

Parkwood Gardens' Values!

As Christians, we can experience more of life, and more in life, than anyone else on the planet. God has provided all we need through His Son, Jesus Christ, and through all that Jesus has done.

But many Christians live beneath their privileges and don't experience the countless blessings of God.

We can enjoy that abundant life and those countless blessings when we know our purpose for being here and start fulfilling it.

We can discover why we're here in knowing...

1. Our Identity

- *Who we are in Christ (individually and as a church)*
- *What God asks of us in His Word*
 - What to be!
 - What to do!

2. Our Core Values

- *What God, in His Word, asks us to be and to do*
- *Things God tells us are of utmost importance*
- *Things for which God asks us to be burdened*
- *Things God demands of us*
- *Things Jesus modeled for us*

We can discover why we're here in knowing...

3. Our "Jerusalem and Judea"

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- Acts 1:8

- *Among what kinds of people has God placed us?*
 - Average Age
 - Average Economic Status
 - Average Lifestyle

4. Our Approach

- *What will attract and keep those in our "Jerusalem"?*
- *What are the felt needs of "Parkwood Pat"?*
 - What kind of outreach strategies?
 - What kind of Worship Celebrations?

5. Our Strengths and Resources

- *A God who calls us, gifts us, and empowers us*
- *A committed group of gifted, willing Christ-followers*
- *A diverse group: in age, in race, in career, in economic status, etc.*

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If we are really going to accomplish great things for God, we must work as a team. All team members must be on the same page in the playbook. Our playbook, the Bible, teaches us that we must have as our core values...

1. The Authority of Scripture

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work”

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17

2. Intimacy With God

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”

- John 15:12-16

3. A Love For People

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

- John 13:34,35

4. Personal Integrity

“It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honourable, not in passionate lust like the heathen... For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.”

- 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7

5. A Heart for the Lost

“The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”

- Luke 19:10

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place where He was about to go. He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.’”

- Luke 10:1,2

6. Servanthood

*“Jesus called them together and said, ‘You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even **the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve**, and to give His life as a ransom for many.’”*

- Mark 10:42-45

7. Spiritual Reproduction (Discipleship)

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

- 2 Timothy 2:2

Our Circles of Concern: Opportunities to Show God’s Love!

