

A Summary of our Membership Moments

Podcasts of all of our Membership Moments are available on in the website SERMONS tab.

How to find Membership Moment Teaching lessons at our website:

Click on the “Sermons” link in the left column of our website

Click on any of the 6 “Membership Moments” listed, from October 29th through December 6th.

PART I: “What is the Church?”

It isn't the building.

It isn't Sunday morning gatherings.

It is the “ecclesia,” an assembly of ‘called out ones.’

God has called us into a vertical relationship with Him, and a horizontal relationship with other like-minded believers.

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-20

PART II: “What is the purpose of the Church?”

The purpose of CBF: *“transforming men, women, and children into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ”*

The ‘DNA’ of CBF is:

Expository Preaching

Youth Ministries

Local and World Missions

PART III: “What does the Church believe?”

The Statement of Faith of Community Bible Fellowship:

1. *The Bible*

We believe the Bible to be the verbally inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original documents, and it is the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and life. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

2. *The Godhead*

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:18-19, Mark 12:29)

3. *The Creation and Fall of Man*

We believe that humans were created in God's image; that all have sinned through Adam's transgression as well as personal experience; that they are totally lost and separated from God, and spiritually dead in their sins. (Genesis 1:27, Romans 3:10-12)

4. *The Person and Work of Jesus Christ*

We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin; that He is truly God and truly man; that He died for our sins as a substitutionary sacrifice to justify and reconcile us to God; that all who trust Him as Savior are eternally saved on the grounds of His finished work. (Luke 1:35-40, John 1:1-10, Romans 5:6-9, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13)

5. *The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit*

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement; that He indwells and baptizes all believers into the Body of Christ at the moment of salvation. (1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:13, John 16:8-11, Titus 3:5)

6. *The Ordinances*

We believe that water baptism, which is a testimony of a believer's faith and the Lord's Supper, which is a memorial and testimonial of Christ's sacrifice on our behalf, are the only ordinances for the Church as defined by the Scriptures. (Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

7. *The Final Things*

We believe in the personal, imminent, pre-millennial return of Christ for His own; that the saved will be in His presence in glory forever, while the lost shall suffer physical, eternal punishment and separation from God forever. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Luke 16:19-26, Revelation 20:1-3)

PART IV: "Who is 'in charge' of the Church?"

It isn't the pastor.

It isn't the people.

Jesus Christ is the head of the church. Ephesians 1:20-23

Elders are the under-shepherds of the church. Their qualifications and qualities are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. They are to guide, protect, and nurture the church.

CBF is an Elder-led church. Deacons also serve our church family, following the example of Acts 6:1-7, having the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Their ministry answers the question: "what can I do to help?"

PART V: "Why should I become a member of a local Church?"

1 Corinthians 12:12—believers are **interdependent** upon one another. We are called to relationship.

John 13:34-35—believers are called to love one another, as a **testimony** to the world at large. Love doesn't exist outside of commitment.

1 Corinthians 5:9-11—believers are to be **accountable** to one another. We grow in difficult times.

Hebrews 10:24-25—believers are to be an **encouragement** to one another. We need each other. Community groups are a key to this.

Hebrews 10:24-25—believers are **commanded** to make involvement in a local church a priority.

Membership in a local church is ultimately a commitment to God. It is a public pledge to be held accountable as a believer in Jesus.

PART VI: "What are my responsibilities as a member?"

Faithful attendance. Hebrews 10:24

Community group involvement. We need one another to do life together.

Support the local ministry:

Through prayer. Prayer is the engine that drives ministry. Colossians 4:2

Through intentional, sacrificial giving, with joy. 1 Corinthians 9:7

Through personal involvement in ministry. Romans 12:1

Through the pursuit of Biblical unity. John 17:20-21

Becoming a Member of Community Bible Fellowship

"Transforming men, women & children into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"

How To Become a Member of CBF

Becoming a member of Community Bible Fellowship is not a matter of simply having your name added to a roll of this local church. We believe that being recognized as a member of CBF carries with it the understanding of and commitment to what it means to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ, an essential part of the Family of God. To that end, we see membership at Community Bible Fellowship as a three-fold process:

1. Every member has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

This is the essential foundation of being a part of the Body of Christ. If you have any questions about this, any of the Pastoral staff or Elder team would be delighted to share more with you.

2. Every member has listened to the six "Membership Moments," either when they were initially presented on Sunday mornings, or by listening to the online podcasts.

Podcasts of all of our Membership Moments are available on our church's website. You can access them by the following steps:

✚ Go to www.cbfministries.org.

✚ Click on the "Sermons" link in the left column.

✚ Click on any of the six "Membership Moments" listed, from October 29th through December 6th.

If you have any difficulty, or have any questions, please contact the church office at (309) 527-6321 or churchoffice@cbfministries.org.

3. Every member signs a Letter of Commitment.

This is a commitment we make to the Lord and one another that is renewed every five years. By signing this letter, we individually pledge our commitment and desire to be an integral part of what God is doing at CBF. A copy of this letter is enclosed.

CBF's Statement of Faith

1. The Bible

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2018 Commitment Agreement

1. **Salvation** - I testify that I have trusted in Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and acknowledge that my personal salvation is attained by faith alone in His finished work.
2. **Doctrine** - I testify that I have read the Statement of Faith of Community Bible Fellowship and am in fundamental agreement with it. I pledge to inform the Elders of any serious difference I have with it.
3. **Relationships** - I pledge that I will strive to support my fellow family members by regular participation in worship, fellowship, and service: in prayer, love, hospitality, admonition, and encouragement.
4. **Spiritual Life** - I pledge that, with God's help, I will faithfully maintain my walk with my Heavenly Father in personal and corporate worship, in the pursuit of holy living, in my witness to those outside the Body of Christ, and in submission to Church leadership.
5. **Stewardship** - I pledge to share my time, abilities, and financial resources in the Lord's work as my Heavenly Father has prospered me.

I have listened to all six "Membership Moment" lessons--either in actual attendance or by accessing the lessons online. Having read the Commitment agreement, and desiring to join the membership of the church family at Community Bible Fellowship, I submit this completed Letter of Commitment.

Name (print) _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- renewal of membership
- first time application of membership

***Please turn this in to either the Connection Counter
or the mailbox of the Church Administrator.***

About your passions

What is your passion? What motivates and/or energizes you? Our Heavenly Father equips each and every believer with “spiritual gifts”/abilities which He desires to be used for the benefit of the Church, and His Kingdom. What has God laid on your heart regarding ministry or service to others that you are currently involved in, or would like to be? We need to know. Please take a few moments to write your thoughts below.

pas•sion [pa`sh`n] noun

[12th century. Via the French from the Latin stem passion-suffering affection]

- a. A powerful emotion, such as love, joy, hatred, or anger.
- b. Great warmth and intensity of feeling
- c. Energetic and unflagging pursuit of an aim or devotion to a cause
- d. Lively or eager interest in or admiration for a proposal, cause, or activity

Intense enthusiasm for something: a keen interest in a particular subject or activity • a passion for music

A strong, enthusiastic devotion to a cause, an ideal, or a goal and tireless diligence in its furtherance. An ardent affection: a strong liking or desire for or devotion to some activity, object, or concept.