

Examination for Communicant Membership

Part 1 – Do you understand and affirm the Gospel and the Membership Vows?

Why now? What are you seeking and why?
Give us your personal testimony (3-5 minutes).
What difference does it make to you and in your life
now that you are a believer?

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope, except through His sovereign mercy?

Think about this:

Who is God? What is man? Who am I?
Where in the Bible does it teach of man's sin before God and its consequences?
What does it mean to say "I am a sinner?" What is sin? How bad is it?
Why does sin displease (anger) God? How do I know it displeases Him?
Why does sin mean I have no hope for heaven on my own?
What is mercy? Why must I depend on mercy? Why can't I do this for myself?

2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and trust Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Think about this:

Briefly tell the story of Jesus.
What do we mean by calling Jesus the "Son of God"? What makes Him special?
How does the Bible teach that Jesus is the Savior of sinners?
Why is the resurrection important? What difference does that make to me?
What is faith? What does it mean to "believe in the Lord Jesus Christ"?
What will happen when I die?

3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you endeavor to live as becometh the followers of Christ?

Think about this:

Who is the Holy Spirit? What is His job?
Has the Holy Spirit come into your life? Tell us about it. Are you certain?
How does He help you living the Christian life?
What is grace? Why do I need "the grace of the Holy Spirit" to live your life?
What does a Christian do that makes him different than others?

What is the reason you must live differently than other people?

4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Think about this:

What is worship? Why do we worship God?

What is the Lord's Day? What does God call me to do on the Lord's Day?

What is the church? What does it mean to be part of the church?

What is the "work of the church"?

Why do I have to promise to support the church? What does that mean?

5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to strive for its purity and peace?

Think about this:

What is the government of the church? How does this function?

What is the discipline of the church? What is this all about?

Why must I submit to it?

What does it mean that I strive for purity and peace in the church?

Part 2 - The Means of God's Grace

The Bible speaks of three, primary means by which a Christian receives the gift of grace from God day by day. All of these are important in the Christian's life.

1) The Word of God

Think about this:

Do I read God's Word on a daily basis? Am I familiar with it?

Do I listen eagerly to the Word proclaimed from the pulpit?

Do I trust God's Word for direction and guidance in my life?

2) Prayer

Think about this:

How is my prayer life? Do I know of any models or guides for prayer?

How may I address God in prayer?

How does prayer change me?

3) Sacraments

a) Baptism

When was I baptized?

What does baptism signify? (What does it mean?)

b) Lord's Supper

When does New Covenant Church ordinarily observe the Lord's Supper?

How am I to prepare for the Lord's Supper?

What is signified (meant) by the bread? juice?

What should I be thinking about while I am partaking?

What should I do after I partake?

Part 3 - Additional Topics

In this section, the elders might ask questions of you related to depth of faith or knowledge. This is simply to get to know you better and have some understanding of how much you have learned over the years as well as to learn how the elders might help you to grow in the future.

Topics that might come up in this section include: the nature and attributes of God, the five points of historic Calvinism, or other material that was taught you in the Inquirer's Class. All are important topics, to be sure, but not essential to becoming a Communicant Member at this time. It also gives you an opportunity to ask questions of your elders and to get to know them better.

My Application
for Communicant Membership
to the Session of
New Covenant Presbyterian Church,
Abingdon, Maryland

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Age: _____

Write two or three sentences about why you think this is the right time for this step?

Write out in the space below why it is that you know you are a Christian and what difference it has made in your life?

This may be given to any elder of the church
or turned in to the secretary's office.