

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

THE FACTS OF MEMBERSHIP:

A numerical record was kept (Acts 2:37-47). Records were kept of widows (1 Timothy 5:3-16). Elections were conducted (Acts 6:1-6). Discipline was carried out (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1). Elders will be held accountable for members (Hebrews 13:17). There was an awareness of who was committed to the Church (Romans 16:1-16)

ELDER TEAM COVENANT

With the help of the Holy Spirit, the church leadership covenants the following:

1. We commit ourselves to lovingly care for you and seek your growth in Christ.
(Hebrews 13:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12)
2. We covenant to provide teaching, preaching and counsel from the Scriptures.
(Galatians 6:6; 1 Timothy 5:17-18)
3. We commit that this teaching will span the whole counsel of God's Word . (Acts 20:27-28)
4. We commit to helping you in times of need. (Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-35, James 2:14-17)
5. We covenant that your elders and deacons (when they are recognized) will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures. (1 Timothy 3:1-13 and 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-4)
6. We covenant to pray for you regularly, particularly when you are sick. (James 5:14)
7. We covenant to be on guard against false teachers.(Acts 20:28-31)
8. We covenant to exercise church discipline when necessary. (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1)
9. We covenant to help you become equipped to serve Christ.(Ephesians 4:11-13)
10. We covenant to seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit. (Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:1-5)
11. We covenant to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church membership.
(1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 4:12)

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEMBERSHIP COVENANT IS:

1. To intentionally join the Holy Spirit in forming an authentic church community that reflects the relationship between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. To clarify the on-going blessings and responsibilities of each member.
3. To encourage consistency, accountability and loving unity within the church family.
4. To accomplish God's mission for the Gospel Life church family. This agreement does not imply that you will never fall short of the goals, but that the desire of your heart is to fulfill each of the responsibilities stated to the best of your ability. We trust that your commitment will be a personal blessing to your own journey in Christ, as well as blessing to those around you.

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

We covenant to follow Jesus by reflecting the full range of the Father's character and attributes¹ to the community in which He has sent us.² This we will do by proclaiming the good news that Jesus Christ is Lord of the nations³ and through doing deeds that reflect the kingdom values taught by Jesus.⁴

We covenant to earnestly and authentically die to self daily⁵ as symbolized in water baptism that liberates us to humbly serve as our Master served.⁶ He commands us to follow in His footsteps⁷ by radically⁸ and relentlessly⁹ loving others through serving.¹⁰

We covenant to take literally the commission that Jesus both modeled¹¹ and now calls us to by laying down our lives for our brothers and sisters in Christ,¹² and our neighbors,¹³ including family,¹⁴ strangers,¹⁵ and even our enemies.¹⁶

We covenant to take seriously the many "one-another"¹⁷ statements in Scripture and to seek to fulfill them in intentional and meaningful ways. This will necessarily result in our living in Gospel community with one another in a way that holistically reflects the kingdom values of the called out people of God¹⁸ which reaches back to the covenant with Abraham.¹⁹

We covenant to pray specifically that the Father's kingdom would come and that His will would be done on earth as it is in heaven.²⁰

We covenant to actively employ all of our talents, money, time, energy, and resources²¹ for the mission to which we are called²² realizing that God is able to sufficiently provide to perform every good work.²³ We desire to give more than we keep for ourselves so that as a city set on a hill²⁴ we might beautifully reflect the spirit of Jesus' ministry displaying the reality²⁵ of the one true and living God, Yahweh²⁶

Signature: _____
(Please keep this document for personal review of your membership covenant)

¹ Communicable and incommunicable. Of the communicable vengeance is the only one off limits. Matt 5:45; Luke 6:36; John 1:18; 14:8-12; Rom 8:29; 2 Cor 3:18; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10; 1 Tim 6:16. Compare 2 Cor 4:4; Col 1:15.

² Matt 28:19-20; John 20:21.

³ Isa 52:7; Rom 10:15; Rom 16:20; Eph 6:15.

