



Good for the World

In his sermon on the mount, Jesus used two metaphors for the church: salt and light. Just as salt enhances the flavor of food, the church is to enhance everything good in the world. Just as a city on a hill is good for a dark world, and a light in a house helps those who live there see, the church is good for the world. Jesus says, “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Core Values at Evergreen

The Gospel

God’s kingdom is powerfully advancing to renew the whole world through Jesus Christ. By faith we embrace this good news, asking God to advance his kingdom in our lives, in our church, and throughout the world.

Growth through Change

The gospel changes each of us from the inside out. The growth God produces in our lives comes through change. Jesus Christ gives us a radically new identity, freeing us from both self-righteousness and self-condemnation. He liberates us to accept people we once excluded and to break the bondage of idols (even good gifts) that control us and rob God of our devotion. The gospel makes us welcoming and respectful toward those who do not share our beliefs. The gospel changes everything.

Community

The gospel creates a new community, the Church, in which all kinds of people love one another. At the center of this community, the gospel is regularly applied to every area of life. At the edges of this community, the gospel is freely shared with everyone as a sincere welcome. The gospel promotes peace and purity in our state, better than any other ideology, system, or method. It restores relationships and renews communities. It influences every field: education, business, commerce, home, and preservation of the environment.

Movement

We are connected to a movement that believes that the Church is to be good for the world. We are connected to a worldwide mission to expand the Kingdom of God through gospel transformation. Our movement is “confessional,” meaning that we plainly publish what we believe to be true and that we corporately and publicly make known our mistakes and changes in our understanding of God’s word and work in this world. Our movement is productive, presenting the gospel and starting new congregations throughout the world. We are training and encouraging every member to impact his or her field by applying the gospel to it.

Service

We encourage every member of the Church to sacrificially and joyfully serve, using resources and skills to relieve the needs of others, especially the poor and the oppressed. Anyone who holds office in the Church serves humbly and leads with confidence. We believe that every member of the Church holds office to humbly serve one another, even strangers.

Transformation

The gospel liberates, heals, restores, and refreshes people. The gospel establishes neighborhoods, companies, churches, schools, nations. In the end, God’s advancing kingdom will apply the gospel to the making new of all creation.