

NDC FIVE CORE VALUES

SCRIPTURE

The Bible is not just a book of do's and don'ts. It is a grand narrative of God's creative and redemptive work in history. And it summons us to find ourselves in God's story and live out the purposes for which he made us.

Reflection Questions:

- How well do you know the Bible? Can you articulate the overarching storyline and main ideas? (Creation - Fall - Israel - Jesus - Church (You & Me) - New Creation)
- How would you describe who God is, based on what you know about God through Scripture?
- Is your life oriented around the purposes of God as revealed in Scripture? (Are your beliefs, values, habits, and decisions informed primarily by Scripture or by other factors?)
- How comfortable are you explaining the Bible to others? Do you have an avenue where you regularly help others follow Jesus by showing them God's heart, as revealed in Scripture?

MISSION

God's mission for renewing and restoring our world takes place when we share his love with others. Specifically, we are called to share the love of Jesus in word and deed with those in our spheres of influence, with the poor and marginalized in our city, and with those around the world who have never heard the good news of Jesus Christ.

Reflection Questions:

- How are you reaching out to love the "lost" (the people you know who don't know Jesus)?
- How are you reaching out to love the "least" (the poor and marginalized)?
- How are you reaching out to love the "last" (the people around the world who have never heard the good news)?
- How are you working with God to restore justice in a broken world?

COMMUNITY

We were made to experience community with others. Only through intentional relationships characterized by encouragement, authenticity, and sacrifice will we fully experience transformation in our lives.

Reflection Questions:

- How are you cultivating authentic community with others?
- Who are the people you spend the most time with?
- Who are the people who encourage you in your journey of following Jesus?
- Who might be missing from your community?



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PRACTICES

The practices, rhythms, and habits of our lives shape what we love, worship, and value. In each season of our lives, God uses intentional practices to form us into the kinds of people who follow Jesus and live out his kingdom purposes.

Reflection Questions:

- What practices are you already pursuing that are forming you as a follower of Jesus? (Some common practices include prayer, Sabbath, engaging Scripture, generosity, habits around technology, silence & solitude, fasting, hospitality, simplicity, chastity, etc.)
- Is there an additional practice God might be inviting you to take up?
- Are there any unhealthy or unhelpful habits you sense God may be inviting you to let go of?

PRESENCE

God is at work in every place, relationship, and circumstance we find ourselves in. But busyness and distractions often fill our lives. We partner best with God when we are fully present to the people and opportunities around us and the voice of the Spirit leading us.

Reflection Questions:

- Are you present to the Holy Spirit's activity in your life?
- What does it look like for you to listen to God and respond to his voice?
- Is there a resource or practice that might help you become more aware of God's presence, voice, or activity in your life (meeting with a pastor or spiritual director, praying the examen or welcoming prayer, etc.)?

Summary Reflection Questions:

- Which values do you find it easiest to live out? Why do you think that is?
- Which values are more challenging for you to live out? Why do you think that is?
- Is there a gentle invitation from God today that you might respond to?

