

Discussion Notes

September 6, 2015

STORY: Part 2 (Life)

Doug Smith

Last week we considered some of our church's history, aware that our past will inform our future. Our church has a past full of faith and bravery. We trust God has good things ahead for our future, also.

In this message, Doug began sharing about our church ethos and values. He began with four, and on September 13th will close the STORY series with the final three.

Our church values can be found here on the website in their full descriptions: <http://fortlangley.lwchurch.ca/about/what-we-value>. Here are a few highlights from what Doug shared on the first four values on September 6th.

Community

- Christians are communal, which can be counter to our culture of individualism today.
- Healthy community is unified community.
- Healthy community is engaged community.

Authenticity

- Hypocrisy is to be avoided at all costs. We are honest with God and honest with one another.
- Our leadership will always aim to be authentic. This means they are not perfect and may disappoint at times. It does not mean they don't take their calling and responsibility seriously.
- We must be an honest people in order to grow. "Playing church" does no one any good.

Generosity

- We have learned that we can't out-give God.
- We give to be a blessing to anyone we can. We are generous because God is generous.
- It is good for us to give. We were made to be givers.

Worship

- Intrinsic to the design of humans is the need to worship our Creator in whose image we have been made.
- We want to be clear and unfettered worshipers in our whole lives.
- We want to express to God and find intimacy with him.

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you about any of these values?
- What is challenging about them?
- How have you seen these values expressed in the life of the church thus far?
- How might God be leading us to further express them?