



GRACEchurch OF ORANGE

Volunteer Ministry Application

This application is the starting step of getting involved in ministry at Grace. We consider our volunteer ministers vital to the ongoing work of equipping believers to serve the Lord and for reaching our community for Christ. Additionally, it is the Elder's responsibility to make sure those who teach are in agreement with our doctrinal positions as well as equipped to fulfill their teaching role. Seeking to be good stewards and being overseers of the flock of God at Grace Church we have developed this application for those who would like to serve God at Grace. We feel that it is of utmost importance to establish certain policies and procedures for Bible teachers as well as those who work with adults, youth and children. We desire to fulfill our responsibility before the Lord Jesus Christ and to all those who enter the doors of our church by helping our team of ministry volunteers to be dedicated, equipped, and trained. Thank you for considering this ministry as unto the Lord. We want you to know that the leadership of Grace Church is here to help you accomplish the task that the Lord has placed before you.

QUALIFICATIONS

The basic qualifications for involvement as a teacher or leader are that you:

- Are a maturing follower of Jesus Christ.
- Have demonstrated knowledge of and ability to apply and communicate Biblical truth (applies to those seeking teaching ministry).
- Have been interviewed by a Pastor or Elder of Grace Church.
- Have been actively attending Grace Church for a minimum of six months.
- Have several positive references.
- Agree with and support the Statement of Faith of Grace Church of Orange.
- Complete the application and training process

APPLICATION PROCESS

Note: Information contained in this application is completely confidential. All information is kept in a locked file, available only to the Elders and/or pastoral staff.

1. Return the completed application in a sealed envelope to the church office. Please retain the cover letter and Statement of Faith for your records.
2. Following the evaluation of your application and with approval from the Elders, a ministry leader will contact you to discuss the general church policies and the specific procedures pertaining to the position for which you are volunteering.

GRACE CHURCH OF ORANGE STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe and teach the following statements as the basic truths taught in the Bible.

1. **THE BIBLE:** the Word of God, the sixty-six (66) Books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally inspired in all parts, wholly without error as originally given by God, the complete and final written revelation from God, and sufficient as our only rule of faith and practice. (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:19-21)
2. **THE ONE TRUE GOD:** manifested in three distinct and separate persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, each of Whom is God and to be worshiped as God. (Luke 3:22; Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14)
3. **THE HEAVENLY FATHER:** preexistent deity (Isaiah 9:6), who gave his only begotten Son for the sins of man, (John 3:16), who hears and answers the prayers of believers in Christ (John 16:23), who cares and provides for His children (Matthew 6:25-33), who offers an intimate relationship to all mankind (II Corinthians 1:3; Galatians 4:6; Colossians 1:1-12).
4. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:** preexistent deity (John 1:1-3), God manifest in human form (John 1:14), born of a virgin (Matthew 1:18-23), sinless (Hebrews 4:15), crucified for our sins (I Peter 3:18), resurrected bodily from the dead (Luke 24:36-43), ascended to heaven (Acts 1:9-11), and coming back again to establish His Kingdom on Earth (Revelation 21:1-7).
5. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** preexistent deity (Acts 5:3-4), convicting of sin and guiding into Truth (John 16:7-15), and causing spiritual birth (John 3:5), baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ and indwelling at the moment of spiritual birth (I Corinthians 12:13; Romans 8:9), filling and empowering believers for Christian life and service (Ephesians 5:18, 3:16, 4:30; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:16, 22-23).
6. **MAN:** created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-28), fell into sin resulting in spiritual death (Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 5:12, 3:23), and now all men and women need a spiritual birth for salvation (John 3:3-5).
7. **THE SALVATION OF MAN:** complete and eternal salvation from sin, death and hell by God's grace alone, received as a gift from God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work, secured eternally in Christ (John 10:28-29; Jude 23-24; John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 14:6; Romans 10:9,10; I Peter 1:18-19, I John 5:11-13).
8. **CHRISTIAN LIVING:** righteousness, good works, and separation unto God from the evil ways of the world (Romans 12:1,2), manifested by speaking the truth (James 5:12), maintaining the sanctity of the home (Ephesians 5:22-6:4), settling differences between Christians according to the Word of God (I Corinthians 6:1-8), not engaging in carnal strife (Romans 12:17-21), exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), maintaining a life of prayer (Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 4:6; James 5:13-18).
9. **THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST:** one true Church, the body and bride of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:22-32; Matthew 16:13-18), composed of all true believers of the present age of Grace (I Corinthians 12:12-13); and the organization of its members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for world-wide gospel witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (Ephesians 4:11-16; Acts 2:41-47).
10. **THE ORDINANCES:** we believe in 1) water baptism by immersion and practice the triune form, baptizing once each in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19), and in 2) remembering our Lord's commands the last night He was with His disciples in the Upper Room and practice a three-fold communion service which includes: the Lord's supper (I Corinthians 11:20-22, 33-34; Jude 12), washing the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), and the communion of the bread and cup (I Corinthians 11:23-26).
11. **THE GREAT COMMISSION:** to preach the Gospel and make disciples of all nations as our Lord commanded (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15), every believer being a witness for Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 5:11-21), trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8), and responsible to pray for (Matthew 9:36-38), support (I Corinthians 9:13-14), and send missionaries into all the world (Romans 10:13-15).
12. **SATAN:** created by God but through pride and sinful ambition rebelled against God (Isaiah 14:13-14; Ezekiel 28:13-17), exists as the great adversary of God and His people (Revelation 12:1-10; Ephesians 6:12-18), deceives and blinds people (John 8:44; Genesis 3; II Corinthians 4:4), will be judged by God (John 12:31), and final destiny is eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire (Revelation 12:9-10, 20:10).
13. **THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST:** the personal, visible and imminent return of Christ to remove His church from the earth (I Thessalonians 4:13-18) before the tribulation (I Thessalonians 1:9-10; Revelation 3:10), and afterward to descend with the Church to establish His millennial kingdom upon the earth (Revelation 19:11-20:6).
14. **THE FUTURE LIFE:** the conscious existence of the dead (Philippians 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), believers in God's presence upon death (II Corinthians 5:8), believers in heaven awaiting the resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgment and reward of believers (Romans 14:10-12; II Corinthians 5:9-10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Revelation 20:11-15), the eternal life of the saved (John 3:16, 5:24), and the eternal punishment of the lost (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:15).

