



CORE VALUES // DOUG REED // MAY 19, 2019

Excellent: Our Best...Always!

"If you're going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence...is a prevailing attitude." – Colin Powell

Excellence defined: "Eminently good, superior and beyond compare. An outstanding and valuable quality or virtue."

"Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better." – Coach Pat Riley

Core values, more than ideals—foundationally, they guide our life. What are ours?

Our Core Values: God First; Bible Based; Relational; Excellent and Authentic!

Excellent: Our Best...Always!

God gave us His best. In life and faith, will we give Him ours?

Colossians 3:23 NIV Why? 1 John 4:9 NIV How?

"...that we might live through him." Live: 'be and remain alive; come back to life, to truly live.'

John 1:1,3a,4 NASB

There's a better, greater—excellent way of life God calls us to that is transformational. Will we live it?

Biblical Excellence is a Two-Sided Coin!

Excellence in our normal day-to-day life actions and characteristics.

Excellence in our moral moment-by-moment life thoughts and virtues.

"Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort and intelligent execution...choice, not chance, determines your destiny." – Aristotle

Normal Actions and Characteristics: 1 Corinthians 12:31b AMP

Moral Thoughts and Virtues: Philippians 4:8-9 NIV

Note: I said excellence...our best, not perfection!

Hebrews 10:14 NIV

Excellence is a way of life, honoring God in our normal and moral life actions and thoughts.

So, are we? If not, what must change?

1 John 2:16-17 NIV

There's a better, greater—excellent way of life God calls us to that is transformational.

Question is, in Jesus, will we live excellently or remain stuck in mediocrity?

1 John 4:4 and 5:4a,5 NIV

How do we overcome and, in Jesus, live excellently? Surrender – Save – Show – Serve

"We are, what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." – Aristotle

2 Corinthians 5:15 & 17 NIV

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Our love of God impacts our love of others in our normal and moral life actions and thoughts. Is it?

Excellence is a way of life that is God-directed; Jesus-modeled and Holy Spirit-guided.

Excelling love of Jesus: Eph. 3:19. Excelling riches of God's grace: Eph. 2:7. Excelling power of God to save: Eph. 1:19

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John 3:16 NIV

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MEMORY VERSE

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters..." Colossians 3:23 NIV

REFLECT

Questions to reflect on in your personal quiet time, with the family and/or in your Life Group.

1. Share your understanding of what the message was about.

2. Let's share what God said to us through the message.

3. How can we apply and integrate this message into our life?

4. Describe a time when we experience 'excellence' fleshed out? How? When? What stood out?

5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:31 & 13:4-8 then Philippians 4:8-9. Excellence impacts our normal & moral way of life. How?

6. Read 1 John 2:16-17; 4:4; 5:4-5. How do we overcome and, in Jesus, live excellently? Surrender – Save – Show – Serve

7. There's a better, greater—excellent way of life God calls us to that is transformational. Will we live it?

UPCOMING EVENTS

RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

This summer, our High School students and leaders are going to a conference in Tennessee for one week where they will experience powerful worship, teachings, small group discussions, fun activities, and more. We'd like to help create an opportunity for students to raise the funds needed to pay for the conference, and one such way is through our annual Rummage Sale event happening on June 7th and 8th. Here, the students will collect items to sell and receive a big portion of the proceeds. If you'd like to support our students by donating items, give us a call at 622-1119 or email students@c3ocala.com to schedule a drop-off.

DISCOVER CENTRAL

Whether it's your first time at Central or you have been coming for a while, we want to help you get connected. Discover Central is an informal get-together with our pastoral staff. During this luncheon, you will have an opportunity to learn more about Central, hear our heart and vision for the church and ask any questions you may have. We hope you will join us Sunday, June 2 at 12:45 PM in Room 410. RSVP and register for childcare at c3ocala.com/discovercentral.