



### **AVERAGE PEOPLE MAKING JESUS FAMOUS**

We don't think you need a degree in theology to spread the good news of Jesus. The best ministry is accomplished by doing what you can, with what you have, where you are. Every Jesus follower is called to reflect God's goodness in their life because faith without action is dead.

## THE CHURCH BEFORE AX CHURCH

Other churches are our allies, not our enemies. We work with other churches to accomplish greater things than we could ever do alone. It's all about God's Kingdom, and we will gladly recommend other churches to people if Ax is not their style. We are one part of a move of God in the Illinois Valley.

# **PEOPLE, NOT PROGRAMS**

We invest our time and energy into people instead of elaborate ministry programs. Every person is valuable, whether young, old, rich, or poor, and we want to know their story. Our goal is that everyone finds best friends at Ax and relationships that last a lifetime.

#### **ACTIVELY IRRELIGIOUS**

Religion is primarily about rules and outward practices that fool people into thinking they are getting closer to God. We reject religion and focus on a real relationship with God. We believe controversy follows Jesus. So, as we follow Jesus, controversy will follow us.

### **BRUTALLY AUTHENTIC**

We believe that honesty is the best course of action in all circumstances. We want everyone in Ax to feel comfortable sharing their flaws and failures instead of putting on a mask to cover them up. We celebrate confession because it is the path to forgiveness and healing.





## **CONSISTENTLY CELEBRATING**

We live in a perpetual state of victory despite our circumstances. Jesus keeps showing up and doing miracles, so we keep cheering. We take time to celebrate good news in Ax and in the lives of our friends. We walk with an atmosphere of expectancy of what God will do next.

# **FOUND THEN FINDING OTHERS**

The end goal isn't simply to have a relationship with Jesus. It's to help others start a relationship with Jesus too. We welcome people to come as they are, but we don't stop there. We go to the places they are at and carry the gospel along with us. We find those who are lost and introduce them to the same Jesus that found us.