

OpenDoor Principles and 16 Core Values

1. **Unity makes us a conduit for God's Power.**

Unity is not rank and file behind a pastor's authority. Unity is the intentional practice of love towards each other. We believe the power of God moves through the relationship of the people in the service not just through a church service. So if we want the power of God to be manifest among us then we have to be people that attack division and not each other.

And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

Genesis 11:6

"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in you; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:20-21

2. **We Value Character Before Charisma**

Because we value being more than doing and choose a relational paradigm over a functional one, character must be more attractive than gifts and talents.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but **inwardly** they are ravaging wolves.

Matthew 7:15

3. **We Express the Nature of God**

We want our services, our outreaches and our common fellowship to demonstrate the personality of God. We don't want to tell people God is the greatest giver in the universe without first demonstrating that through effortless and radical giving. We preach God is King through demonstrating His kindness. It's a misrepresentation to be boring and dull.

And my speech and my preaching was not the enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstrating the Spirit and of power.

1 Corinthians 2:4

4. **All of Life is Spiritual**

The Kingdom of God is not confined to the four walls of the church. We cannot say every person is a minister unless we can say every occupation is a ministry.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 11:15

5. **The Kingdom is Progressive**

We are supposed to change. We believe there is no limit to the mandate and the invitation for total transformation in our lives. The definition of a cursed life is not just one that goes backward but rather one that never goes forward. This is not an option for us.

Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the Excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel;

Genesis 49:3-4

6. **We are Thermostats and not Thermometers**

It's being unstable as water, or conforming to external environments and structures, that keeps us from progression. The enemy's plan to set the tone of every environment in every area is easily thwarted when God's people intentionally carry His presence.

And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath;

Deuteronomy 28:13

7. **We Choose Covenant over Contract**

Contract is when we protect our lives and limit our responsibilities. Covenant is when we lay down our lives and pick up our responsibilities. Covenant is when we lay down our lives and pick up our responsibilities. We serve a God of covenant, committed to His people and so should we be.

And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you.

Genesis 9:9

8. **We Seek and Embrace the Supernatural Side of God**

“A church that denies the Holy Spirit and His presence and power is not able to compete in a postmodern culture where the organ for receptivity of truth is the eye and no longer the ear. People are not open to hearing about God. They want to see God at work because they live in a show and tell world.”

-Graham Cooke: Approaching the Heart of Prophecy

9. **Connected for Kingdom Purpose**

Not just to the Kingdom, not just in the Kingdom but for the Kingdom. Strategic life exchange is something I must take seriously and is a vital part of our leadership team.

10. **Heaven is Reproducing Through Me**

God hates barrenness. Reproduction only happens through relationship. Mindful of legacy and heritage we will mentor and disciple while being mentored and disciplined.

11. **Restoration is Greater than Punishment**

The ministry that Christ has given us is not a ministry of judgment and punishment. That's not to say there's not discernment and accountability, but it is also not to say that the Father's business is to ridicule and alienate.

12. **Blessed to be a Blessing**

I have a covenant mandate and destiny to be a blessing to the whole Earth. I'm not fighting for blessing I am fighting from blessing. All that God has made me and given me is for me to give in advancement of His Kingdom and there is much more coming.

13. **Stewardship and Not Ownership**

Stewardship is when you take care of somebody else's money, time or property. God can expect a return from the coins he has trusted me with. I don't mind taking commanded risks and giving things up because none of it is mine anyways.

14. **I am Made to Accomplish Vision**

Every born again believer is physically and supernaturally formed to achieve the ridiculous. Being “on vision” is all about pressing forward towards the mark past excuse and circumstance. Selfishness translates into a work ethic and can't complete objectives and a life that can't multitask or move with God on endless levels. None of that is for us.

15. **I live with Awareness that Nothing is Impossible**

Past the probable and the improbable is the impossible and that what we launch out into. Ministry leaders have constantly mixed the practical with the impossible while making sure we maintain a culture of constant hope.

16. **No Matter the Cost**

According to the Parable of Luke 14 and according to anybody that has ever built anything, the actual cost is always more than the initial perspective. The building side of the church must be staffed with people that are willing to make whatever sacrifice is necessary to finish the work. Anyone that keeps count will eventually decide they have paid too much and bail out before completion. The Parable of Luke 14 is not to see if we have enough money but to see if we have the willingness to pay whatever is necessary.

WE BELIEVE ...

- WE BELIEVE the greatest of all commandments is not the great commission but rather to Love God and then to love those around us.
- WE BELIEVE a church should not only preach about the Love of God but fully demonstrate God's love and nature to each other and the people we are preaching to. We also believe that we are not always going to be successful at that but we will constantly press forward towards that mark.
- WE BELIEVE that a church's first priority should be relational before we attempt to be functional. God doesn't move through our church agenda but through our relationships as a body.
- WE BELIEVE that while the greatest commission is not the greatest priority it should still be a very high priority and because of that we will not wait for millions of dollars before we make a million dollar difference here and throughout the world.

- WE BELIEVE the word of God never changes but we as individual Christians and as a corporate church should progressively grow and change from season to season and time to time. Our mission statement is: “We are going to transform in order to change the world.”
- WE BELIEVE that unity makes us a conduit for God’s power and as a community of Christians we are a much more powerful tool within the kingdom and on this earth.
- WE BELIEVE that a church service should be all about an encounter with God and equipping and edifying the saints. Sometimes there will be more of an emphasis on worship and sometimes more on teaching, we should be Spirit led in determining what that priority should be from season to season.
- WE BELIEVE that OpenDoor Church is a valuable part of One Church, One Bride, and One Body of Christ that transcends social, economical, racial, geographical and even generational barrier. The Body of Christ is not an organization but a living organism that extends from and belongs to Jesus Himself. We believe a lot of churches do things better than us but we have something to offer that is unique and needed within the Body.
- WE BELIEVE in the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit and in the practical application and responsibility of the Saints.
- WE BELIEVE that to preach life without loving life is hypocrisy. To preach the power of God without demonstrating the power of God is ludicrous. To say that God is loving and giving without we as a church being loving and giving is unthinkable and to teach and study about God without personally knowing God in intimacy is tragedy and a life wasted.