

## Beacon Partnership Class

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”*

— Acts 2:42



## Table of Contents

3 ..... Letter from the Pastors & Elders of Calvary GVR

### Class 1: About Calvary GVR

**Who We Are:**

4 ..... Intro ..... Our Roots

5 ..... Our Community ..... Our Vision ..... Our Mission

6 ..... Our Core Values

**What We Believe:**

6 ..... Intro ..... Scripture ..... Triune God

7 ..... Humanity .... Salvation

8 ..... Identity, Gender & Marriage ..... The Return of Christ ..... Spiritual  
Gifts

9 ..... God's purpose of Grace ..... The Church

10 ..... Ordinances (Baptism & Communion)

**How we are led:**

10 ..... Intro ..... Non-Denominational Church

11 ..... Our leadership model .... Women in leadership

12 ..... Beacon Partners and leaders .... How we make decisions

### Class 2: Partnering with Calvary GVR

13 .... Biblical Foundations for partnership

14 .... What Partnership is & is not

15 .... Benefits of Partnering

16 .... Requirements to Become a Beacon Partner ..... Commitments of  
Beacon Partners

18 ..... Next Steps

*Also included:*

- *Contact list for Governing Board, Ministry Leaders & Small Group Leaders*
- *Complete Statement of Faith*
- *Beacon Partner Agreement*

## Welcome

We, the pastors and elders of Calvary Green Valley Ranch, are grateful that you are prayerfully considering becoming a Beacon Partner.

Our desire for this process is simple: to invite you into deeper relationship, shared mission, and meaningful discipleship within the family of God here at CGVR.

Beacon Partnership **is not about** requirements or rules. - It **is not** a contract, a measure of worthiness, or a list of obligations.

Instead, it is a commitment of the heart — a mutual “yes” to walk together as we follow Jesus, grow in His Word, love one another deeply, and shine His light in Green Valley Ranch.

We recognize that no one is perfect and every believer walks through seasons of strength and struggle. Partnership is not about performance; it is about belonging, responsibility, and shared joy in the work of the Gospel.

It is our hope that over the next two classes, you will feel prepared, equipped, and confident to make an official declaration of partnership — a joyful commitment to join us in the mission God has entrusted to this church.

Together, we long to live out this calling by:

- Growing in Christ
- Living out His love
- Transforming lives with His Word

As you walk through these classes, our prayer is that you gain:

- **Clarity** about who we are — our beliefs, our story, our mission, and how we are led.
- **Confidence** in the direction, integrity, and shepherding of this church family.
- **Connection** to the heart of CGVR and the people God has placed here.
- **Commitment** to join us in shining the light of Christ in this community and beyond.

We are honored to shepherd you, serve alongside you, and grow with you in the love and truth of Jesus Christ.

With grace and gratitude,

**The Pastors and Elders of Calvary GVR**

# WHO WE ARE

We believe that the Lord has called this church to serve as a lighthouse — a beacon of Christ's light — within the heart of the Green Valley Ranch community.

We are followers of Jesus who are learning, growing, and walking out our faith together. We remain humbly dependent on the Lord for every provision, and we are expectant for the future He is preparing for us.

Our identity is anchored in three truths:

- **We are a worshiping community**, shaped by Scripture and open to the work of the Holy Spirit.
- **We are a family of believers**, committed to unity, shepherding, care, and discipleship.
- **We are a missional people**, shining the light of Jesus in our homes, neighborhoods, and community.

## Our Roots

Calvary Green Valley Ranch (CGVR) is a non-denominational church with deep roots in the Calvary Chapel tradition. Founded in **2009** by Pastor Wally Kurcz — who was sent out from Calvary Aurora — the church began as a humble prayer and worship gathering in the basement of an office building. By God's grace, it has grown into a vibrant, Spirit-led fellowship committed to the teaching of God's Word and biblical discipleship.

We honor the legacy of the Calvary Chapel movement, known for:

- verse-by-verse expository teaching
- openness to the work of the Holy Spirit
- evangelistic passion
- dependence on God's grace

That spiritual DNA remains a part of who we are today.

In **January 2023**, after 14 years of faithful service in Green Valley Ranch, Pastor Wally retired, leaving behind a legacy of faithfulness, perseverance, and pastoral care.

The Lord has continued to sustain and lead CGVR in this next chapter of ministry in our community.

