

4 Foundational Commitments

1. WHO GOD IS

a. God is relational

We believe that we were cut off from God through sin; yet He still chose to be in a relationship with us and to be reconciled with us through Jesus Christ. Therefore, our work is built on the intention to know Him and His will and to be reconciled to Him. [John 1:14; John 15:5; Revelations 3:20]

b. God is creator and owner of all creation

We believe everything was created, by God, and for God's purposes. Therefore, all our work, including our development work, will be done with this understanding, that God might get the glory. [Leviticus 27:30; Psalm 24:1-2; Colossians 1:16-17]

c. God is provider

We believe God is the sole provider of all things, including our possessions. Therefore, we are to live full of trust and work with this understanding that He provides all. [Acts 17:24-25; 2 Corinthians 9:8; Philippians 4:19; James 1:17]

d. God is generous

We believe God is generous by nature, giving the greatest sacrifice of His Son and continues to give abundantly of all His resource. Therefore, we look to God as the ultimate example of generosity and recognize Him as the giver of all good gifts. [Matthew 7:11, John 3:16, Romans 8:32; 2 Corinthians 8:9; 2 Corinthians 9:10-1]

2. WHO WE ARE

a. We are the image bearers of God in the world

We believe that we reflect the One who created us. Therefore, we choose to live and work as a renewed creation in the world, conforming to His likeness and ways. [Genesis 1:26; Romans 8:29; Colossians 3:9-10]

b. We are called to be partners with God the creator

We believe that we are partners with God in His work of reconciling of all things. [2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Genesis 1:28; Jeremiah 29:5,7; Acts 2:42-44; Ephesians 2:10]

c. We are called to be faithful stewards

We believe that God has given us the joy of being a steward over all His creation. Therefore, we reject the desire to control and own what is truly His, instead, we willingly choose to identify as God's children and servants. [Psalm 8:5-6; 2 Corinthians 8:2-3; Ephesians 4:10; 1 Peter 4:10]

d. We are called to be generous

We believe that God is generous, therefore, as His image bearers we are called to give generously. [Luke 14:12-14; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 1 John 3:17-18]

3. HOW WE SHOULD LIVE

a. Living only under God's Kingdom

We will live knowing that this earth and possessions will fade away. Therefore, we will seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness listen intently to God's voice that we may obey His commands. We seek this for our entire community; our families (neighbors), staff board, volunteers and giving partners. [Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 6:19-21; Matthew 6:33; Matthew 13:44]

b. Reconciled to God, self, others and creation

We will live knowing that Christ has brought reconciliation to all four relationships (God, self, others and creation). Therefore, we are to nurture, honor and steward these four relationships in a way that honors God and in alignment with His purposes. [John 17:21-22; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 8:19-22]

c. Entrusted to steward all that God owns

We will live knowing God has created and owns all resources. Therefore, we surrender all wealth and resources under His authority, living a life of freedom in stewardship. [Psalm 24:1; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Matthew 25:14]

d. Generously: giving as a form of worship and obedience to God

We will live knowing that God who loves a cheerful giver, always out gives us. Therefore, we will give freely and abundantly of ourselves and all our possessions; as a part of worshipping God with our whole life and not as an obligation. [Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7]

4. HOW WE SHOULD WORK

a. Discern God's will together and obey: One Kingdom organization

As an organization we will work to discern and pursue God's will and interest first in all that we do, rather than depend on our own. [Luke 11:28; Romans 8:26-27; 2 John 1:6]

b. With the help of the Holy Spirit, create a culture of generous community

As an organization we will work to foster communities that glorify God by generously sharing all things with all who have needs. Therefore, we will not focus on receiving resources but on the spiritual growth that comes from the joy of giving. [Acts 4:32-34; Galatians 5:16-17]

c. As an organization, be a good and faithful steward

As an organization we will model the journey of faithful stewardship among those in our community as well as our partners, walking with others to find God's kingdom and surrender to it. [1 Samuel 16:7; Matthew 13:44; 2 Corinthians 9:11; 2 Corinthians 12:14]

d. As an organization, cultivate generosity and be counter-cultural

As an organization we will challenge the world's view of wealth, self-reliance, and ownership. We encourage people to be generous and equip them to participate in God's work. We value all sacrificial giving ("Equal sacrifice, not equal gift"). [Luke 21:1-4; Acts 20:35; Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:28; Hebrews 13:16]