Beliefs And Core Values of Clarus Academy Central Coast
**BELIEFS**

**BIBLE:**
We believe in the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God. With the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the Bible is foundational for life itself.
**WORSHIP AND PRAYER:**
Worship and prayer are keys to intimacy and pursuing a lifestyle of friendship with Jesus.  We strive to live our lives out of a heart of worship and prayer reflected in our actions and attitudes towards others and life events.
**HOLINESS:**
We submit our lives to the Word of God and instruction by the Holy Spirit to walk a walk worthy of His calling.
**​FELLOWSHIP:**
We believe in the foundational value of every human life and to nurture the expression of Christ in our relationships. ​

**OVERARCHING VALUE -- “LET LOVE BE THE LAW”**

**LOVE GOD:**
Matthew 22:37-38: *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.  This is the first and great commandment.*

We are committed to inspire all participants to grow in the knowledge of and intimacy with God.  We seek to reflect His character exhibited by the fruit of the Spirit, *“love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control,”* Galatians 5:22.

* **HEAR GOD'S VOICE:**We are committed to encouraging and developing corporate prayer/worship environments conducive to hearing the voice of God.  We value hearing the voice of God through individuals, small groups, and larger corporate environments as an integral part of our work. Hearing His voice is essential for the ongoing development, growth, and inspiration of our work.  *“I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart. And watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected.”*  Habakkuk 2:1
* **WALK IN DEPENDENCE ON GOD:**We believe that the visionary foundations of our work are from God and must be walked out in total dependence on Him, for His provision, direction and connections with others.  Our work is largely a grassroots mobilization across the nations. Growth will require continued seeking of His will, way, and Word demonstrated by a lifestyle of humility and faith in action. *“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you.  For everyone who asks receives and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”*Luke 11:9-10

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER:**
*Matthew 27:39-40: And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.’”*

 We value and practice the foundational truths of the great commandments of not only loving God, but loving one another as Jesus taught in Matthew 22:37-40, *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.  This is the first and great commandment .  And the second is like it:  ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.’”*We believe loving God and loving one another are inseparable and vital for the present-day church and are distinct directives for Spiritual Leaders.

**PUTTING THE VALUE INTO PRACTICE**

* **BE VISIONARIES:**  We are called to be visionary influencers, continually receiving and nurturing fresh revelation from God to influence our individual lives, communities, and cultural spheres. Participants are encouraged to “champion” the vision to further the growth of their “Watches” in their communities and across the nations. ​ *"Write the vision make it plain that they may run with it who read it! "*Habakkuk 2:2.
* **BE COLLABORATORS:**  Spiritual Leaders are seers and influence society through insight and relational connections.  Such connections do not interfere with individual ministry callings, but rather, build and develop collaborative relationships to strengthen all involved.  Spiritual Leaders are encouraged to cultivate collaboration within cities, regions, and their spheres of influence. *“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching,”*Hebrews 10:24-25.
* **BE RELATIONSHIP-ORIENTED AND CULTIVATE HONOR:**We are called to inspire trust and loving relationships. Cultivating a culture of honor and looking for the good in people and in circumstances creates positive, healthy atmospheres.  Such focus inspires good will and fuels the trust and cooperation necessary for prayer communities to grow and develop.  We are called to honor and pray for all people, especially those in authority according to 1 Timothy 2:1-2 "*Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."*
* **VALUE INDIVIDUALS:**We believe that individuals were created in the image of God with unique gifts and callings.  Our desire is to create environments where the gifts and callings are nurtured, encouraged and utilized to advance the Kingdom of God. *“For the gifts and callings of God are irrevocable,”* Romans 11:29.
* **SPEAK LIFE!** We believe in the power of the blessing, practicing kindness, and speaking life to one another as vital to organizational health.  (2 Peter 1:5-11) . We also understand that life and death is in the power of the tongue. Proverbs 18:21: ***“****Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit”.*Spiritual Leaders are intentional about speaking life to one another at all times.​
* **COMMUNICATE WITH INTEGRITY:**  We will seek to provide accurate information that is timely and relevant in all of our communications and subsequent actions.  *"You uphold me in my integrity, and set me before Your face forever."*  Psalms 41:12
* **FUNCTION IN COMMUNITY:**   We seek to pray, not just individually, but in corporate expressions. James 5:16 promises that “The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”  However, corporate prayer changes history and has been not only a catalyst for revival, but fuel that drives it. “*When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place,”*Acts 2:1.
* **UPHOLD BIBLICAL STANDARDS IN COMMUNITY:** In promoting a culture of honor, we seek to use the principles of conflict resolution in Matthew 18:12-20. Conflict resolution using biblical guidelines is an essential part of honoring one another in relationships. Even with the principles set out by Matthew 18:12-20, we must still speak the truth in love. Ephesians 4:15 ***“****…speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.”*We must remember, even in confrontation, to extend grace towards one another as love is our aim.  Paul states, "*Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you,*" 2 Cor 13:11 (ESV).
* **PRACTICE HOSPITALITY:**We value and encourage strategies that inspire hospitality in all prayer/worship environments.  We believe such environments create safe places for people to share, revelation is fostered, and by which relationships are built. “*So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.”*  Acts 2:46
* **CHAMPION NEW GENERATION LEADERSHIP:**  We are committed to cultivate honor and discipleship between the generations based on the power and principles of Malachi 4:6, “*I will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and children to the fathers.”*
* **WE ARE UNITED BY COMMON VISION**
We believe in the life-giving foundations of God given vision.  The vision to establish community in corporate prayer/worship environments carries wide and varied expressions depending on church, culture, ministry, and people involved, yet held together by shared, common purpose.  Every “watch” has the privilege and responsibility to develop its own corporate prayer environment and accountability, yet be connected to a larger whole with common values and vision.
“*So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.”*  Nehemiah 4:6
 “*The work is great and extensive, and we are separated far from one another on the wall., Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us.”* Nehemiah 4:19-20

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**HONOR ISRAEL and ISAIAH 19**
 We believe in the import to bless and honor Israel as a foundational biblical value according to Genesis 12:3, "*I will bless those who bless you.*"  We also believe in the importance of Isaiah 19:25 as a key for the end-time church, "*The Lord Almighty will bless them, saying, 'Blessed be****Egypt****my people,****Assyria****my handiwork, and****Israel****​my inheritance.'”*