## Our Community — Green Valley Ranch

God loves Green Valley Ranch — and so do we. It is a beautifully diverse and growing community filled with families, cultures, stories, and tremendous potential.

At times, the manicured lawns and new developments can mask deep needs and real spiritual hunger — yet God has placed us here to shine His light with joy, compassion, and faithfulness. CGVR has had opportunities over the years to move out of the community for more affordable space, but we remain convicted that God has called us to be a beacon of Christ's light *here* — rooted, present, and committed to serving GVR with faithfulness.

## Our Vision — Where We Are Going

***"We are a place where the light of Jesus shines forth brightly.***

***We give excellent love and care, and declare the life-transforming Good News of Christ to our community — all to the glory of God."***

This vision describes the kind of church we believe Jesus is calling us to be — a bright, faithful, visible witness of His love and truth in Green Valley Ranch.

## Our Mission — How We Live This Out

***"We are followers of Christ — growing together in radical obedience to God; impacting our world with the love of Christ; seeing lives transformed by the Good News of salvation and the truth of His Word."***

We summarize our mission in three simple phrases:

- **Growing in Christ**
- **Living Out His Love**
- **Transforming Lives with His Word**

This mission is not just an organizational statement — it is an invitation.

It is our shared calling.

## Our Core Values — What Shapes Our Culture

- **Dependence on God** We submit to the Lord in prayer, Scripture, and obedience. We rely not on human strength, but on the leading and power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Unity in Christ** We are one Body, called to love, serve, forgive, and protect one another. Unity is essential to our witness and our effectiveness.
- **Sacrificial Leadership** We lead as servants, laying down our preferences to shepherd with humility, clarity, and spiritual maturity.
- **Living on Mission** We live as ambassadors of Christ, serving with excellence, loving with purpose, and carrying the Gospel wherever God places us.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

*Our beliefs shape who we are, how we worship, how we love, and how we live out the mission God has given us. We hold these truths with conviction and humility, seeking unity in the Spirit and joy in the Gospel. While we welcome questions and recognize that sincere Christians may differ on certain secondary matters, these core beliefs form the foundation of our life together at CGVR.*

### Scripture — God's True and Trustworthy Word

We believe that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant, sufficient, and necessary Word of God. It reveals God's character, His purposes, and His plan of salvation. Scripture stands as our final authority for our doctrine, our practice, and our way of life.

### The Triune God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

We worship one God in three Persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — eternally existing in perfect unity, love, and glory. Each Person is fully God, sharing the same divine nature and purpose.

**God the Father** - He rules over all of creation in perfection and with grace, love and wisdom. He is perfect and infinite in all of His qualities. He is relational and has spoken to humankind uniquely through prophets, through His Holy Spirit and through His Son. He is sovereign, wise, gracious, and deeply relational. Through Christ, we cry "Abba, Father" to Him

**God the Son — Jesus Christ** - Jesus is fully God (sharing in all of the perfection and infinite qualities of the Father) and fully human (sharing in the blood, lineage and trials common to humankind). He lived a sinless life of perfect obedience, died as our substitute, rose bodily from the grave, ascended to the right hand of the Father, intercedes for us, and will one day return in glory to judge and to reign.

**God the Holy Spirit** - The third Person of the Trinity—eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit also has existed eternally and shares equally in all of the perfect and infinite qualities of Father and Son. The Spirit convicts, regenerates, indwells, teaches, comforts, empowers, equips, and sanctifies every believer. He seals us for the day of redemption and distributes spiritual gifts as He wills.

## **Humanity — Created, Fallen, and Loved**

We believe every person is created in the image of God with dignity, worth, and purpose. Yet **all** have sinned and fallen short of God's glory; we are separated from God by our sin and unable to save ourselves. In our fallen state, all mankind is destined for eternal death and separation from God – Hell. But God, in His love and grace, has made salvation available to all through Jesus Christ.

## **Salvation — By Grace Through Faith**

We believe **salvation is God's free gift** to all, received through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

In salvation, we experience:

- **Justification** — made right before God and righteous in His sight because of the atoning death and resurrection of Christ.
- **Sanctification** — transformed daily into the image and righteousness of Christ by the Holy Spirit
- **Glorification** — promised a future hope of resurrected life in the Presence of God in Heaven forever.

