

Veritas Membership Covenant

“When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.”

—Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

When anyone enters into relationship with God by grace from, and faith in, the person and work of Jesus Christ they are entering into two covenants.

The **first** is to journey with God for the rest of their lives and love Him fully.

The **second** is to journey with His other children in the community of the local church. Your partnership in a church is an official recognition of this.

The Purposes of the Veritas Membership Covenant are:

- To join the Spirit in forming an authentic church community that reflects the relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit.
- To clarify the on-going blessings & responsibilities of each member.
- To encourage consistency, accountability, and loving unity within the church family.
- To accomplish God’s call for the Veritas 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 Jesus, as well as blessing to those around you.

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

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

With the guiding help of the Holy Spirit, I, the undersigned, covenant the following:

- I am a Christian who has been saved from my sins by the grace of Jesus Christ. I have been baptized to give testimony of my identification with the body of Christ and obedience to the Scriptures.
- I have read and understood the Veritas doctrinal statement and agree to not be divisive to its teaching. I also understand the importance of submission to church leadership and will be diligent to preserve unity and peace. (Hebrews 13:7, 17; Ephesians 4:1-3)
- I will endeavor to maintain a close relationship with the Lord through regular, personal Bible reading, prayer, community, and practice of the other spiritual disciplines. My journey in Christ will be evident through my regular participation in the corporate worship gatherings and involvement in a Community Group. (Psalm 119:97, 105; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25)
- I will strive to properly manage the resources God has given me, including my time, body, gifts & talents, attitudes, finances, and possessions. (Ephesians 5:15-18; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:1-16; Galatians 5:22-26; Proverbs 3:9-10) This includes regular giving to Veritas that is sacrificial and cheerful. (2 Corinthians 8-9)
- I commit myself to the Veritas church family and agree to aid in fulfilling its missional purpose to bring the gospel to Columbus. I recognize that this will be accomplished by pursuing Veritas' vision, identity, and rhythms.
- I commit to using the spiritual gift(s) God has given me for the building up of the church, both at Veritas and universally. (1 Peter 4:10-11; Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7-31)
- I covenant to practice the humility and sacrificial attitude of Christ by considering the needs of others (Philippians 2:1-11), not gossiping (Proverbs 16:28; Matthew 18:15-17), and seeking spiritual friendships (Proverbs 17:17).
- I covenant to follow the biblical procedures of church discipline, and submit myself to discipline if the need should ever arise. (Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1-5)
- I covenant to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues. (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:16-17) God enabling me, I will strive to consider my commitment to this Membership Covenant on a yearly basis. I understand that it is an evaluative tool, as well as an affirmation of my continuing conviction and purpose. My responsibility will be to notify the Veritas leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Veritas.

[] I have completed my meeting with an elder (Elder Name:_____)

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Note: In order to remain accountable all members participate in an annual members review.