

INTRODUCTION

In this new series, we want to give you the ability to answer with clarity, “Who is New Hope Church?”

- It is important that everyone who calls New Hope your “home church” to know who we are
- Because not all churches are the same, and they don’t all do the same things

God wants UNITY but not UNIFORMITY

- God is a BIG God
- Not one church or denomination could adequately express all His beauty and glory to the world

What is it that we, New Hope Church, value?

- Values are CONSTANT
- Core values aren’t descriptions of the mission we do or ways we accomplish our mission
- Our values are the foundation stones upon which we build our vision and mission

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT) — “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

AT NEW HOPE WE VALUE TRUTH

1. What TRUTH is _____

Truth is not simply:

- Whatever works
- What is coherent or understandable
- What makes people feel good
- What the majority says is true
- What is comprehensive
- Defined by what is intended
- What is believed

Truth defined:

- (Greek) aletheia = to “un-hide” or “hiding nothing”
- (Hebrew) emeth = “firmness,” “constancy” and “duration”

ABSOLUTE truths are constant and not dependent on a circumstances or a person’s own perspective

- But we live in a world and culture that believes RELATIVISM, which is belief there is no absolute truth

THERE ARE TWO KEY ELEMENTS IN OUR CORE VALUE OF TRUTH

2. The _____ is truth.

Psalm 119:160... John 17:17... 2 Timothy 2:15

The Bible is our PLUMB LINE for life... used by painters and carpenters to keep their work straight

- It doesn’t change or move with the whims of the worker.
- It remains true, and all work must line up with it or risk being crooked

The same is true for our spiritual lives:

- The bible becomes the source to find vertical reality
- Once I find it in the scriptures, I line my thinking and my actions up with the truth of God’s Word
- 2 Timothy 3:16

We see this reflected by our Founding Fathers in the Declaration of Independence”

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

But in society today, what was once right is considered wrong; and what was once considered wrong is now a protected right

3. The truth about _____.

Truth is not only a statement of undeniable fact, but it is also a Person

- To value truth is to value God
- Genesis 1:1... John 14:6... John 4:24... John 8:31-32
- The single most important thing we value in life is to know God and make Him known

How do we express our value of God? (John 4:23-24)

- **FIRST**... we worship in **SPIRIT**
 - Requires us to first be Born Again
 - Requires a mind centered on God and renewed by Truth... Romans 12:1-2
 - By having a pure heart, open and repentant
- **SECOND**... we worship in **TRUTH**
 - All worship is a response to truth, and truth is contained in the Word of God
 - John 17:17b... Psalm 119:142 & 160
 - Worship is an expression of praise from the depths of our hearts toward a God who is understood through His Word

We value God through our love for Him expressed in daily **OBEDIENCE** to His Word... John 14:15,21

WRAP UP: Now what?

1. Read, study, meditate on, pray, and declare the scriptures
 - Renew your mind, and bring your thinking into alignment with the truth of scriptures
2. Worship God in spirit and in truth and obey all His commands
 - Surrender to the Lordship of Jesus
 - Abandon yourself in daily worship of our great God.
 - Express your worship verbally and physically
 - Express your love through careful obedience
 - And when you fail to do so, quickly confess and repent of your sin