



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# CULTURE GUIDE

Updated September 2023



Culture happens by default or by design. Rather than allowing our feelings, upbringing, or the standards of our society to take the lead, our goal at Boulder Valley is to intentionally and consistently create our culture. This is your guide to the culture and language at Boulder Valley. We hope this document will give you insight into who we are. See it as an invitation to join in what God is doing in and through this church.

## OVERVIEW

- MISSION & VALUES
- BOULDER VALLEY STRATEGY
- BOULDER VALLEY EVENTS
- CULTURAL LANGUAGE

## MISSION & VALUES

Our Mission & Values are who we are. They are reinforced often and guide how we spend our time, energy, and resources. Our mission is the driving force and our values direct what we say and do. These are non-negotiable for our staff and leaders.

# 1

## MISSION: Why Do We Exist?

TO BUILD AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

# 2

## CHURCH VALUES: How do we behave?

### COMMIT TO COMMUNITY

Everyone within Boulder Valley commits to community. We are a relational church and transformation happens best in circles, when rubbing shoulders in authentic relationships. The good stuff is when we show up for big and small events in life, laugh with one another, mourn with one other, and pursue God together. We want to be people about the good stuff. It is easy to spectate at church, but within Boulder Valley, faith is a team sport, and no one is on the bench. So, get involved, not just with the community here, but also in the community where God has uniquely placed you. We long for everyone to describe Boulder Valley as the place where they meet their friends and where they take their kids. But we long even more that they would use the methods of Boulder Valley as tools to create community in their own circles of influence.

### CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Everyone within Boulder Valley chooses to contribute. We define the process of discipleship as “Becoming more like Jesus.” This is a journey that never ends but continues to grow in passion and purpose as we learn the Father’s heart. And because we are made in the image and likeness of our Creator, we are meant to create. Our society teaches that we are defined by what we consume. But within Boulder Valley, we make contribution, not consumption, our priority. We hope to inspire you to make this a staple of your character because we are a family on mission. We want everyone within Boulder Valley to choose to contribute in one of two places: inside or outside the structures of the church. Choosing to contribute to the mission of God is a primary way we become more like Jesus.

### CONNECT TO GOD

We saved the best for last. Everyone within Boulder Valley connects to God. Without this, we are merely a social club. We desire for God’s Kingdom to come, and for His will to be done. As we spend intentional time with our Creator, we hope His character begins to rub off on us. Often this means, as followers of Jesus, we will respond differently than the natural ways of our society. We will respond differently to joys and sorrows in life, knowing our identity is in King Jesus. We will respond differently, knowing how Jesus loved us to the cross and beyond. We will respond differently, knowing truth comes through scripture and not our screens. We will respond differently, knowing the purpose of God’s brilliant, creative diversity is to unify us under His name. Without connecting to God, we are left to our own self-destructive ends. Yet, with Him, we become adopted sons and daughters that He uses to usher in life to a dying world. Could there be a higher calling? We don’t think so.

## ENJOY

As leaders of Boulder Valley, we look for opportunities to celebrate, laugh, and enjoy life together. We rest in the truth that Jesus defines us and not our wins and losses. And so, we pursue playfulness and fun. As leaders, we take Jesus very seriously, but we don't take ourselves too seriously.

## HEALTHY

As leaders, we strive for health in all that we do. We prioritize genuine health over healthy appearances. We collaborate and refuse to gossip. We make it our goal to not point out problems unless we also have solutions. Some believe healthy things grow; we believe healthy things produce fruit.

## REAL

Our mission is to build authentic relationships with God and one another. It's hard to be authentic if you spend most of your energy being fake. We are a safe place for you to be a mess. As leaders, we lean into vulnerability and when we ask the cordial, "how are you?" we really mean it. We make having an authentic faith with Jesus a priority over being a "Christian" who just does the right things.

## ALL-IN

As leaders, our hearts are invested in the mission of Boulder Valley. We're invested and own our roles. We know that God is excellent and so our excellence matters. Therefore, we strive to honor the Lord with our hard work. We also know that if everyone doesn't weigh in, they won't buy in. It is impossible to run with everyone's ideas, but we want to create an environment where all ideas are heard.

## BOULDER VALLEY STRATEGY

### *How do we succeed?*

Our Biblical mandate is to make followers of Jesus, also known as disciples. The disciples within Boulder Valley specialize in relationships. It is this lens by which we filter all our programs. With that being said, we have identified four key pillars to our training process. This is how we will succeed in building authentic relationships with God and one another. Some of our programs may overlap with multiple steps, but we firmly believe every follower of Jesus needs to learn (and relearn) these steps. The journey is never over. And we won't stop until everyone belongs.

## GRASP

- Every follower of Jesus will grasp the otherworldly love our Heavenly Father has for us (*Ephesians 3:16-19*)
- Boulder Valley primarily uses Launch and Alpha to help others *grasp*

## GATHER

- Every follower of Jesus will gather with community on a regular basis (*Acts 2:42-47*)
- Boulder Valley primarily uses Sunday Mornings and Life Groups to help others *gather*

## GROW

- Every follower of Jesus will grow in their emotional and spiritual health (*Luke 10:27*)
- Boulder Valley primarily uses Ultimate Journey and various Trips/Retreats to help others *grow*

## GO

- Every follower of Jesus will go into their circle of influence with a message (*Matthew 28:19-20*)
- Boulder Valley primarily uses Leadership Opportunities and Outreach Partners to help others *go*

## BOULDER VALLEY EVENTS

Along with the four key pillars of strategy listed above, Boulder Valley regularly hosts a wide range of events, from special Sunday services to seasonal gatherings, missions trips, and more. Here are some of the events you can expect. For more information, contact any of the Boulder Valley staff.

- MEN'S/WOMEN'S RETREATS
- ALL CHURCH GRAD PARTY
- SUMMER CAMPS – KIDS/STUDENTS
- PRAYER & WORSHIP NIGHTS

- DATE NIGHT ON US
- MULTI-CHURCH GATHERINGS
- HOLY LANDS TRIP
- ALL BV LEADER PARTY

# BOULDER VALLEY CULTURAL LANGUAGE

It's not just what you say, it's how you say it. Here at Boulder Valley, we're intentional about the language we use. Here are some things we say a whole lot, and others you'll never hear us utter.

- AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS
- COMMIT TO COMMUNITY
- CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE
- CONNECT TO GOD
- UNTIL EVERYONE BELONGS
- BECOME LIKE JESUS
- FAITH IS A TEAM SPORT
- A FAMILY ON MISSION
- TRANSFORMATION HAPPENS BEST IN CIRCLES
- FOLLOWERS OF JESUS RESPOND DIFFERENTLY
- UNITY WITHIN OUR DIVERSITY

INSTEAD OF	SAY THIS
BVCC	Boulder Valley
Volunteers/Helpers/Servers/Greeters	Leaders
Small Groups	Life Groups
The Church, My Team	Our Church, Our Team
Praise Team/Band	Worship Team
Chapel/Sanctuary	Gathering Room
I have to...help	I get to...serve
Foyer/Atrium	Lobby
Student Center	Roots Room
Youth Group	Roots/Student Ministry

Youth/Teens/Kids	Students
Children	Kids
Collection	Offering
Fellowship	Community
Tithe	Faithful Giving
Announcement	Opportunity
Eucharist/Lord's Table	Communion
When Referring to the building - Church	Church Building
Church Field	Boulder Valley Backyard



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