



**Ready, Set, Grow: Join  
Hebrews 10:23-25**

**Is Church Membership Biblical?**

Although there is no biblical command to formally be a member of a church in the since we think of it, it is assumed in these passages: (1) In Acts 1:15, 2:41 and 4:4 the believers are numbered. (2) In 1 Timothy special rolls were kept of widows. (3) In Acts 6 the church chose seven men to help distribute food to the Grecian Jewish widows. (4) In 1 Corinthians 5:13 the church is commanded to exercise church discipline. (5) In Hebrews 13:17 the people are commanded to obey their leaders. Of course, we are commanded to be part of a church (1 Cor 12; Heb 10:25).

**Why Become a Member?**

(1) Church membership is a formal declaration of your commitment to a local body of believers. (2) Church membership identifies you as a person who is under the care and pastoral ministry of the church. (3) Church membership is a commitment to come under the authority of the leadership of the church. (4) Church membership is an affirmation of the church's beliefs and doctrine. (5) Church membership is a commitment to serve.

**What are the Requirements of Membership?**

(1) Saved (2) Have been baptized by immersion since being saved.

**How Do I Become a Member?**

You can become a member in one of the following ways. You acknowledge your desire to join the church by coming forward at the end of a worship service and state by which way you are joining.

- 1) By Baptism – You are saved, but not yet baptized by immersion after salvation. Upon your baptism you join the church.
- 2) By Letter – Transferring your membership from a former Baptist church.
- 3) By Statement – You affirm that you are saved and have been previously baptized by immersion after your salvation.

**Responsibilities and Privileges of Membership**

“Members are expected to be faithful to all of the duties essential to the Christian life, to attend the services of this church, to give regularly for its support and its causes and to share in its organized work. All members of the church have the responsibility and privilege to vote on the transactions of the church.”

*OBBC By Laws Article One (Membership) – Paragraph B (Responsibilities and Privileges)*