

A PEOPLE
WHO...



...ARE
CHRIST
CENTRED

“Core values are the deeply ingrained principles that guide all of a company’s actions.”

“Aspirational values are those that a company needs to succeed in the future but currently lacks.”

PATRICK M. LENCIONI, HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW
[HBR.ORG/2002/07/MAKE-YOUR-VALUES-MEAN-SOMETHING](https://hbr.org/2002/07/make-your-values-mean-something)

Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
Self-control

WIKIPEDIA - 'CHRISTIAN VALUES'

Elim Aberystwyth

Love God Love People Caru Duw Caru Pobl

- **Our Values**

deeply ingrained/aspirational principles

- **A people who...**

- ... are Christ-centred

- ... are Bible-shaped

- ... are family

- ... are vibrant

- ... demonstrate integrity

- ... extend grace

- ... connect

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'Jesus, be the
centre of Your
church'

**JESUS AT THE CENTRE, ADAM RANNEY, ISRAEL HOUGHTON, MICAH MASSEY
(QUOTED HERE SINCE, AT LEAST, 2012)**

"15 But what about you?" he asked.

"Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon

Peter answered,

"You are the

Messiah, the Son

of the living God."

MATTHEW 16

"17 Jesus replied,
"Blessed are you,
Simon son of
Jonah, for this was
not revealed to
you by flesh and
blood, but by my
Father in heaven."

MATTHEW 16

“18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

MATTHEW 16

**WE CAN
DEBATE THE
'THIS ROCK'
(MESSIAH/PETER /REVELATION...)**

**PART BUT
THERE IS NO
DEBATING
WHOSE
CHURCH IT IS!**

Christ's Church

- There should be no need to explain that a church is Christ-centred!
- There are many 'churches' where Christ is not central or is not truly Christ!
- We need to be clear about who we mean when we say Christ

We believe in one
Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten
of the Father,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true
God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with
the Father.

Through him all
things were made.

For us men and for
our salvation
he came down from
heaven;
by the power of the
Holy Spirit
he became incarnate
of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was
crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death
and was buried.

On the third day he
rose again
in accordance with
the scriptures;
he ascended into
heaven
and is seated at the
right hand of the
father. He will come
again in glory
to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will
have no end.

In a-creed-ment

- If someone professes an understanding of Jesus Christ outside of this, we most likely do not to find agree on 'gospel truth'
- Churches have different worship styles, emphases, cultures, beliefs on secondary matters etc..
- But if they are not Christ-centred, are they Church?

**IT IS NOT
JUST THE
CHURCH THAT
REVOLVES
AROUND
JESUS
CHRIST... HE
IS KING OF
EVERYTHING!**

'Jesus, You're the
centre, everything
revolves around
You'

JESUS AT THE CENTRE, ADAM RANNEY, ISRAEL HOUGHTON, MICAH MASSEY

**JOHN HAD A
WONDERFUL
REVELATION
OF JESUS IN
HEAVEN
AND HE
RESPONDED
WITH
WORSHIP...**

“17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”

ΑΩ

**HE WAS THE
CENTRE BEFORE
THE BEGINNING
AND HE WILL BE
AT THE END (AS
WE KNOW IT)**

“58 “Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” 59 At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.”

Blasphemy!

- Jesus clearly identified Himself as God here
- This truth saw Him crucified... they tried to do it then and there but the time had not come - so He 'hid' Himself!
- This was blasphemy, unless it was true... if it was true changes everything

**WHAT OR
WHO DOES
YOUR LIFE
REVOLVE
AROUND?**

Jesus at the Centre

- **Everyone's life revolves around someone or something**
- **Our thoughts and actions are always driven by a desire to attain or avoid something**
- **Place the pursuit of Christ and his Kingdom at the centre of your life... He is not an optional extra!**

“31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

“The issue with Jesus is not interpreting what he said, but obeying what he said”

STUART R BELL, JESUS NOW, P65



THIS
IS

THE

WAY

LET US

WALK

IN

IT

תַּלְמִידִים

Disciples in Hebrew are called talmidim.... To be a Talmid is to be totally devoted to your teacher

ROBIN BAKER, DISCIPLESHIP: WALKING WITH JESUS

Kingdom

- The increasing centrality of Jesus in our lives is the Kingdom Gospel
- This was the message He preached, lived and embodied in His earthly ministry
- He has always been, is, and always will be King - our goal is His reign

**HOW DO
WE SEEK
TO BE A
CHRIST-
CENTRED
CHURCH?**

Christ-church

- **Keeping Jesus central in our worship**
 - (Kingdom activity)
- **Growing as disciples together**
 - (Kingdom living)
- **Extending His reign to our communities and contexts**
 - (Kingdom advancing)



THIS
IS
THE
WAY
LET US
WALK
IN
IT

TOGETHER

**BE A
'DISCIPLE'**

**BE
'DISCIPLINED'**

**BE A
'DISCIPLER'**

'Foursquare' Gospel

- Jesus the Saviour
- Jesus the Healer
- Jesus the Baptiser in the Holy Spirit
- Jesus the Coming King



The Whole Gospel

- Whilst the cross is pivotal in the Gospel story, it is not the summation of it
- It is difficult to conceive of a way to sum up the full story of Jesus up in a human words
- It must include:
 - Christ in creation, the incarnation, His teaching, His ministry, the cross, the resurrection, the ascension, His church, His return... His Kingdom

Christ Central

- So what must we focus on and be sure of?
- The eternal centrality of and the whole story of The Messiah - Jesus,,
Iesu, Yehoshua, يسوع
Jehoshua, , 耶穌, Isa,
Ιησους, ישוע, Yeshua
- Christ is King / Lord

“15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.”

COLOSSIANS 1

"17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy."

COLOSSIANS 1

"19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

COLOSSIANS 1

"21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation"

COLOSSIANS 1

“23 if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.”

COLOSSIANS 1

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