



# Covenant Membership

Effective 1/1/2021

The Grace Church Covenant Membership is formed for the church body and its individual members in hopes we will experience the fullness of Christ in the process of sanctification. The purpose of this covenant is to serve as a teaching document to:

\*To clarify the Biblical principle and expectations for both the leaders of Grace Church and the individual members of the church body

\*To establish teaching and doctrinal parameters for the church body

This document is designed to for the overall vision and explain the scriptures in hopes that the church body will grow in Christ. This document will lay out basic principles and expectations of both the church and the body of believers.

## **What is the church?**

The church exists for the glory of God. Those of us who trust in and follow Jesus are a part of something bigger than ourselves. We have graciously been invited into God's redemptive purposes in the world.

## **Requirements for Membership**

Membership into Grace Church is predicated on being a genuine follower of Jesus, having responded by faith. Membership will require successfully going through the Covenant Class, going through the documents entitled *By-Laws* and *Statement of Faith*, and signing the Covenant Membership as defined by the Elders/Pastor/Staff.

## **Responsibilities of Members**

It is a privilege to be a church member. Members of the Church are held accountable for their actions, both within the church and outside the church. It is the member's responsibility to pursue personal holiness and corporate health of the body of believers.

Upon completion of Covenant Class and signing the Covenant Membership, the member will then be given voting privileges within the church when a vote is needed or called upon.

In signing the Covenant, Members attest that they have completed the membership process as instructed, read the Membership Covenant, and are willingly covenanting:

- to submit to the authority of the Scriptures (**Psalm 119**; **2 Timothy 3:14- 17**; **2 Peter 1:19-21**).
- to pursue the Lord Jesus through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship and practice of spiritual disciplines (**Luke 18:1**; **Acts 17:11**; **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**; **Ephesians 5:1-21**; **1 Thessalonians 5:12-22**).
- to follow the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church: By being baptized after conversion. By celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion
- to steward the resources God has given each Member, including time, talents, spiritual gifts and finances. (**Matthew 25:14-30**; **Romans 12:1-2**; **2 Corinthians 8-9**; **1 Peter 4:10-11**).
- To strive to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (**1 Peter 1:13-16**, **4:1-3**).

- to submit to the discipline of God through His Holy Spirit by: Following biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident and the hope of such discipline being repentance and restoration.
- to do the following when the Member sins: Confess to God and to fellow believers. Repent and seek to put the sin to death (**Romans 8:13**; **Colossians 3:5**; **James 5:16**; **1 John 1:6-10**).
- to submit to the Elders and other appointed leaders of the Church and diligently strive for unity and peace within the Church (**Ephesians 4:1-3**; **Hebrews 13:17**; **1 Peter 5:5**).
- to do the following should I leave the Church for righteous reasons: To notify a staff member or elder. To seek another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

By signing I agree to the Church By-Laws, the Church Constitution, the Statement of Faith, and the Covenant.

**Covenant Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elder/Pastor:** \_\_\_\_\_