

Jesus First

The Code, Week One

Welcome to week one of *The CODE*. We're going to talk about the values that serve as guardrails for Grace Hills Church.

Our Core Values ([found here](#)) are principles we desire to live out...

- As a whole (guided by our staff)
- In small groups
- As individuals

Here's the first Core Value of Grace Hills...

JESUS FIRST - Jesus is first in everything! We trust his Word as truth, listen to his Holy Spirit, follow his lead, and honor him in all we do.

When we first wrote out our core values, we felt we should begin at the beginning, with what matters most. If we don't recognize Jesus as first, we have no reason at all to be a church.

Without Christ, there is no Christianity.

Colossians 1:18 NIV

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. And **he is the head of the body, the church**; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that **in everything he might have the supremacy**. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Jesus Christ holds preeminence (first place) in everything we are and do.

How does Jesus relate to the church?

1. He planned for the church from creation.
2. He started the church by calling disciples.
3. He died for the church on the cross.
4. He rose again from the dead for the church.
5. He commissioned the church.
6. He fills the church with the Holy Spirit.
7. He teaches the church through his Word.
8. He will return for the church.

How do we relate to Jesus as a church?

1. We trust his teachings.
2. We follow his example.
3. We receive his Spirit.
4. We submit to his leadership.
5. We grow until he returns.
6. We do all that we do for his honor.

So, our staff is always seeking to hear from him so that we can discern the direction he wants us to go in.

Does King Jesus have first place in your life?