

G MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Grace Church believes that membership in a local body of believers is an important step in an individual's maturity in Christ. Membership involves a person making a commitment to a local fellowship of believers. We at Grace Church believe committed Christians are progressing toward maturity and that this covenant will help us in that progression. In view of this fact, the Elder Council will consider exceptions.

1. **I have read and support Grace Church's Declaration of Faith.**
2. **I am a regular and frequent attendee of Sunday morning worship services.** Hebrews 10:25: *"not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."*
3. **I am committed to discover my spiritual gift(s) and use it in at least one area of ministry. This does not have to be a Grace Church sponsored ministry.** I Corinthians 12:7: *"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."*
4. **I acknowledge that everything I have belongs to God and therefore I will honor the Lord with my financial resources.** II Corinthians 9:7: *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*
5. **I seek to live a Spirit-filled life that is growing in holiness.** Galatians 5:16: *"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."*
6. **I support the vision of Grace Church: Equipping people to worship God as a community on mission.** Hebrews 12:28-13:3 *"Therefore, let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body."*
7. **I have been baptized as a believer by immersion and regularly participate in the communion celebration.** Romans 6:4: *"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."* I Corinthians 11:26: *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*
8. **I commit to pursue community and accountability for the purpose of spiritual growth.** Galatians 6:2: *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of*

Christ.”

9. **I will strive to preserve the unity of Grace Church while recognizing I will not always be in uniformity on all issues.** I Corinthians 12:12: *“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.”*

10. **I commit to regularly pray for the people, the programs, the problems and the fulfillment of the mission of Grace Church.** James 5:16b: *“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.”*

11. **I commit to preserve my personal family as a priority relationship second only to my relationship with God.** Genesis 2:23-24: *“Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.’ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”*

12. **I recognize church discipline as the loving responsibility of the church to restore the fallen brother or sister. I agree to submit to the church’s discipline if such measures are deemed necessary by the Elder Council of Grace Church.** Matthew 18:15-17: *“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”*

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