



THE ROCK VALUE STATEMENTS

TRUTH

The Bible is God's truth and we come to it individually and corporately to encounter Jesus.

Demonstrated by...

- Emphasizing Christ-centered teaching
- Being a safe place to explore and even to doubt
- Practicing expository preaching
- Encouraging self-feeding
- Living under the authority of Scriptures
- Living out truth in the midst of culture
- Teaching people to think biblically but not what to think

We don't shape truth. Truth shapes us. At The Rock we believe that not only is there such a thing as Truth but that it's actually possible to know what really is true. We also think that anything really worth believing is also worth doubting well. Jesus said that He was Truth in the flesh. He also said that the Scriptures are true and that they all point to Him. At The Rock We emphasize preaching and teaching that puts Jesus at the center and let's the Bible speak for itself. We're not interested in telling you what to think but rather helping you to come to the Bible yourself, even with your doubts, and encounter Jesus and be changed by His Truth.

DIVERSITY

Heaven is a diverse place and we desire to reflect that here by being a place of reconciliation and harmony between the races and generations.

Demonstrated by...

- Welcoming all people
- Championing Christ-centered racial reconciliation and harmony
- Promoting the formation of multi-ethnic teams
- Representing a physical variety in age, race, culture, and social status

The final chapters of the Bible tell about a time that is coming when people from every race, tribe, language, and nation will give glory to Jesus. Because heaven is a diverse place, we want to reflect that diversity on earth. Jesus came to live among us, die on the cross, and rise again in order to reconcile us to God. Because Jesus has torn down every obstacle between us, sinful and broken humanity, and a perfect and holy God, we want to carry on the work of reconciliation that Jesus began in us. At The Rock we want to welcome and build a diverse community of people from a variety of ages, races, cultures, and social status that celebrate Jesus as The One Who makes us one in Him.

TRANSFORMATIONAL LIVING

Jesus came to give people new life and we want to experience and express lives that are completely dependent on and radically changed by Him.

Demonstrated by...

- Being completely dependent upon the Holy Spirit for change in our life
- Having a "Renewed" mind (Rom 12:1)
- Living in complete surrender to Christ—"Exchanged Life"
- Having true repentance and abiding in grace
- Having a willingness to share your journey and walk with others
- Expressing spiritual gifts

Jesus didn't come to give a self-help plan or teachings for self-improvement. He came to live His life through those who trust and follow Him and completely transform them from the inside out. At The Rock we reject the idea that the Christian life can be lived in our own strength. We want to turn away from our life apart from Him

(repent) and encourage each other to live in constant and complete dependence upon Jesus and His grace. Jesus doesn't transform us just for our own benefit though. He also wants us to share our journeys of transformation with each other. He wants us to discover the unique gifts He's given us and the unique place on the team that He has for each of us as He lives the encore performance of His life through us.

HOLISTIC OUTREACH

Jesus ministered to the whole person and we want to share His love with others by meeting both physical and spiritual needs in our community.

Demonstrated by...

- Seeking to understand and address both the physical and spiritual needs of the community
- Expressing God's love through serving the community
- Encouraging individual involvement in the community
- Loving your literal neighbors

The Bible tells us that when Jesus looked at the crowds, He had compassion. Jesus' ministry to the masses was one of healing and teaching. He looked at and ministered to the whole person. At The Rock we desire to reflect Jesus' ministry by seeking to understand the physical and spiritual needs of the community and express God's love by meeting them both. We're committed to each one of us loving our neighbors and all of us serving our neighborhood.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

We desire to see people growing, encouraging, and doing life together in Christ.

Demonstrated by...

- Obeying the "One Another" commands (Gal 6:2/Phil 2:3/Cor 12:25/Col 3:13/Eph 4:2/Phl 2:2)
- Meeting together in multi-generational small groups (mini-churches) for care, fellowship, discipleship, prayer, study, and service (Acts 2)
- Praying consistently together as a church (quarterly prayer vigils, or prayer services)
- Valuing both small group and corporate church gatherings

Jesus gave permission to the world to determine the authenticity of His followers' faith by the depth of their love for one another. At The Rock we desire to grow in our faith as we deepen our relationships with one another in community. We're committed to people from all ages and stages of life gathering together both as the whole church and in small groups to worship, pray, serve, and care for one another.

KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS

We partner with other churches and Christ-centered organizations to have a greater reach and impact more lives for Christ.

Demonstrated by...

- Living out unity with the Greater Body of Christ
- Collaborating with other churches and parachurch ministries
- Sharing physical and financial resources with other churches and parachurch ministries
- Supporting church planting efforts
- Encouraging the financial support of missionaries and Gospel-centered ministries
- Promoting volunteer opportunities with Gospel-centered ministries

God's Kingdom is big. At The Rock we recognize that as a local, small "c", church we're just one small part of His Body, the capital "C" church. We are just one of countless outposts of God's Kingdom in our region and all over the world. As a local church we want to demonstrate our love for Jesus in the way we love the rest of the Body of Christ. We're committed to strong relationships with other Gospel-centered churches, church plants, and parachurch ministries. We desire to live in unity with them by serving, supporting, collaborating, and sharing resources. We want to encourage the people who call The Rock their church home to do the same.