

Love God, Love others SERVE THE WORLD



At St Francis, we have embraced a vision and mission, and a set of values to guide us. Our 'Living the Values' series reflects on each of these, one by one.

Now it's time to take all this deep, sophisticated reflection and simplify it. Even "slogan-ize" it so we can remember it no matter where we are or what we're doing. Like when you see the Nike "swoosh," you think: "Just Do It."

Of all the things Jesus taught, he said the most important thing is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Jesus also told us: "I came that you may have abundant life." He came to lead us into a God-blessed, transcendent life in which we both wit-

ness and share in transforming the disappointments, tragedies and the cruelties of this world into strength, hope and love to bless the world.

If we want this abundant life (a life the world can never give)...

If we want this life that God desires and intends for all people...

...then we should strive to Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World.

As we explore how to embrace this mission more fully as a community of faith, consider in which areas YOU most need to grow personally:

Love God

- Most days, how intentionally do I love God?
- Do I cultivate a closeness with God by personally praying, listening, giving thanks?
- How often do I come to worship?
- Am I a spectator or am I engaged with my whole heart, mind, soul and strength?

Love others

- Do I love others – my family, the cashier at the grocery store – as I want to be loved?
- Do I go out of my way to show love? To whom? Under what circumstances?
- Am I a part of a small group in my church in which I might build enduring spiritual relationship with others, or do I avoid intimate involvement?

SERVE THE WORLD

- Does my gratitude for God's grace in my life spill out of my heart and make a difference for others in the world?