

North Village Church

“Heart Attitudes”

Heart attitudes are not our objectives or core values as a church, but our relational commitment to each other. They capture how we are going to function as a church relationally. We recognize relationships are difficult and one of the greatest challenges to a church being effective is its ability to get along with one another.

Heart attitudes are directly related to how we are going to treat one another.

1. **Authenticity / Vulnerability:** We are going to resist the temptation to project lives of people that have it all together. Nobody is perfect. Nobody has it all figured out. Therefore, instead we are going to seek to live honest and open lives around one another. Philippians 2, “*3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*”
2. **Umbrella of Grace:** If nobody is perfect then we can’t expect perfection from others, therefore, we will function under an umbrella of grace with one another. We are going to assume the best in people. We are going to resist the temptation to “read” into comments give Satan a foothold into our church. 1 Peter 5, “*8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*”
3. **Follow Leadership:** Our ultimate leadership is Jesus Christ and although it goes against our nature to follow, trust, respect, we are going to aim to follow the spiritual leadership that Jesus has placed in our lives. This doesn’t mean we can’t disagree in an appropriate context, but that we are going to resist the temptation to whisper about one another, create gossip, or simply go through the motions. We need everyone “all in”! Hebrews 13, “*17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.*”
4. **Speak Directly:** As we work more closely with one another there is going to be a temptation to gossip to our spouse / friend about one another, to harbor hurt feelings, and avoid conflict. Conflict doesn’t have to be a bad thing. Because we commit to function under an umbrella of grace it doesn’t mean we are going to confront on every issue. Some issues are personalities that we have to learn to get along, but when conflict is a result of overlooking or ignoring scripture then we need to speak directly. Proverbs 12, “*18 Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*”
5. **Serve Sacrificially:** Our vision is to be a people who are living on mission and that means it shapes our time, resources, and finances toward the vision. It will be difficult and there will be a temptation to look around and wonder, “How come they aren’t giving as much as I am financially, how come they aren’t putting in as many hours as I am, how come they aren’t sacrificing as much as I am?” Sacrificial service is different for all of us and we all need to bring that before Jesus and ask Him to lead us to serve sacrificially. Matthew 20, “*26...whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, 27 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*”