

**Radical - CORE Values**  
**Week 4 - November 27, 2011**  
**Matthew 28:18-20**

- Happy Thanksgiving
  - Perhaps one of my favorite holidays...it gets skipped over
  - Meal to celebrate the Harvest, the early colony in Plymouth did not have enough food, so the Wampanoag (wamp-a-no-ag)
  - If your family is like mine...you get assignments to bring stuff to the table for thanksgiving...we get the drinks...and sometimes bread...but usually drinks.
  
- Over the last several weeks we've talked about our Vision and our Mission as a church. That we are called to Love God, Love Others Together! It is the body of believers working together as followers and disciples of Jesus that will make a difference in our community and world.
  
- What does a disciple look like?

**Matthew 28:18-20, "Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."**

- Growing in Christ - people outside of church may not know you are a Christian
  - look to the church to be responsible for your growth as you start to develop disciplines
  - not comfortable with your faith in the other parts of your world
  - not comfortable sharing your faith in Christ
  
- Living for Christ - eager to be identified as a Christian
  - you take responsibility through disciplines to grow
  - willing to take risk and live your faith in the world
  - actively sharing your faith with others

**VIDEO ILLUSTRATION - HOOSIERS CLIP**

- For some of you growing in Christ...taking your faith into the world and away from the church or "home court" advantage is intimidating. It's downright scary.
  
- Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.

**Core Values as command by Jesus :)**

**LOVING GOD...****Authentic worship ~ Honoring God with your life 24/7**

- Worship is so much more than singing songs or praying or listening to preaching at a church service. What we do with our services is important...a chance to celebrate, be strengthened and fellowship with others...but worship goes beyond these walls!

- John 4:21-24

Key Question: How does my life WORSHIP God?

**Prayer ~ Talking with God is the most meaningful conversation of the day**

- Matthew 6:5-13

- You want to strengthen a relationship, you better learn how to communicate. Some people will say “that person is a Prayer WARRIOR!” or “they just have “gift” of prayer!” Yes, there are people who have strong prayer lives and pray constantly and consistently for others, so I guess you could call them pray warriors, but the only difference between you and them is a desire to speak with God. It’s not a gifting or even a skill. You either want to or you don’t.

Key Question: How much do I desire to talk with God and to have Him speak into my life?

**Redemption ~ Being saved is accomplished only through Jesus Christ**

- John 14:6

- 1 Corinthians 6:20 says that we were bought for a high price, the cost was Jesus on the cross, so don’t use your life or body to do ungodly things!

- 1 Peter 1 tells us that it was the blood of Christ that purchased our salvation.

- Guilt and shame over sin in our lives lead to repentance not despair!

- If you believe in other ways to get to heaven, then why in the world did Jesus die on the cross?

Key Question: Do I believe that the grace of God and salvation only comes from accepting Jesus, that there is no other way?

**Absolute Truth ~ Accepting the Bible as the true direction for my life**

- John 5:39-40

- John 17:13-21

- We believe that the Bible, all 66 books are truth. You’ve heard us say that again and again.

- We know that the single most important thing a disciple can do is begin reading this book, by themselves and with others!

- IronMen

Key Question: When is the last time I consistently read my bible?

**LOVING OTHERS...****2nd Chances ~ Giving others the grace we've received ourselves**

- Matthew 6:14-15

- Eph 4:32 - forgive just as God forgave you!
- Forgiveness extends beyond the church...some of you may feel like if someone doesn't love Christ, they don't need or should not get your forgiveness...that's dumb!
- This is one of the most evident ways to show others who Christ is and what he means to us!
- Can't be secret either...you must express your forgiveness!

**Key Question:** Am I holding a grudge and choosing not to forgive someone?

**Servanthood ~ Meeting people at the point of their need**

- Mark 10:41-45

- From the little things to the big things...we should be servants in this world.
- If you are the boss, one of the most incredible ways to show Christ is to serve those in your employ.
- The world doesn't work this way...some of you are excusing yourself from serving for that reason...who are you taking direction from? Christ or the world?

**Key Question:** What are practical ways I can serve others in my community and world?

**Family ~ Ministry to others begins at home**

- Matthew 15:3-6 - He lambasted the Pharisees for taking the money they should have been using to care for their parents and dedicating it to God with a vow so they could use it now and not have to support their parents.

- John 19:25-27 - He gives his mother to John to take care of her.

- Luke 15 - He treats the love of the father for the prodigal son as an image of perfect, divine love, which affirms such love for wayward children.

- Key leaders in our church can not be so if their family and home life is not in order and that comes from Paul's instruction to Timothy in regards to elders!

- The stronger your discipleship...you will have a stronger marriage and you will be a stronger parent!

**Key Question:** Am I spending time with my spouse and my children? Am I beginning to look Christ-like to them?

**Generosity ~ Sacrificing for the sake of God and others**

- Luke 6:38

- Luke 20 - The widow and the two copper pieces

- Last week we saw the "traders" video.

**Key Questions:** Are you generous with your money? With your stuff? Do you own your stuff or does your stuff own you?

## **TOGETHER...**

### **Community ~ Doing life together is God's plan**

- Matthew 18:19-20

- agree in the Greek means to symphonize
- according to the will and character of Christ
- There is strength in working together...its one of the many reason God started "church"!

Key Question: When it comes to living for Christ, am I a team player or lone ranger?

### **Unity ~ Fighting the enemy, not one another**

- John 17:20-23

- John 13:34-35

- There are so many scriptures telling us to protect the unity of the church...I wonder if God knew that would be our struggle.
- We may not always agree on everything...I know we want, but we should always love one another.

Key Question: What gets you more riled up, evil in the world or something the church does that you don't like?

### **Risk ~ Missing Opportunities is worse than making mistakes**

- Matthew 14:22-33

- Peter got out of the boat....AND SANK!!
- Let's go for it!

Key Question: What am I unwilling to do for the sake of serving Jesus?

### **Missional ~ Realizing it's not about me, but all about Jesus and His Kingdom**

- Matthew 6:33

- Discipleship means moving from growing in Christ to living for Christ!!
- You are EAGER to be known as someone who follows Christ...it determines everything you say and do!
- You no long compartmentalize your faith...it is your life!

Key Question: Does the world around me know how much I love Jesus?

### **Conclusion:**

- Radical Life - a departure from the usual!
- Many of you stood last week - how was this week different?