

G42 Core Values - Our core values come from the *stated* and *implied* “greatest commandments” Jesus taught us in Matthew 22 and Mark 12

1. Be Loved (by God) – We believe that we love God because He first loved us. We believe that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ reveals the depth of God’s love for us. God is perfect love, and His plan is to expand that love on the earth. We were born to be loved!

This first core value empowers the other three, because only through His love for us, can we truly love Him back, be secure and love who He made us to be, and love others around us.

John 15:12 / 1 John 4:19 / Romans 5:8 / 1 John 4:8

2. Love God – We believe that our response to the love of God is to give our heart, soul, and mind to Him in love. We believe that loving God looks like turning away from a life done “our way”, and choosing to become like Christ.

Matthew 22:37 / Mark 12:30 / John 14:15 / Luke 10:27

3. Love Yourself – We believe that we were created in the image of God, and as sons and daughters of God, we have unsurpassable worth. We believe that as we give up our old “ego centered” self, we truly discover, and can love, our real “Christ looking” self. We walk in the confidence of Christ in us, which allows us to be at ease with ourselves, and have nothing to prove or need. From this security, we can live a life focused on God, and others.

Genesis 1:27 / Galatians 2:20 / Colossians 1:27/ Matthew 22:39/ 2 Peter 1:3-4 / Psalm 139:13-15 / Ephesians 2:10 / Philippians 4:11-13

4. Love Others – We believe that the main expression of how we love God is in how we love others. We believe that the primary mark of a follower of Christ is that we love and serve one another - including those who don’t love us. We look to Jesus as our example of servant leadership, and biblical descriptions of love, to see how we should live this in our day to day.

Matthew 22:39 / Mark 12:31 / Matthew 5:44 / 1 Corinthians 13/ John 15:12 / John 13:34 / Philippians 2:3-7

Four Steps - The four steps of living out the Core Values of the Kingdom:

1. Awakening – When we learn of God’s love for us, in Christ, and choose to give our lives completely to Him. We do this by choosing Christ as our Lord, and being baptized into new life. This can also be understood as being “born again”

John 3:3, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:21-25, Ezekiel 36:26

2. Discipleship – How we learn to become like Christ, live in freedom, and love ourselves and others. We develop this process by following the scriptures and learning from others who follow Christ. We are given his image, and through discipleship, we choose to be formed into his likeness. As we walk through this process, we are also called to actively disciple others and point them to Christ.

2 Timothy 3:16, John 8:31-32, 1 Corinthians 4:16, 1 Corinthians 11:1, Philippians 3:17, Galatians 4:19, Ephesians 4:15, Philippians 2:12-13, 2 Timothy 2:2, Matthew 28:19-20, Galatians 4:19, Ephesians 4:15, Philippians 2:12-13

3. Church/Community – Where we express His love to each other in our day to day lives, and encourage each other in loving other. We do this by spending time with each other, sharing life and meals as we can, and building covenantal relationships--much like the Greek *Koinonia*.

Hebrews 10:24-25, Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 133:1, Acts 4:32, 1 Peter 4:8-11

4. Releasing the Kingdom – How we expand God’s Kingdom to our cities and nations, by loving those who don’t know God, and reuniting them to Him. We do this by seeking to reverse the oppression of those around us, and pointing them to the God of love revealed in Jesus Christ. As they are awakened to His love, and choose Him as Lord, His Kingdom expands, and the cycle of steps begins again in a new life.