



Missions Ministry Values

Values answer the “*what is most important?*” question.

Values are ideas, principles, and concepts that guide us in decision-making and problem solving.

Operational (actual) values are those things that have most influenced our decisions for dollars, time, prayer, and attention in the past and currently.

Aspirational values are those which leaders seek to inculcate into the congregation and ministry. These are values you would like to guide you and your congregation in decision-making and problem solving. What might be 2 or 3 values you would like to inculcate in your congregation (and maybe your leadership)?

Core values guide our behaviors, even when it costs us dearly.

Do you have any core values? Values that guide decisions, no matter what?

Example values:

- prayer
- flexibility
- pastoral direction
- evangelism
- priority for our own people
- partnerships
- preserve the peace
- bang for the buck
- our movement or denomination
- maximize dollars to the field and minimize overhead
- reach the unreached
- what will it do for us

What are our **Operational Values**?

Think about how we have generally come to missions decisions in the past.

How do we make important decisions?

What are a few decisions we have had to make and/or plans we have made?

- What questions do we ask?
- Whom do we seek to please?
- Who has input that we must consider?
- What generally tips the scales?

What are 2 or 3 of our church’s *operational values*?

Do we have any **Core Values**?

What is it that we cannot violate?

What makes a definite *yes*, or a definite *no*?

What would we not consider, no matter how attractive? Why?

What decisions do we make that we’d rather not? Why?

What **Aspirational Values** might we seek to inculcate?

On what basis do we think missions decisions and plans should be made?

What is important (or should be important) to us, to the church, and to fulfilling God’s missionary purposes?

Note: This document replaces “Missions Values,” Stuff II (More Stuff), p. 32.

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