

Church of Grace

Church Membership



Preach the word; be instant in
season, out of season;
reprove, rebuke, exhort with
all long suffering and doctrine.



II Timothy 4:2-4

3 For the time will come when **they will not endure sound doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.



II Timothy 4:2-4

This people draweth nigh unto me
with their mouth, and honoureth me
with their lips; but their heart is far
from me. 9 But in vain they do
worship me, **teaching for doctrines
the commandments of men.**

Matthew 15:8-9





Local Church vs. Universal Invisible Church



Local Church vs. Universal Invisible Church

1) Universal Invisible Church



Local Church vs. Universal Invisible Church

1) Universal Invisible Church

No pastor or deacons, no membership or discipline, no responsibilities or privileges, no tithing, ordinances and no preaching.

Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33)



Local Church vs. Universal Invisible Church

2) Local Church (I Thessalonians 5)

Leadership – Pastor and Deacons (I Timothy 3:1-13)

Ordinances – Baptism and the Lords Supper (Romans 6:3-4; Matthew 26:26-30; I Corinthians 11:17-34)

Corporate Worship of God – Preaching, Teaching, Tithing, Praying (II Timothy 4, Colossians 1:25-29)

Membership – Responsibilities and Privileges

Then had **the churches**
rest throughout all
Judaea and Galilee and
Samaria...



Acts 9:31

Obey them that have the rule over you and **submit yourselves**: for they watch for your souls, as **they that must give account**, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.



Hebrews 13:17



**If There is no Requirement to
belong to a Local Church Then...**



If There is no Requirement to
belong to a Local Church Then...

1) Which leaders should you obey
and submit to?



If There is no Requirement to
belong to a Local Church Then...

1) Which leaders should you obey
and submit to?

2) Who will I, as a pastor, give an
account for?

Obey them that have the rule over you and **submit yourselves**: for they watch for your souls, as **they that must give account**, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.



Hebrews 13:17



Biblical Relationships



Biblical Relationships

God and His creation (Deuteronomy 28)



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Government and Citizens (Romans 13:1-7)



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Pastor and Church (Hebrews 13:17)



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Government and Citizens (Romans 13:1-7)

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Husband and Wife (Proverbs 18:22)

Pastor and Church (Hebrews 13:17)

Employer and Employee (Ephesians 6:5-9)



Biblical Relationships

Dictatorial

God and His creation
Government and Citizens
Parents and Children

Husband and Wife

Pastor and Church

Employer and Employee



Biblical Relationships

Dictatorial

God and His creation
Government and Citizens
Parents and Children

Compulsory

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Biblical Relationships

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Influential

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Biblical Relationships

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God and His creation
Government and Citizens
Parents and Children

Compulsory

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Husband and Wife
Pastor and Church
Employer and Employee

Voluntary

Wherefore **comfort** yourselves together, and **edify** one another, even as also ye do. 12 And we beseech you, brethren, to **know** them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

I Thessalonians 5:11-23



13 And to **esteem** them very highly in love
for their work's sake. And **be** at peace
among yourselves. 14 Now we exhort
you, brethren, **warn** them that are unruly,
comfort the feebleminded, **support** the
weak, **be patient** toward all men.



I Thessalonians 5:11-23

15 **See** that none render evil for evil unto any man; but **ever follow** that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. 16 **Rejoice** evermore. 17 **Pray** without ceasing. 18 In everything **give** thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

I Thessalonians 5:11-23



19 **Quench not** the Spirit. 20 **Despise not** prophesyings. 21 **Prove** all things; **hold** fast that which is good. 22 **Abstain** from all appearance of evil. 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body **be preserved** blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



I Thessalonians 5:11-23



Church Member Covenant

- 1) Comfort yourselves together
- 2) Edify one another
- 3) Know them who are over you
- 4) Esteem them highly
- 5) Be at peace
- 6) Warn them that are unruly
- 7) Comfort the feebleminded
- 8) Support the weak
- 9) Be patient toward all
- 10) Do not render evil for evil
- 11) Ever follow that which is good
- 12) Rejoice evermore
- 13) Pray without ceasing
- 14) In everything give thanks
- 15) Quench not the Spirit
- 16) Despise not prophesyings
- 17) Prove all things
- 18) Hold fast that which is good
- 19) Abstain from appearances of evil
- 20) Be preserved blameless



Membership is Commitment

1) Stay long enough to grow



Membership is Commitment

- 1) Stay long enough to grow
- 2) Commitment is good for you

22 Whoso findeth a wife
findeth a good thing, and
obtaineth favour of the
Lord.



Proverbs 18:22



Membership is Commitment

- 1) Stay long enough to grow
- 2) Commitment is good for you
- 3) Stay because there is help



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- 4) Stay because you can help others



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- 2) Commitment is good for you
- 3) Stay because there is help
- 4) Stay because you can help others
- 5) Stay with your Pastor



Responsibilities

- 1) Attend all Church services as often as is reasonably possible
(Hebrews 10:25)
- 2) Tithe on all of your increase to your local Church
(Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23)
- 3) Share the Gospel with the lost people in your life
(Matthew 28:19-20)
- 4) Submit to Church authority (Hebrews 13:17)
- 5) Achieve what is listed in I Thessalonians 5:11-23 in your life and in the lives of others in your Church and family.
- 6) Serve in some capacity as opportunity arises



Benefits

- 1) Partake in the Lords Supper
- 2) Receive support when going through emotional, physical or financial difficulty
- 3) Voting on all Church matters requiring a vote
- 4) Free Counseling from the Pastor and others
- 5) Free use of certain church assets
- 6) You get to tell God that you were obedient

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