



MERCY VILLAGE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

The spouse of Christ cannot be adulterous; she is uncorrupted and pure. She knows one home; she guards with chaste modesty the sanctity of one couch. She keeps us for God. She appoints the sons whom she has born for the kingdom. Whoever is separated from the Church and is joined to an adulteress, is separated from the promises of the Church; nor can he who forsakes the Church of Christ attain to the rewards of Christ. He is a stranger; he is profane; he is an enemy. He can no longer have God for his Father, who has not the Church for his mother.

Saint Cyprian – Bishop of Carthage (Lived 210-258)

When anyone enters into a relationship with God by grace through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ, they enter 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.

Whether you realized it or not, when you trusted Christ you entered into covenant with Jesus and, simultaneously, with the rest of the universal church—all truly converted Christians throughout the world. To reflect our union with Christ and with all Christians, we are called to make a concrete commitment to a group of Christians in our city with whom we live out our faith together missionally and in covenant with one another.

Your covenant membership in a church is an official recognition of this reality, and the purposes of the Mercy Village Membership Covenant are:

1. To join the Spirit in forming an authentic community that reflects the relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit.
2. To clarify the ongoing blessings and responsibilities of each member.
3. To encourage consistency, accountability, and loving unity within the church family.
4. To accomplish God's call for the Mercy Village Church family.

This covenant 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 Christ, as well as a blessing to those around you.

WITH BIBLICAL CONVICTION AND THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE CHURCH LEADERSHIP AT MERCY VILLAGE CHURCH COMMITS TO:

1. We covenant to lovingly care for you and seek your growth in Christ (Hebrews 13:17; I Thessalonians 5:12).
2. We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the Scriptures (Galatians 6:6; I Timothy 5:17–18).
3. We covenant that this teaching will span the whole counsel of God’s Word (Acts 20:27–28).
4. We covenant to help you in times of need (Acts 2:42–47, 4:32–35; James 2:14–17).
5. We covenant that your elders and deacons will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (I Timothy 3:1–13; 5:17–22; Titus 1:5–9; I Peter 5:1–4).
6. We covenant to pray for you regularly, particularly when you are sick (James 5:14).
7. We covenant to be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28–31).
8. We covenant to exercise church discipline when necessary—and only with patience, clarity, intentionality, and genuine love (Matthew 18:15–20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1).
9. We covenant to help you become equipped to serve Christ (Ephesians 4:11–13).
10. 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; I Peter 5:1–5).
11. We covenant to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church members (I Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; I Timothy 4:12).
12. We covenant to be good stewards and managers of the resources of this church (Acts 11:29–30; II Thessalonians 3:10–12).
13. We covenant, by God’s grace, to exemplify the mission statement, vision statement, core-values, key distinctives, and DNA statements of Mercy Village Church.
14. We covenant to abide by the by-laws of Mercy Village Church as we lead, guide, and participate in the body-life of Mercy Village Church.
15. We covenant to lead alongside the body of Christ at Mercy Village Church as servants to one another—not lording our authority over the church for personal gain or glory (1 Peter 5:2–3; Matthew 10:25–28).
16. We covenant to uphold the doctrinal statement of Mercy Village Church.
17. We covenant to act according to the Leadership Core-Values and Elder Core-Values as they apply to each of us specifically.

WITH BIBLICAL CONVICTION AND THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, ALL COVENANT MEMBERS AT MERCY VILLAGE CHURCH COMMIT TO:

1. Verbally affirm their faith in the work of Christ alone for salvation in their life.
2. Publicly celebrate this work of salvation through believer’s baptism, or affirm past participation in baptism conducted in a Protestant church.
3. Consistently pursue a lifestyle of abiding in Christ as a through Scripture, prayer, and the engagement of other Christian practices.
4. Follow the example of Christ in personal holiness in all of life and pursue accountability from one another.
5. Remember Christ’s work by regularly taking communion corporately at Mercy Village Church.
6. Actively participate in biblical community that provides accountability with other believers and aligns with the vision and mission of Mercy Village Church.

7. Consistently pray for one another and our church leaders.
8. Engage with the body through regular attendance and service at corporate gatherings.
9. Build one another up in the faith through God's word, intentional encouragement, and the exercise of spiritual gifts in serving the body of Christ.
10. Grow in biblical generosity by giving cheerfully, consistently, and sacrificially, prioritizing Mercy Village Church's general offering for supporting Kingdom work.
11. Proactively declare and demonstrate the gospel to non-Christians.
12. Support and pray for people sent out by Mercy Village Church to mission locally, nationally, and globally.
13. Pursue training opportunities through classes, conferences, seminars as appropriate.
14. Prioritize participation in Covenant Member gatherings (member meetings).
15. Speak truth to leaders and members as led by The Holy Spirit, but to refrain from doing this in a manner outside of the Biblical expectations of speaking the truth in love while honoring the process of Matthew 18:15–20 when confronting sin. All this for the sake of maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the body of Christ.
16. Teach nothing contrary to Mercy Village Church's Doctrinal Statement, Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core-Values, Key-Distinctives, and DNA Statements of Mercy Village Church.
17. Submit to the care and direction of the elders of Mercy Village Church, knowing they are charged by God with the responsibility of leading, feeding, and protecting our covenant members.

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 Mercy Village leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Mercy Village Church.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Elder _____