

StoneWater 7 Family Values

These are the attitudes of our heart as we learn to love and serve with each other in the StoneWater Family.

1. Put the goals and interests of others above my own.

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others.”- Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV)

“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.” - John 13:34-35 (ESV)

- Sounds simple but is difficult to follow because of selfishness.
- We all struggle with selfishness.
- God calls us to live selfless lives.
- We humble ourselves and serve like Christ. (Phil 2)

2. Live an honest and open life before others.

“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.”-Ephesians 4:25 (ESV)

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” -1 John 1:7 (ESV)

- There are no secrets at StoneWater Church.
- God can't heal you from your mess until you share your mess.
- You can't get fixed until you admit you are broken.
- StoneWater is a place for broken people.

3. Give and receive scriptural correction.

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” -Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” -Hebrews 3:13 (ESV)

No one likes to be told what to do or that they are wrong (pride).

- We all have spiritual blind spots and need people that love us enough to tell us the truth.

- We have to trust people enough to accept correction (trust they love you).
- We give correction with gentleness and love.

4. Clear up relationships.

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” -Matthew 5:23-24 (ESV)

“bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.” -Colossians 3:13 (ESV)

Protects the unity of the church.

- In any family, you will have conflict.
- The more you love someone, the more conflict you may have.
- Conflict is not good or bad; it is not being able to resolve it that's bad.
- Most conflict is because of miscommunication. Sometimes conflict is because of sin.
- Clearing up relationships will make the relationship stronger than before.

5. Participate in ministry.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace -1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

“from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.” -Ephesians 4:16 (ESV)

We are not a sit and soaker church but a go and doer church.

- We share the weight of ministry.
- God has given you gifts, abilities, experiences, skills, passions to be used.
- Pastors are equippers and the people are ministers.
- God created you with a sweet spot for ministry, don't stop serving before you find your sweet spot.

6. Support the work financially.

“On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper so that there will be no collecting when I come.” -1 Corinthians 16:2 (ESV) “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. “-2 Corinthians 9:6-7

It's the church family's responsibility to support the work financially.

- Often those outside the faith (family) think the church is trying to take something (\$) from them. We don't want anything from them, but we want something for them.
- We believe and teach biblical tithing
- There are multiple ways to give at StoneWater Church. 70% of the church gives online. (Black boxes, online, text to give)
- 10% of all that's given is given to missions and Church Planting.

7. Follow spiritual leadership within Scriptural limits.

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. -Hebrews 13:17

"Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you." -1 Peter 5:5-7

God sets up authority structures to teach us how to love our leaders and also trust God.

- Parent/Child, Boss/Employee, Husband/Wife, Government/Citizens, and in this also applies to the church.
- As you serve, show your leader love by following their leadership.
- Pray for them, encourage them, and show up ready and prepared.
- If your leader ever asks you to do anything outside of Scripture, please share it with a pastor for protection and council.