Salvation is all of grace... it begins at the moment of justification, genuinely transforms the life of every believer and carries on after bodily death throughout all eternity.

## Identity, Gender, and Marriage

We believe that God's creation of humanity as distinctly male and female was intentional and beautiful. Although there is not one way to be a man or woman, we know that our identity as a man or woman of God is rooted firmly in the Character of Christ... Therefore, any rejection of our God-given identity is a sinful rejection of Him and His good design for us. We also believe that God designed marriage as a covenant between one man and one woman in submission to His Lordship.

We hold these truths with conviction and compassion; we never shy away from teaching or addressing these truths as the Holy Spirit leads and as the Biblical text prescribes. However, we trust that transformed lives grow from a genuine encounter with the love of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit, not external pressure.

Therefore, **all are welcome in our fellowship** – even those who disagree with or misunderstand our biblical position. *Respectful and loving* discussion of culturally sensitive issues is encouraged. But we do expect our Beacon Partners to submit to a biblical commitment on Identity, Gender, and Marriage and align with our position. We also expect our Beacon Partners to speak the truth in love when given the opportunity.

## The Return of Christ — Our Blessed Hope

We believe in the imminent, literal, visible return of Jesus Christ. He will bring final justice, restore creation, gather His people, and reign forever.

We generally hold to a pre-millennial pre-tribulation view of the rapture of the church. Our biblical teaching will follow with this belief. However recognize that sincere believers may differ on the timing of these events, we will not exclude others from fellowship based on differing beliefs in this matter.

## Spiritual Gifts — Active and Orderly

We believe the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today and are given for the building up of the Body of Christ. We pursue spiritual gifts in love, under the authority of Scripture, and always with order, humility, and discernment.

We reject extremes:

- **Cessationism** - the belief that gifts of the Spirit have ceased – and the suppression or quenching of genuine Spiritual activity which is exercised in accordance with Scriptural prescription.
- **Name-it-claim-it, Word of Faith or Prosperity teachings** – any teaching or practice which relegates Spiritual power to a formula by which those who are deemed to possess sufficient faith or spiritual anointing have a greater level of access or control of spiritual or personal power.
- **Unbiblical hyper-expressionism** practice of that which purports to be Spiritual gifts that disrupts worship or contradicts Scriptural commands.

All prophecy and expressions of gifts must be tested by God's Word.

## God's Purpose of Grace — Sovereignty and Human Response

We believe God is sovereign in salvation — foreknowing, calling, and drawing people to Himself. At the same time, we believe Jesus died for all and that God desires **everyone** to choose to come to repentance.

We hold these truths in reverent tension, avoiding extremes and proclaiming the Gospel freely to all people. In matters of the doctrines of Grace in the operation of salvation and Scriptural commands to personal responsibility to trust and obey, we will teach what the Scripture teaches and not adhere to any human systems of doctrine which go beyond the life-giving Word of God. Respectful discussion of the doctrines of Grace are welcome but will not be allowed to become dividing point.

## The Church — One Body, Many Members

We believe the universal Church is made up of **ALL GENUINE** followers of Christ throughout all time in all places. The local church (e.g. Calvary GVR) is God's gift to us for the purpose of discipleship, worship, fellowship, and equipping the saints for mission.

Valid local churches must submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ at the direction of the Holy Spirit. And each local church be led and governed in good conscience in accordance with biblical practices in a manner which best suits its own context. At CGVR, we operate as an **elder-led** church, joyfully embracing biblical leadership, shared ministry, and mutual accountability as described in Scripture.

## Ordinances — Baptism & Communion

At CGVR we prescribe to an ordinal (not sacramental) understanding of the practice of Baptism and Communion. The practice of "Ordinances" means that we do these things in response to the Grace of God and activity of the Holy Spirit and the command (ordinance) of Jesus Christ... *not as a means of securing His Grace...* There for we practice:

- **Believer's Baptism**, by full immersion, for those all of those who have trusted in Christ and declare Him to be Lord.
  - *Because of our belief that personal relationship and Lordship of Christ as a requirement for Baptism – we do not Baptize infants or young children who are unable to understand or express their faith in Christ*
- **Communion**, a joyful remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice and our unity in Him to all who truly are part of His Body (Universal) –
  - *Baptism is a logical precursor to participation in communion. But we leave participation up to the personal conscience of the Believer*

We invite all believers to participate according to Scripture.