List all churches you have attended regularly during the past 5 years: (Attach separate sheet if necessary)

Name/Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Dates Attended: _____

Name/Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Dates Attended: _____

Section III PERSONAL REFERENCES (EXCLUDING FORMER EMPLOYERS AND RELATIVES)

Name	Name
Mailing Address	Mailing Address
Phone	Phone
Relationship:	Relationship:

Section IV PERSONAL TESTIMONY
To be completed by those who are not yet members of Grace Church

Have you committed your life to Christ? Yes No Don't Know

Please share with us how you came to know Christ and how you have grown in your relationship with Him.

SECTION V APPLICANT'S STATEMENT

The pastors and elders of Grace Church of Orange will hold this statement in strict confidentiality. The ministry leader will ask for the applicant's permission before discussing this application with any other person.

Legal and liability issues make the asking of these questions necessary. Also note that the pastors/elders are required by law to report any suspected child or elder abuse.

Please answer all questions honestly; no questions automatically disqualify, but all volunteers for Children's/Youth Ministries must be truthful with the pastors and themselves about their conduct and convictions.

- 1. Have you ever been accused or convicted of child abuse or a crime involving actual or attempted sexual molestation of a minor? Yes No
- 2. Have you ever been a victim of sexual abuse? Yes No
- 3. Have you regularly viewed pornography in the last year? Yes No
- 4. Have you ever been convicted of a felony offense? Yes No
- 5. Have you ever engaged in homosexual activity? Yes No
- 6. Have you consumed illegal drugs or narcotics during the last 5 years? Yes No
- 7. Have you ever undergone treatment or counseling for alcoholism or substance abuse? Yes No

- I have read and agree to faithfully teach and practice basic truths of the Bible contained in the GCO Statement of Faith.
- I have read and agree to faithfully teach and practice basic truths of the Bible contained in the GCO Statement of Faith with the following exceptions:

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and policies of Grace Church, and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of the church.

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any references or churches listed in this application to give you any information (including opinions) that they may have regarding my character and fitness for ministry to children, youth, or adults. In consideration of the receipt and evaluation of this application by Grace Church, I hereby release any individual, church, youth organization, charity, employer, reference or any other person or organization, including record custodians, both collectively and individually, from any and all liability for damages of whatever kind or nature which may at any time result to me, my heirs, or family, on account of compliance or any attempts to comply, with this authorization. I waive any right that I may have to inspect any information provided about me by any person or organization identified by me in this application.

I further state that I have read and agree to comply with the GCO Child Protection Policy and **I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FOREGOING RELEASE AND KNOW THE CONTENTS THEREOF AND I SIGN THIS RELEASE AS MY OWN FREE ACT.** This is a legally binding agreement which I have read and understand.

Print Name

Signature

Date

***** OFFICE USE ONLY *****

Approved to serve in the following areas (check all that apply): Children Youth Adult Small Group

In the following capacity: Teacher / Leader Assistant / Helper

Elder Approval Given on _____

REQUEST FOR CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK AND AUTHORIZATION

Important: This section must be completed by every applicant regardless of criminal record.

I hereby request and authorize the release of any information which pertains to any record of convictions contained in law enforcement files or in any criminal file maintained on me whether local, state or national. I hereby release local, state and national law enforcement agencies from any and all liability resulting from such disclosure. I further acknowledge that if a criminal background check is conducted as may be required under the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, I may be denied access to children while the application is pending. I further understand that in accordance with this law, if I am denied a position because of a conviction which appears as a result of such search, I may challenge such information.

Signature: _____ Today's date: _____

Print name: _____

Print maiden name (if applicable) _____

Print all aliases: _____

Date of birth: _____ Place of birth: _____

Driver's license number and state: _____ state: _____

Social security number: _____