



# CITY NORTH

*Baptist Church*

## Core Values

*From Church Constitution October 2006*

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The following core values define the kind of church we want to be and will inspire our commitment to City North Baptist Church:-

### **1. Passionate Love for God**

- Our desire for the glory of God should inspire everything that we are, say and do all the time (1 Cor 10: 31, Col 3: 17)
- All of life is to be an expression of our worship (Rom 12: 1) because “in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17: 28)
- Our Sunday services are a particular opportunity to express our love and passion for God in a corporate way

### **2. Transformation through the Bible**

- We recognise the authority of God’s Word as being divinely inspired and constantly relevant to our lives (2 Tim 3: 16-17)
- We want to develop a biblical framework of thinking and living
- We expect to be guided and changed through obedience to the Word with the help of the Holy Spirit
- We see the Bible as the key to spiritual growth
- We do this by:
  - personal Bible study (Psalm 119: 105)
  - systematic Biblical preaching
  - learning in small groups

### **3. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit**

- We recognise our dependence on the Holy Spirit for direction and power as a church (John 15: 5, Acts 1: 8)
- We see the gifts of the Spirit as essential to the work of the church (Rom 12: 4-8)
- We need the Holy Spirit to help us live humble, authentic, loving and balanced lives (Gal 5: 16-18 & 22-23)
- This will be seen in:-
  - a readiness to repent of sin
  - a readiness to obey and serve as the Spirit prompts
  - a desire to keep on growing as committed followers of Christ

### **4. Confidence in the Gospel**

- We see those who don’t know Christ as “lost” and in need of salvation
- We see Christ as the only true and lasting answer to the problems of all people everywhere (Rom 1: 16-17)
- We want to encourage one another to share Christ as the natural outflow of our faith (1 Peter 3: 15)
- We want to keep a gospel focus in all our church programmes
- We want to support outreach beyond the church’s immediate programmes through local and overseas missions (Acts 1: 8)
- Where appropriate, we want to join with other churches in reaching Brisbane for Christ

## **5. Boldness in Prayer**

- We are convinced that prayer connects us to God, stimulates our faith and unlocks His power (Heb 4: 14-16 & 1 John 5: 14-15)
- Whether in private, as families, in groups, or as a congregation, we want to pray more – “without ceasing” (Luke 18: 1)
- We want to increase in faith as we trust God for specific answers to prayer

## **6. Genuine Relationships**

- We want to be open-hearted towards newcomers and help connect them into the church family
- We want to be an intergenerational church where true love, unity and cheerful co-operation are obvious (Gal 3: 28)
- Where differences occur these should be resolved speedily, humbly and graciously
- We want to develop a culture of humility and submission towards one another (Phil 2: 3)
- We see small groups as an important context for developing relationships, encouraging spiritual growth, providing “pastoral” care and holding one another accountable (Acts 2: 42-47)
- We want to be honest with one another without being judgmental

## **7. Maximised Participation**

- We believe that the church is stronger when everyone is serving in some way (1 Peter 4: 10 & Rom 12: 4-8)
- We want to help people find their spiritual gifts and opportunities for using them (Eph 4: 7)
- We want to provide training and resources to help in this process (Eph 4: 12)
- We want to develop a culture of risk-taking in ministry as God leads us in new ways
- We want to be a Spirit-directed church, not merely programme-driven
- We encourage faithful, generous and cheerful financial giving to support this work (2 Cor 8: 7, 9:7)

## **8. Servant Leadership**

- We believe that the church needs humble, committed leaders whose authority is recognised and valued rather than imposed
- We believe that good spiritual leadership is built on godly character (e.g. humility, integrity, faith, personal example) before ability – as in the servant model of Christ (Phil 2: 3-8)
- We want to identify, encourage, train and mentor people with these qualities (2 Tim 2: 2)

## **9. Cultural Engagement**

- We want to be a church that connects with the modern world in a contemporary and relevant way (1 Cor 9: 22)
- We want to be open to new and creative approaches to ministry that will enhance effective ministry
- We see sincere relationships, rather than programmes, as the key to reaching the current generation

## **10. Down-to-Earth Style**

- We aim to be the following type of church:
  - informal and unpretentious
  - sincere and friendly
  - genuinely caring and relational
  - inclusive of all ages and backgrounds
- Both personally and as a church, we encourage reality rather than hype and authenticity rather than image