THE FOUNDATION OF OUR VALUES

Welcome Home: Part 1 October 2, 2022 Pastor Brian

What is a spiritual growth campaign?

A spiritual growth campaign is a <u>FOCUSED SEASON</u> of spiritual development where you double down on your devotion through increased <u>ATTENTION</u> to your soul and intentional <u>STEPS</u> of growth.

The Goals of the Welcome Home spiritual growth campaign:

See Campaign Commitment Card

²³ For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from <u>the eternal, living word of God</u>.
²⁴ As the Scriptures say, "People are like grass; their beauty is like a flower in the field. The grass withers and the flower fades.
²⁵ But <u>the word of the Lord remains forever</u>." And that word is the Good News that was preached to you. 1 Peter 1:23–25 (NLT)

5 Reasons the BIBLE is our Foundation for our Values

The BIBLE is...

1. **B**<u>ELIEVABLE</u> – it is God's word.

"Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and <u>they spoke from God</u>." (2 Peter 1:20–21, NLT)

"He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and <u>his name is the Word of God</u>." <i>(Revelation 19:13, NIV)

Jesus and the Bible

- Both came from God (Jn 1:1, Ga 4:4).
- Both are eternal (1 Pe 1:25, Re 1:18).
- Both are unchanging (Mt 5:18, He 13:8).
- Both shine light into the darkness (Jn 8:12, Ps 119:105).
- Both are the truth (Jn 17:17, Jn 14:6).

"Therefore, we never stop thanking God that when you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as <u>the</u>

<u>very word of God</u>—which, of course, it is. <u>And this word continues to work in you</u> <u>who believe</u>." (1 Thessalonians 2:13, NLT)

2. **INCORRUPTIBLE** – it says exactly what God intended.

"Every **word of God is flawless**; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him." (Proverbs 30:5, NIV)

"The Law of the LORD is perfect; it gives us new life. His teachings last forever, and they give wisdom to ordinary people." (Psalm 19:7, CEV)

"God's words are <u>pure words</u>, Pure silver words refined seven times...pure on earth as well as in heaven." (Psalm 12:6, The Message)

3. **B**<u>ASIC</u> – there is no Christianity without it.

"Jesus answered [the devil], "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."" (Matthew 4:4, NIV)

"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will <u>be</u> <u>sure to obey everything written in it</u>. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do." (Joshua 1:8, NLT)

4. **LIFE-CHANGING** – it's a manual for maturity.

"<u>All Scripture is given by inspiration of God</u>, and is profitable for <u>doctrine</u>, for <u>reproof</u>, for <u>correction</u>, for <u>instruction</u> in righteousness. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16, NKJV/NLT)

"For the word of God is <u>alive and powerful</u>. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires." (Hebrews 4:12, NLT)

"These instructions are not empty words—<u>they are your life</u>!" (Deuteronomy 32:47a, NLT)

5. **E**TERNAL – it is true for every generation.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8, NIV)

"Your word, LORD, is <u>eternal</u>; it stands firm in the heavens." (Psalm 119:89, NIV)

"God's Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long after stars burn out and earth wears out, God's Law will be alive and working." (Matthew 5:18, The Message)

HOW WE GET GOD'S WORD INTO OUR HEARTS

We GATHER to GROW

1. Large group (Sunday morning) for WORSHIP AND TEACHING.

"We met on <u>Sunday</u> to <u>worship</u> and celebrate the [Lord's] Supper. Paul [<u>taught</u>] the congregation. Our plan was to leave first thing in the morning, but Paul talked on, way past midnight." (Acts 20:7, The Message)

2. Small groups for FRIENDSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP.

"All the believers continued together in close fellowship." (Acts 2:44a, GNB)

"When you gather, each person has a [part]...Everything must be done to <u>help each other</u> <u>grow</u>." (1 Corinthians 14:26, GW)

ACTION

Turn in a Campaign Commitment Card. Get in a Group! Take the Values Assessment.