At our core we are Bible-based in doctrine, and strive to promote unity, relationship and agreement at every opportunity among believers in Christ (Amos 3:3; Matt 18:19). We find there is more that unites Christians than divides us, and much to celebrate whenever we find ourselves united in service with fellow believers and churches.

Spiritual Authority – being Accountable and Trustworthy

TC Ministries believes strongly in the biblical recognising spiritual authority, accountability and trustworthiness. These core values are this is very much in a relational sense rather than an autocratic or dogmatic one. Diversity of thought and expression are strongly encouraged within the boundaries of healthy relationships.

Understanding spiritual authority is foundational for sound Christian doctrine, and necessary for a mature understanding of how the Body of Christ is supposed to function. In a world full of lawlessness and rebellion, even among some churches and believers (Matt 7:23), submission to spiritual authority, and honouring one another in love (Rom 12:10) can be so unusual as to be attractive to those looking for security and liberty in Christ.

God created us to be in relationship to one another, and to achieve this he ordained that three primary authority structures should surround us, guide us, and protect us. These structures are:

- ◆ The Government
- ◆ The Church
- ◆ The Family

We must all learn to relate to each of these structures as God directs, especially as born-again believers in Christ.

Understanding spiritual authority, especially as it relates to the church, is imperative if we are to agree together to tear down any and all enemy strongholds, and see the kingdom of God established in our region, and in our generation.

We value Accountability and Trustworthiness

Accountability: It should go without saying that those who understand true spiritual authority also understand the need for accountability, which protects those we lead, as well as our own integrity, when practiced biblically. Those who claim to have such authority but are accountable to no one other than 'the Holy Spirit', or some such nonsense, are in fact accountable to themselves alone and a danger to those who might not be aware of the risk of relating to unaccountable spiritual authority that has insufficient checks and balances in place.

Trustworthiness: To be trustworthy is also a core value because it speaks of honesty, integrity and faithfulness. God holds His word above His name (Ps 138:2) and has a name that is above every name (Phil 2:9-11), so His word is sacrosanct and completely trustworthy, help by God even above His own name, which is above everything else. If we extrapolate this out logically, the Bible says that mankind was created in God's own image (Gen 1:26-27). It therefore stands to reason that as believers we should be a people of our word above all else. We should hold our word above our name, and strive for honesty and integrity in everything we do. This is a core value we should all carry in our hearts and practice as a governing principle in our everyday lives.

We value Leadership that Empowers People

We believe that the church should be led by those with leadership gifts, and that their primary task is to create an environment in which people can be inspired, equipped, and released to serve God and fulfil His purpose for their lives. (Eph 4:11-16).

We value the Organising of Ministry around People's Gifts

We believe that every Christian believer has gifts to serve God and His Church. Some have many, others may have few, but we all have them. Identifying and understanding these gifts determines the role each person should play in our individual walk with Christ (Rom 12:3-8). Most people's gifts are also connected, in some way, to their passion, which motivates and enthuses them to excel.

We value Passionate Christian Living

We believe full devotion to Christ is normal for every believer. A fully devoted follower of Christ has:

- (i) a passionate desire to read the Bible regularly;
- (ii) is committed to a growing prayer life;
- (iii) continually meets with other believers to build each other up and doesn't neglect the Church family;
- (iv) seeks opportunities to share their faith with unbelievers; and
- (v) manages their time, talents and treasure to honour a God who entrusts them to us.
(Rom 12:11-12)

We value Church Structures that work

We believe in good organisational structures, and infrastructure within the church, which enables ministry to function successfully and without hindrance. Leadership, based on biblical principles, is key to developing an effective and growing church. We believe that simplified structure and "uncluttered Christianity" (Mark 2:27) work well in most instances. Sunday services should also be dynamic, relevant and inspirational at all times to the target audience of any church ministry.

We value Small Groups

We believe that personal and spiritual development happens best in small groups. A lively and caring Small Group is one where believers are:

- (i) are challenged to put the Bible into practice in their daily life;
- (ii) receive encouragement and help to meet real needs;
- (iii) use their gifts to minister to others in the group; and
- (iv) work together to reach out to new people (Acts 2:46-47).

In Conclusion

"But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Cor 12:7)

TC Ministries seek to inspire, educate and motivate believers and churches everywhere to reach the fullest potential that God ordained for them to walk in. As Christian believers do this individually, and collectively as part of a local church, we are confident we will see the body of Christ rise up and function to its fullest capacity, reaching the lost and for seeing the Holy Spirit move in miraculous ways in people's lives, all to the glory of God.