

Life Notes *Understanding Our Core Values*

with Pastor Stephen

Core Value #7 – Partners in Ministry:

We believe there are ministry opportunities for every member of the Christian Life family. Ministry involvement should be in accordance to each person's spiritual gifts as well as present needs among the church and community.

What does this Core Value mean?

- We believe that Christianity works best when every person who calls Christian Life “home” comes with a mindset not only to receive, but to contribute to the success of the meetings and ministry. Paul pointed out in Acts 20:35 that Jesus taught this axiom: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”
- In keeping with the teaching of 1 Corinthians 12:4-31, we believe the Holy Spirit has graced every Christian with an ability that will exalt Christ, reach the unbeliever, or equip the Church to reflect Christ's fullness.
- The church members are compared to a “body” that has various members. Each member, though different in function, is important for the continued life and support of the church.

Why is this Core Value important?

- The danger of ignoring this Core Value:
 - When we forget our responsibility to serve, we are also forgetting the Second Great Commandment “to love our neighbor as ourself.”
 - Christ taught us to “pray to the Lord of the Harvest that He will send forth laborers.” Without workers, the harvest is in danger of being lost (Matthew 36-38).
- The principle we embrace:

- Paul instructed us to serve in such a way that we encourage, comfort, and bless one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Romans 14:19; Ephesians 4:12, 29; 1 Corinthians 14:5,12, 26; 1 Timothy 1:4; Acts 9:31).
- Through church membership, which we call “Partners in Ministry,” there are channels through which every member can fulfill our reason for being: “To Exalt God; To Evangelize the Lost; To Equip the Believers for the work of the ministry.”
- When we get to Heaven, we will receive a reward that is based, at least in part, on how well we functioned in our calling (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

How can I make this Core Value part of my life?

- If you are not a member, contact the church office (803-798-4488) about enrolling in the next Partners in Ministry class.
 - If you are already a Partner, there are 2 ways to get connected to a ministry:
 - call the church office
 - www.christianlifecolumbia.com/#/home/volunteer
- Remember that membership at Christian Life isn't about “my rights.” It is about serving God, each other, and our community who doesn't yet know Christ.

The result of believing this Core Value:

- The Gospel will be shared.
- God will be honored.
- The needs of people will be met.
- The load will be lightened.