⁴ Matt 5-7; Matt 5:45; Luke 6:36; John 14:12; Rom 2:6-13; Gal 5:6; Eph 2:10; Phil 2:12-13; 1 Tim 6:18; Titus 2:7-14; Titus 3:8-14; Heb 10:24; Jas 1:27; Jas 2:14-26; Jas 3:13; 1 Pet 2:12; 1 John 2:6. Compare Jer 17:10; Titus 1:16; Rev 2:1-5; Rev 2:18-20.

⁵ Luke 9:23

⁶ Rom 6; Col 3:5.

⁷ Matt 11:29; John 15:4-5; 1 John 2:6.

⁸ John 6:51-69.

⁹ Luke 9:62.

¹⁰ Heb 9:14; 1 Pet 2:15-16.

¹¹ John 13:14-17.

¹² 1 Pet 4:9; Heb 13:1

¹³ Matt 22:39; 1 Cor 10:24; Gal 5:14.

¹⁴ Isa 58:7

¹⁵ Lev 19:34; Isa 58:7; Jer 29:4-7; Matt 25:35; Heb 13:2.

¹⁶ Matt 5:44; Luke 6:27, 35.

¹⁷ 1. Be at peace with each other (Mark 9:50). 2. Love one another (John 13:34). 3. Be joined to one another (Rom 12:5). 4. Be devoted to one another (Rom 12:10) 5. Honor one another (Rom 12:10). 6. Rejoice with one another (Rom 12:15) 7. Weep with one another (Rom 12:15) 8. Live in harmony with one another (Rom 12:16) 9. Accept one another (Rom 15:7) 10. Counsel one another (Rom 15:14). 11. Greet one another (Rom 16:16). 12. Agree with each other (1 Cor 1:10). 13. Wait for one another (1 Cor 11:33). 14. Care for one another (1 Cor 12:25). 15. Serve one another (Gal 5:13). 16. Carry one another's burdens (Gal 6:2). 17. Be kind to one another (Eph 4:32). 18. Forgive one another (Eph 4:32). 19. Submit to one another (Eph 5:21). 20. Bear with one another (Col 3:13). 21. Teach, admonish each other (Col 3:16). 22. Encourage one another (1 Thess 5:11). 23. Build up one another (1 Thess 5:11). 24. Spur one another on (Heb 10:24). 25. Offer hospitality to one another (1 Pet 4:9). 26. Minister gifts to one another (1 Pet 4:10). 27. Be humble toward one another (1 Pet 5:5). 28. Confess your sins to one another (Jas 5:16). 29. Pray for one another (Jas 5:16). 30. Fellowship with one another (1 John 1:7).

¹⁸ Heb 4:9; 1 Pet 2:9.

¹⁹ Matt 5:13-20; Rom 9:6-8; Gal 3:23-29; Gal 6:14-16.

²⁰ Matt 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4; John 17:1-26.

²¹ Ps 39:5; 90:9-12; Eccl 11:9; 12:7-14; Isa 58:7-12; Matt 6:19-34; Matt 19:21; 25:14-30; Luke 11:41; 12:15-40; 18:22; 1 Cor 10:31; 1 Tim 6:6-10; 1 Pet 1:13-19.

²² Acts 1:8; 18:10; Hebrews 11:8-10.

²³ 2 Cor 9:8; Phil 1:6.

²⁴ Jer 29:7; Matt 5:14; John 1:5, 9; 1 Pet 2:9.

²⁵ Gen 1:26-28; 5:1, 3; Exod 4:22; Ps 8:6-8; Jer 31:9; Dan 9:24; Hos 11:1; John 1:18; 2:19; 8:54; 14:7-15; Rom 9:4; 1 Cor 3:16-17; 2 Cor 6:16; Eph 2:21; 4:13, 24; Col 3:10; 1 Tim 6:16; Rev 3:12; 21:22.

²⁶ Jer 31:31-34; Ezek 11:19; Matt 28:20; Eph 4:12-13.