

## **My Personal Value Statement**

The four values that I hold as a Christian are being *Christ-Centered*, *God-Loving*, *People-Loving* and *Bible-Based*.

### **Christ-Centered:**

Christ-led – I am nothing and all I have is nothing without Christ and I only find righteousness and life everlasting through Christ. (Phil 3:7-14). God has appointed Him leader over all I do and all I am. (Eph 1:22-23). Hence, apart from Him, I can do nothing and so I strive to do everything by and through Him (John 15:5).

Evangelism, reaching the lost and the seeker – Jesus demonstrated His desire to reach those who didn't know Him with the first and last words He spoke to His disciples in the Book of Matthew. If it was that important to the Son of God, it is that important to me. (Matt 4:19, Matt 28:19)

### **God-Loving:**

Prayer, especially corporate – The church is to be a house of prayer (Is 56:7). We should pray always (1 Thess 5:17). However, Jesus taught us to pray, “*Our Father*”, implying His goal for us is to pray as one body (Matt 6:9).

Spirit-filled worship – Worship times are a time to sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs and a time for giving thanks to the Lord (Eph 5:19-20). It is worship when I devote myself to teaching and being taught, and to the fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer (Acts 2:42). In all this, I am devoting myself to the guidance of the Holy Spirit to move me closer to Him.

Excellence – In everything I do, I will do it fully or not at all, depending on the Word and the Grace of God. After all, God gave us His best, His Son. I should strive to return to Him using the same standards (Col 3:23-24)

## **People-Loving:**

Diversity – I will be person of grace. I will not be a person of legalism (Gal 3:10-14). It is by grace alone I am saved (Eph 2:8). I let others be themselves, not comparing them to anyone else. God loves variety and He made us different for a reason (1 Cor 12:12-13). As Christians, we are all part of the same body of Christ.

Servant leadership – I will always strive to be a servant of others, especially brothers and sisters in Christ. Never will I begin to believe that I do not owe everything I have and that I am to Christ and the posture of servanthood helps me to remember this (Matt 19:30, Luke 22:25-27). In my servitude, let me edify others and bring others to the Lord.

Lay ministry –The leadership cannot be all things to all people when churches become too large. Hence, as the church grows it is imperative that lay ministers be empowered to use the gifts the Holy Spirit has given them to provide services to others. (Acts 6:3-6, Eph 4:11-13)

Making Disciples – Jesus’ Great Commission calls us to make disciples, not converts (Matthew 28:19-20). Paul taught his disciple Timothy to entrust his teachings to others who would then teach others (2 Timothy 2:2). The writer of Hebrews scolds his readers for not becoming mature enough to teach others (Hebrews 5:12). It is obvious that the biblical call to disciples is to make disciples. The most loving thing we can do for others is to help them become disciples (fully functioning followers) of Jesus, who then go and make disciples of others. I do this by teaching, shepherding, mentoring and modeling.

## **Bible-Based:**

The Bible as the one source of God’s truth – In all I do, the final truth will come from the Bible as the primary source of God’s Word to me. Whether I receive a word from any other place, it must be checked with scripture to ensure its truth (Acts 17:11, 2 Tim 3:16).

Bible based Teaching and Preaching – I teach and preach God’s Word and the truth straight from the Bible to those who may not have been encouraged to read it for themselves (2 Tim 3:16). Paul, the great evangelist, brought thousands of people to Jesus with His preaching of the Word. Similarly, every word I preach should be based on the Word of God, pointing people to Jesus and showing them who He is and how He can help them wherever they are. (Book of Romans)