

## Core Values ("Center, Heart, Soul") - Zanga Schutte

### 1. CHRIST IS LIFE

**John 14:6 NIV** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Notes: • As the *Way*, Jesus is our path to the Father. He provides clear direction to God. • As the *Truth*, he is the reality of all God's promises. He provides certainty to people whose lives seem confused and unstable. • As the *Life*, he joins his divine life to ours, both now and eternally. Jesus offers full and complete satisfaction to those who follow him.

### 2. WE WILL LOVE PEOPLE WITHOUT BIAS

**James 2:8 NIV** If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.

Notes: The "royal law" was given by our great king, Jesus Christ, who said, "Love each other in the same way I have loved you" (**John 15:12**).

**Galatians 5:14 NIV** For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

### 3. THE WORD OF GOD WILL BE OUR AUTHORITY

**2 Timothy 3:16 - 17 NIV** <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Notes: The whole Bible, God's inspired Word, should be our standard for testing everything else that claims to be true. Because Scripture is all God-breathed and trustworthy, we should read it and apply it to our lives. The Bible safeguards us against false teaching and guides us in how we should live. It remains our only source of knowledge about how we can be saved. God wants to show us truth and equip us to live for him.

• In our zeal for the *truth* of Scripture, we must never forget its *purpose*—that we may know God, have life through Jesus Christ, and be equipped to do his will. We should not study God's Word simply to increase our knowledge or to prepare us to win arguments. We should read and study the Bible so that we will know Christ and how to do his work in the world. Our knowledge of God's Word is not useful unless it strengthens our faith and leads us to do what God wants.

### 4. WE WILL LIVE OUT OF OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

**Ephesians 1:3 - 4 NIV** <sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Notes: God gives us insight into his Word, the gifts of the Spirit, power to do his will, and the hope of living forever with Christ. Because we have an intimate relationship with Christ, we can enjoy these eternal blessings now. We are saved not because we deserve it but because God graciously and freely gives us salvation. Our wisdom or good behavior does not influence God's decision to save us; in his mercy, he has saved us according to his plan.

### 5. WE WILL BE PEOPLE OF GRACE AND PEACE

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**2 Peter 1:2 NIV** Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Notes: Many believers want an abundance of God's grace and peace, but they are unwilling to put forth the effort to get to know him better through Bible study and prayer. To enjoy the privileges God offers us freely, we must grow in our knowledge of God and Jesus, our Lord.

### **6. WE WON'T FORGET TO LAUGH**

**Proverbs 17:22 NIV** A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Notes: Cheerfulness is shown by always being ready to greet others with a welcoming word, offering words of encouragement, being enthusiastic about the task at hand, or having a positive outlook on the future.

### **7. WE WILL BE GENEROUS WITH OUR TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURES**

**2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NIV** <sup>6</sup> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup> Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Notes: A giving attitude is more important than the amount given. The person who can give only a small gift shouldn't be embarrassed. God sees our hearts and sees how we give from our resources. God himself is a cheerful giver. Consider all he has done for us. He is pleased when we who are created in his image give generously and joyfully.

### **In Closing;**

### **8. WE WILL LIVE WITH AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE**

**2 Corinthians 4:18 NIV** So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

**Philippians 3:14 NIV** I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

**Amen and Amen**