

*Blueprint: God's Plan for the Church*

**“Membership Matters”**

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Ephesians 4:11-16

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- A. Membership has its \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Consider the biblical images used to describe the church: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, building, and \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Cor. 12:12-37; Eph. 2:19-22, 1 Pet. 5:2)
- C. In church membership, we intentionally commit ourselves to a specific group of believers in order to live out these “\_\_\_\_\_” commands in concrete ways.
- D. How can the church practice meaningful accountability and church \_\_\_\_\_ without the concept of membership? (Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-2)

Membership Covenant

- 1. I believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule for faith and life (Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- 2. I believe in the one living and true God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as revealed in the Scriptures (Gen. 1:1, 26; Mt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 1 Pt. 1:2; Eph. 4:4-6).
- 3. I have become a Christian by professing my faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as my Lord and Savior; by repenting of my sin; confessing my helplessness as a sinner before God; by being immersed in the waters of baptism for the forgiveness of sins; and by dedicating myself to His service (Lk. 9:23-24; Jn. 3:3, 5; Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:16; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 22:16).
- 4. I promise to endeavor to forsake all sin, and to conform my life to God's commands and Jesus' teaching and example (Eph. 4:1; 22-32; 5:1-5; Col. 3:1-14; Jn. 8:31-32; 14:21, 23).
- 5. I promise to submit in the Lord to the teaching and leadership of this church as being based upon the Scriptures (Heb. 13:7, 17; 1 Thess. 5:12-14; Eph. 4:11-13; Acts 20:28-32).
- 6. I recognize my responsibility to love and care for my brothers and sisters in Christ, and I promise to work with others in the church and to support and encourage them in their service to the Lord (Phil. 2:1-16; Rom. 12:1-16; 1 Cor. 12:1 – 13:13).
- 7. In case I should need correction in doctrine or life, I promise to respect the authority and discipline of the church and its leadership (Pro. 10:17, 12:1; Mt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Thess. 3:14-15; Titus 3:9-11).
- 8. To the end that I may grow in the Christian life, I promise to diligently read the Bible, engage in private prayer, keep the Lord's Day, regularly attend the worship services, Bible classes and fellowship opportunities, and to give to the Lord's work as He shall prosper me (2 Pt. 1:5-11; 1 Pt. 2:2-3; 2 Tim. 2:15; Ps. 1:1-3; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-8).
- 9. I purpose to be spiritually minded by walking in the Spirit, and by seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness in all the relationships and aspects of life (Rom. 8:5; Gal. 5:16, 25; Mt. 6:33).
- 10. I purpose to faithfully to perform my whole duty as a true servant of Jesus Christ, and as an ambassador and witness for Christ in seeking to win others to Him (Mt. 5:13-16; 20:26-28; 1 Pt. 4:10-11; 1 Cor. 9:19-23; 2 Cor. 5:20).
- 11. I make this profession of faith and purpose in the presence of God, in humble reliance upon His grace, as I desire to give my account with joy at the Last Great Day (Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 14:10-12; Heb. 4:13).

Answer Key: A. privileges, responsibilities. B. body, country, family, flock. C. one, another. D. discipline.