



Church Matters

Covenant Church Membership

Theme: The local church has been given to us by God for us to be a part of as we seek to live in obedience to Him

I. Church membership is a Public Commitment to Jesus

1 Corinthians 12:13 (ESV)

13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Romans 1:7- “To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints...”

1 Corinthians 1:2- “To the church of God that is in Corinth”

Ephesians 1:1- “...to the saints who are in Ephesus...”

"Looking at the biblical epistles, It's clear that when the Holy Spirit wanted to address believers, He knew they would be found in the church."

@brian_boyles

Ephesians 5:25-27 (ESV)

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish

I. Church membership is a Public Commitment to Jesus

II. Church Membership is a Necessity for Care and Accountability

“The more disconnected we are from a local church, the more confused we will be about who we are and who God made us to be. We find our true individual selves in relationship to others”

-John Piper, Should I Commit to One Church?

Grace Baptist Fellowship's Membership Covenant

<https://www.gracesartell.net/about>

"Church membership is our opportunity to grasp hold of each other in responsibility and love. By identifying ourselves with a particular church, we let the pastors and other members of that local church know that we intend to be committed in attendance, giving, prayer, and service..."

...We allow fellow believers to have great expectations of us in these areas, and we make it known that we are the responsibility of this local church. We assure the church of our commitment to Christ in serving with them, and we call for their commitment to serve and encourage as well."

-Mark Dever, 9 Marks of a Healthy Church

Hebrews 13:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ **Obey** your leaders and **submit** to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Acts 6:3 (ESV)

³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.

Matthew 18:15-17 (ESV)

¹⁵ “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

Matthew 18:15-17 (ESV)

¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

I. Church membership is a Public Commitment to Jesus

II. Church Membership is a Necessity for Care and Accountability

III. Church Membership is to Edify One Another

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty,

24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.



Grace Baptist Fellowship

WITHOUT THE
CHURCH, YOU ARE
A SEVERED TOE

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"From birth, you were meant to belong — to know and be known, to stir and be stirred, to encourage and be encouraged. That kind of love happens through commitment — not through a group of regular attenders, but through a devoted family..."

...So, if you're a toe without legs and arms and a head, if you're a lost sheep with bad eyesight and a loud stomach, if you're a brother or sister without a father, a mother, or siblings, join that church and experience what it really means to be home."

-Marshall Segal

