

Grace Baptist Church

Membership Covenant

Believing that God's kingdom is primarily displayed and extended through the local church, we, the members of Grace Baptist Church, declare our union with Christ and our unity with one another through this Membership Covenant. Together we exist to make and multiply Christ-followers who magnify the glory of God. To accomplish this mission, we commit to teach and model God's Word, in the power of the Spirit, entering our world as agents of transformation, recognizing the priority as the Body of Christ to gather, engage, and reach.

This Covenant stands as our commitment to one another, to Christ, and to his kingdom mission. Knowing that we are the Body of Christ and mutually dependent on one another, we joyfully covenant together in these essential values:

- We commit to love one another as Christ has loved us, striving to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Therefore, we will think the best of one another, pray for one another, speak the truth in love, and where differences arise, we will handle them biblically, giving grace and seeking reconciliation as we live out our gospel witness before a watching world.*
- We commit our deepest allegiance to Christ and his kingdom, realizing that our truest identity, sense of belonging, and greatest purpose are found in our heavenly citizenship. We discover our finest treasure in the person and mission of Christ and find our surest hope and rest in him alone. Therefore, we will strive to avoid all that would distract from Christ's greatness being seen in our lives, as we give ourselves wholly in worship to him, and in love to one another, our neighbors, and our enemies.*
- We commit to proclaiming Christ in our words and through our lives, resisting temptations to sin while intently pursuing righteousness in all areas of life. Therefore, we will make personal Bible study and prayer an essential part of the normal rhythms of our lives knowing that we stand as a testimony to lost neighbors and friends and believing that the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to do the work of God in our hearts and in those He is seeking to save.*

- *We commit to regularly and joyfully participate in the weekly gatherings of the family of Grace Baptist Church for praise, prayer, preaching, and partnering in the challenges of life. Therefore, we will make these gatherings a life-priority, and come prepared in heart and mind to worship our God and encourage one another to love and good works.*
- *We commit to honor and submit to those the Lord has appointed as leaders of Grace Baptist Church, understanding that they are striving to serve Jesus Christ, the head of the church before whom they must give an account for how they shepherd his flock. Therefore, we will pray for our leaders, treating them with respect and encouraging them in their work, while loving and admonishing them as partners in the ministry of Christ.*
- *We commit to serve the ministry and family of Grace Baptist Church, and our global partners as together we pursue the mission of Christ through the church to the world. Therefore, we will cheerfully and regularly support the ministry and financial needs of the church with our spiritual gifts, time, talents, creativity, and resources.*
- *We commit to seeing membership at Grace Baptist Church as playing an important role in our spiritual growth and testimony before the world around us. Therefore, we will speak well of the church in our daily lives, approach church business with prayerful preparation, and should the Lord move us away, we will unite in membership with another church where we can live out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.*

May we, through the power of Word and Spirit in keeping this covenant, display the truth and love of God to our world until the Lord Jesus returns to make all things new, Amen!