



## Core Values Part 1 *Relationships and Small Groups*

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### Message to Conversation Guide

1. Discuss the difference between a primary goal or organizational destination and values.
2. Read and discuss the primary objective of Bay Shore that is listed below.

***Our goal is to reach people that do not know Jesus and help them to grow in their faith until they are like Jesus.***

3. Discuss the analogy of the rails of a train track and its relationship to the values of our church.
4. What do the verses below communicate about the importance of growing spiritually? Discuss how the destination of BSCC is spiritual growth not just securing a place in heaven.

#### **2 Peter 3:18**

18 **But grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. NIV

#### **Ephesians 4:14-16**

14 Then we will **no longer be infants**, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, **we will in all things grow up** into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows** and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. NIV  
see also - **1 Cor 3:1-4.**

#### **Heb 5:11-6:3**

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because **you are slow to learn.** 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, **being still an infant**, is

*not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, 2 instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3 And God permitting, we will do so. NIV*

5. David gathered 5 smooth stones to prepare for his battle with Goliath. How does the way in which the stones became smooth (closely compacted together with the water running over them) illustrate how belonging from a small group can spiritually knock the edges off and help us to grow?

**1 Sam 17:40**

*40 Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. NIV*

6. One of the types of small groups that BSCC has are service groups. The idea of a serving in a serving group is that when a group of Christians serve together, they grow in their connection with each other and the inspire each other to Christlikeness. Serving groups should have prayer together or a scripture reading together in addition to serving. How does the verse below underscore this idea?

**1 Cor 14:26**

*26 What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. NIV*

7. Bible study or devotional groups meet to study and pray together for spiritual growth and transformation. The early church excelled in this model and they studied the teaching of the Apostles.
8. What do the verses below say about the importance of relationships to facilitate our spiritual growth? Who we associate with determines what our future will look like?

**Prov 13:20**

*20 He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm. NIV*

**1 Cor 15:33**

*33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." NIV*

9. Discuss the two Possible ways to get connected to a small group this fall at Bay Shore. 1) Start a group (2 + 1) or Join an existing group (serving group or Bible Study or Devotional group).