

Membership Covenant

The Nature of the Covenant

The last step in becoming a covenant member is agreeing to our Membership Covenant. Our goal in covenant membership is not to add anything to what it means to be the church but to affirm the scriptural mandates in the New Testament for elders and believers.

With covenant membership at Gospel Fellowship, the church elders covenant to spiritually lead and shepherd the flock of God well, in an effort to bring glory to Jesus. The members covenant to actively grow towards spiritual maturity as a part of this local congregation.

The Membership Covenant

By God's grace, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we agree to abide by the following:

The elders covenant to...

Appoint elders and church leaders according to the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4).

Prayerfully seek God's will for our church community and steward her resources to the best of our ability based on our study of the Scriptures and leading of the Spirit. (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4).

Care for the church and seek her growth in grace, truth, and love (Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 4:15-16, Colossians 1:28; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1-4).

Provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 4:1-5; Titus 2:1).

Equip the members of the church for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Be on guard against false teachers and false teachings (Matthew 7:15; Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 1 John 4:1).

Lovingly exercise discipline when necessary--for the glory of God, the good of the one receiving discipline, and the health of the church as a whole (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1; James 5:19-20).

Set an example and join members in fulfilling the obligations of church membership stated below (Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7-8; 1 Peter 5:3).

As a member, I covenant to live as a...

Worshiper

Submitting to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21).

Pursuing the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practicing of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22).

Following the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church:

1. By being baptized after my conversion.
2. By regularly remembering and celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion.

Servant

Regularly participating in the life of Gospel Fellowship by attending weekly services, engaging in a Christian community, and serving those within and outside of the church (Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; Titus 3:14).

Stewarding the resources God has given me, including time, talents, spiritual gifts and finances. This includes regular financial giving to support Gospel Fellowship, in a manner that is sacrificial, cheerful and voluntary (Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

Receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers or church leaders (Psalm 141:5; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Hebrews 12:5-11).

Submitting to the elders and other appointed leaders of the church and diligently striving for unity and peace within the church (Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5).

Witness

Walking in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ, striving to put sinful attitudes and actions to death, while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit. (1 Peter 1:13-16, 4:1-3).

Pursuing sexual purity and abstaining from sexually immoral practices such as adultery, homosexuality, premarital sex, and pornography (Romans 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20, 10:8; Ephesians 5:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).

Refraining from illegal drug use, drunkenness, gossip and other sinful behavior as the Bible dictates (Romans 1:28-32, 13:13; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:18; James 3:3-18).

Taking seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another (1 Corinthians 8:1-13).

Doing the following, should I leave Gospel Fellowship:

1. Notifying the church leadership
2. Seeking another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer

Your Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Cell Number: _____ Home Number: _____

Email address: _____

Marital Status: _____

Affirmations

I am a Christian because I believe that Jesus Christ died and rose again for my sins and I confess that Jesus is Lord over me.

I have read and affirm this Membership Covenant and Gospel Fellowship's Statement of Faith.

I have read and understand Gospel Fellowship's Theological Distinctions.

Baptism

- I have been baptized since becoming a Christian.
- I have not yet been baptized, but I would like to take this step of obedience.

Signature _____ Date: _____