

Gorse Hill BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacons' Away Day

17th November 2018

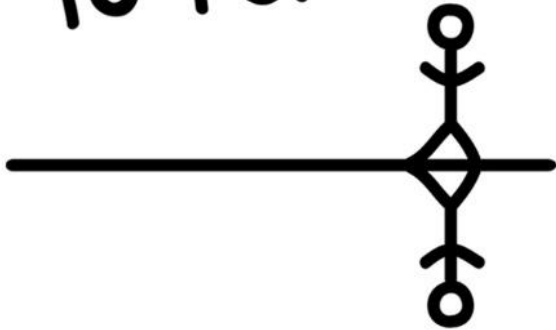
What's on the horizon?





Stepping stones

Take time
to reflect

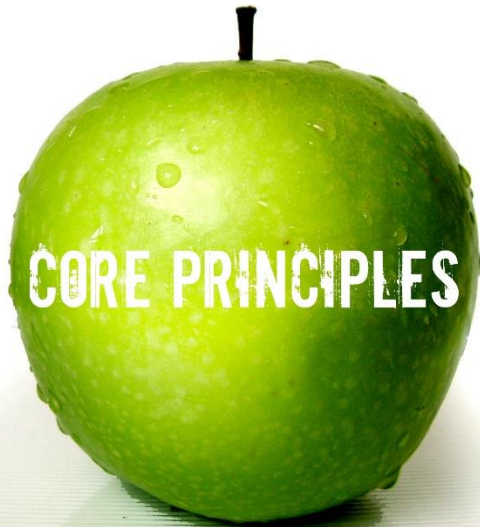


- the full crossing
- the correct spacing
- the desired goal

Essential goals: crossing the river

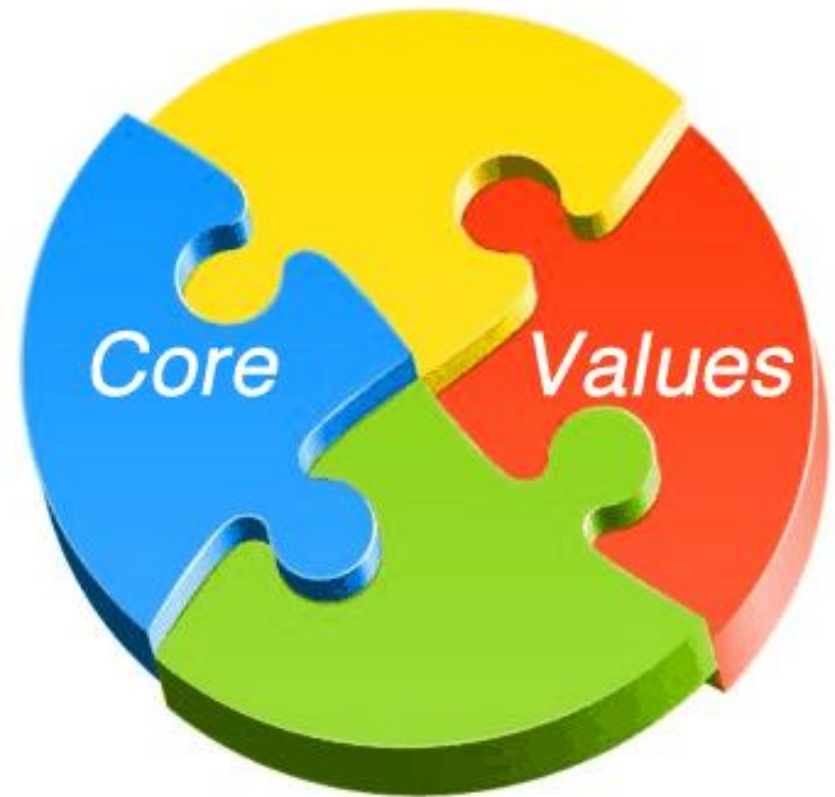
- **bridge**
- **belong**
- **build**
- **body**
- **beacon**





- **distinctiveness (vv. 38 – 41) in ...**
- **preaching & teaching (vv. 42)**
- **fellowship & pastoral care (vv. 42, 45)**
- **worship and prayer (vv. 42,46)**
- **serving others/social impact (vv. 44, 45)**
- **missional commitment (vv. 47)**

- **devotion (vv. 42):**
keeping close
- **together (vv. 44):**
of one mind
- **continued (vv. 46):**
strongly committed





over to you

- **it questions accepted norms**
- **it is always costly**
- **it affects everyone**



