

Bethel Church Membership Covenant

Introduction

Church membership is a joyful commitment to unite with a local body of believers so that, together, we may glorify God by following Jesus and helping others follow Him.

Membership is not a commitment to perfection. It is a commitment to pursue life in Christ alongside one another through repentance, faith, worship, discipleship, service, and mission. We commit not to perfection, but to progress in the Christian life.

As a member of Bethel Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, I commit myself to growing in our 4 essential rhythms:

- **Receive Grace**
- **Engage in Worship**
- **Strengthen the Church**
- **Tell the World**

Receive Grace

Because salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone, I commit to:

Rest in the gospel

I will place my faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the only means by which I am reconciled to God.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” — Ephesians 2:8–9

Publicly identify with Christ

I will hold to baptism as a public declaration of my faith and my identification with Jesus and His church.

“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.” — Romans 6:4

Practice daily repentance and faith

I recognize that repentance and faith are not one-time events but a lifelong pattern of discipleship. I will regularly confess sin, receive God's forgiveness, and remind myself of the truths given me in the gospel.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” — 1 John 1:9

Engage in Worship

Because God is worthy of my wholehearted devotion, I commit to:

Submit to God's Word

I will regularly read, study, and apply Scripture, recognizing it as God's authoritative Word for every area of life and trusting God to turn my heart away from sin and toward Christlike holiness.

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” — 2 Timothy 3:16–17

Prioritize prayer

I will cultivate a consistent prayer life for myself, my home, my church, and my community.

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” — Colossians 4:2

Gather with God's people

I will faithfully attend and participate in the corporate worship of the church through singing, biblical teaching, prayer, communion, fellowship, and service.

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." — Hebrews 10:24-25

Steward my gifts

I will use my spiritual gifts, abilities, and opportunities to glorify God at home, at work, and within the church.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." — 1 Peter 4:10

Steward my resources

I will manage the financial resources God has entrusted to me with wisdom, generosity, joy, and sacrifice, and support the ministry of Bethel Church through regular giving.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Strengthen the Church

Because God has called believers into a spiritual family, I commit to:

Build up the body of Christ

I will seek opportunities to build up the church by serving others on a ministry team and/or by participating in the group life of Bethel Church through our Life Groups and Studies.

"From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." — Ephesians 4:16

Protect the unity of the church

I will pursue peace, reject gossip and slander, and seek reconciliation whenever conflict arises.

"Be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." — Ephesians 4:3

Honor biblical leadership

I will respect and support the elders and leaders of the church. When disagreements arise, I will pursue honest, loving, and biblical communication that promotes the unity of Christ's church.

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account." — Hebrews 13:17

Tell the World

Because Christ has sent His church into the world, I commit to:

Pray for those who do not know Christ

I will intentionally pray for family members, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and others who have not yet trusted Jesus.

"Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved." — Romans 10:1

Invite others into Christian community

I will look for opportunities to invite others to gather with God's people so they can hear and experience the gospel.

"Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'" — John 1:46

Care for the vulnerable

I will seek practical ways to serve the poor, care for those in need, and participate in the compassion ministries of Bethel Church.

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.” — James 1:27

The Commitment of Church Leadership

In response, the pastors, elders, and leaders of Bethel Church commit to:

- **Love and care for the members of this church.**
“Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” — John 13:34
- **Teach and counsel from God's Word.**
“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.” — Colossians 3:16
- **Proclaim the whole counsel of God while consistently pointing people to Jesus.**
“I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.” — Acts 20:27
- **Provide care and support in times of need.**
“Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” — Galatians 6:2
- **Ensure that elders and deacons meet the biblical qualifications for leadership.**
“An overseer must be above reproach... Deacons likewise must be dignified.” — 1 Timothy 3:1–13
- **Pray regularly for the members of the church.**
“We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will.” — Colossians 1:9
- **Guard the church against false teaching.**
“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers.” — Acts 20:28
- **Exercise biblical discipline when necessary.**
“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone.” — Matthew 18:15
- **Equip believers for the work of ministry.**
“To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” — Ephesians 4:12
- **Seek God's will through Scripture and prayer.**
“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” — Psalm 119:105
- **Lead by example as followers of Jesus.**
“Not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.” — 1 Peter 5:3

Membership Affirmation

Having trusted in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and having affirmed my agreement with the beliefs and mission of Bethel Church, I joyfully enter into this covenant with my church family.

I commit, by God's grace and through the power of the Holy Spirit, to pursue these commitments faithfully for the glory of God, the good of His church, and the advancement of the gospel.