



Defining Values & Investment Strategy

2 Corinthians 4-5

Lakewood Baptist Church and the World

1. Why are we to do anything?
2. What are we to be doing?
3. Where are we to go?
4. How are we to get there?
5. Who should be going?
6. When should we get started?

What is a Value?

The regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something. A determination based upon comparison.

- Business Value – profit, assets, projected sales, etc.
- Explicit Value – rarity, uniqueness
- Cultural Value – implicit worth
- Nostalgic Value – memory, personal
- Pragmatic Value – usefulness

Core Values

- Core values impact my priorities of thought.
- Core values impact my priorities of time.
- Core values impact my priorities of finances.
- Core values impact my drives and motivations.
- Core values impact my decision-making.

**Defining core values determines
where individuals or churches
invest resources.**

Paul's Core Value

- outward man / inner man (4:16)
- perish/ being renewed (4:16)
- light / far exceeding (4:17)
- momentary / eternal (4:17, 18)
- affliction / glory (4:17)
- what can be seen / what cannot be seen (4:18)
- tabernacle/ building from God (5:1, 2)
- earthly / heavenly (5:1)
- dissolved / eternal (5:1)
- stripped naked / clothed (5:2–4)
- mortality / life (5:4)
- sight / faith (5:7)
- absent/ present (5:7–9)
- good/ bad (5:10)
- silence / souls of men (5:11)

A comparison of Paul's core values.

1. The inner man is more valuable than the outer man.
2. Future glory is more valuable than present affliction.
3. Things unseen are more valuable than things seen.
4. The realities of heaven are more valuable than the groaning of earth.
5. The walk of faith is more valuable than life by sight.
6. The fear of God is more valuable than the fear of man.

Investing in Missions

1. Invest Soundly – Select missionaries engaged in missions
2. Invest Early – Selection starts in the church.
3. Invest Often – Exposure leads to experience which leads to expertise.
4. Invest Wisely – Active accountability is part of church missions.
5. Invest Strategically – Seek opportunities that produce the best dividends for the church.