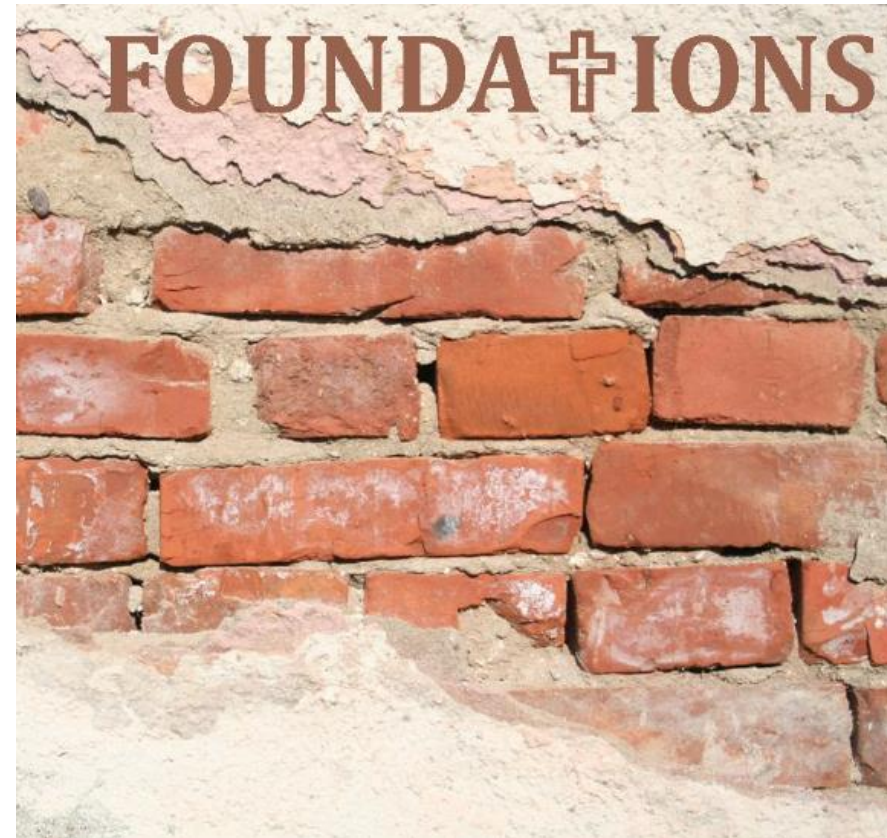
Finding our feet: leading change



- **putting it into context: teaching & explaining – say *why***
- **leading by example: model consistency to the agreed goals – agree *how***
- **recognise achievement: celebrate interim and final impact – determine *what***
- **review robustly: ask the big questions – *why, so what, now where?***



- **understanding what God has done and is doing**
- **no spectators & no back seats**
- **working out our faith to its completion (see also Phil. 2: 12)**
- **raised with Christ (vv. 10) brings a new perspective**

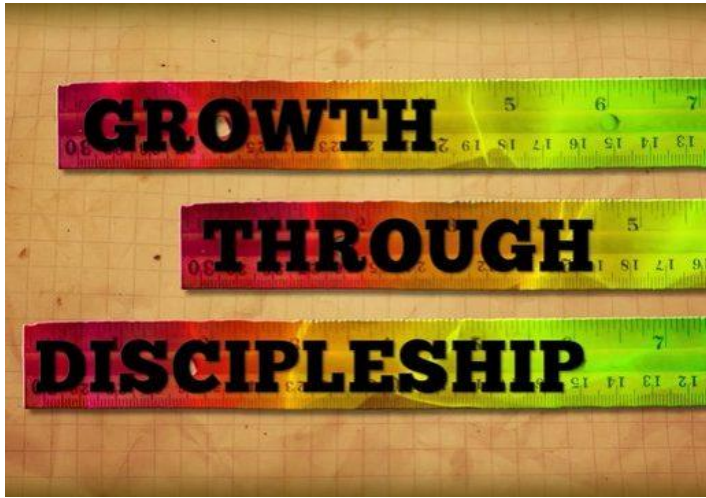


Moving on



- **the cross - central to our faith (vv. 15, 17)**
- **fullness in Christ – vital for our mission (vv. 10)**
- **persistence – essential for our growth**
- **be in Him, stay in Him, keep going with Him (vv. 6; Gal. 6: 9 – 10)**

How do I go deeper?



- a state of mind – commitment to a stable relationship in Christ (“rooted”)
- a desire to grow – developing holiness, and expressing discipleship (character, prayer, listening, daily living)
- a readiness to affirm the leading of God and the conviction to follow

Facing up to the future

Become what God wants us to be

- **how does my life need to change to enable me to be firmly rooted in Christ?**
- **what is really important to me?**
- **how ready am I to follow – and to put aside my own reservations, hesitations and objections?**

We will never
change the world
by going to church.

We will only
change the world
by being the church.

On the front line (Rom. 12: 1 - 3)



- **sacrificial offering (vv. 1)**
- **total transformation (vv. 2)**
- **clear perspective (vv. 3)**

- **recognise gifts**
(vv. 4 – 6)
- **work things out**
together (vv. 6 – 8)
- **be real (vv. 9)**

A word cloud graphic with the words 'meet together one encouraging another' as the central theme. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'meet' at the top, 'together' in the middle, 'one' on the right, 'encouraging' at the bottom, and 'another' on the left. Other smaller words like 'good', 'stir', 'let', 'Day', 'habit', 'consider', 'drawing', 'love', 'see', 'works', 'near', and 'not neglecting' are scattered around the main words.

Why change?

- **we may be going in the wrong direction**
- **we might be satisfied with our position**
- **we could have lost sight of the goal**



Putting our toes in the water

- moving away from where we are
- getting close to what we can be
- understanding what we need to do