## HOW WE ARE LED

As we grow together as a church family, it is important to understand how our church is spiritually shepherded and how decisions are made. God cares deeply about the health, order, and shepherding of His Church. Scripture teaches that **Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church**, and He entrusts spiritual leadership to qualified elders who serve with humility, wisdom, and accountability. We follow these biblical patterns because they promote unity, protect sound doctrine, and provide healthy oversight for the life and mission of our church.

## Non-Denominational Church

Calvary Green Valley Ranch is an independent, non-denominational church rooted in the historic values of the Calvary Chapel movement. This heritage shapes our culture, but we operate with full independence under the leadership of our elders and pastors.

We recognize that many denominations faithfully preach the Gospel and serve Christ's Kingdom with integrity. We value the broader Body of Christ and seek unity with all who call on the name of the Lord in sincerity. We may voluntarily collaborate with any church or ministry that aligns with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the authority of Scripture.

## Our Leadership Model: Pastor & Elder-Led

At Calvary Green Valley Ranch, we follow an pastor- elder -led model of leadership. This means that the Lead Pastor works in tandem with a counsel of spiritually mature, biblically qualified men to prayerfully oversee the direction, doctrine, and shepherding of the church under Christ — a structure rooted in the patterns of the early church and affirmed in our Statement of Faith.

This means:

- **Jesus Christ** is the Chief Shepherd and the One true Head of the church universal and of the local church body.
- **Lead Pastor** serves as the primary undershepherd in submission to Christ – he is responsible for hearing from the Lord and overseeing the church, pastoral team and the Governing (Elder) Board, and the pastoral team. He is the primary teacher, and leader in the church – he is responsible for casting vision according to the leading of the Spirit.
- **Elders** (Governing Board Members) serve as undershepherds to our flock - providing spiritual oversight, doctrinal integrity, and governance – some of our Governing Elders also have direct oversight of ministry leaders and ministries within the church.
- **Pastors** shepherd, teach, and equip the body. To be a “pastor” at Calvary GVR a man must be biblically qualified to serve and ordained by CGVR or by a recognized spiritual authority.
- **Ministry Leaders (Deacons/Deaconesses)** lead ministry teams in meaningful practical & spiritual areas of ministry under the oversight of elders.

We embrace this model because it reflects Scripture’s pattern of shared leadership, mutual submission, and Spirit-led discernment.

**Women in Leadership** - We joyfully affirm and celebrate the giftedness, wisdom, and calling of the women in our church. Scripture teaches that men and women alike are created in the image of God and endowed with spiritual gifts for the building up of the Body. The Body cannot thrive the way God intended without the unique voice and giftedness of both men and women of God.

At the same time, we hold to a complementarian understanding of church leadership. This means that while qualified women serve meaningfully and powerfully in ministry leadership roles throughout the church, the office and responsibility of elder/pastor is reserved for qualified men, consistent with Scripture’s instruction (1 Timothy 2:12–13; 1 Timothy 3:1–7; Titus 1:5–9).

*We recognize this to be a culturally sensitive issue and that there is a diversity of sincere belief on the subject. We are open for respectful discussion and disagreement; we simply require that Beacon Partners would agree to submit to the church in practice on this matter.*

**Beacon Partners and Leadership** -Although we follow an elder-led structure. We also believe that godly elders discern the will of the Lord in partnership with the people God has placed within the local body. **Beacon Partners** are an important part of this shared discernment. As we pursue transparency and unity, Partners will have opportunities to: participate in congregational meetings; submit advisory votes and feedback on certain important decisions; enjoy appropriate transparency into governance, ministry processes, and financial stewardship.

While final authority rests with the Governing Board of Elders, the voice, wisdom, and engagement of Beacon Partners help our leaders discern the Lord's direction and shepherd the church faithfully.

*Responsibilities & benefits of Beacon Partners will be addressed more fully In Class 2*

**Decision-Making as a Church** While we are not a congregationally governed church, we value transparency, accountability, and the prayerful input of our church family. **Elders make binding decisions**, but Partners may be invited to speak into major decisions. This process ensures that while decisions are made with order and clarity, the voice of the church body is respected and prayerfully considered.

# BEACON PARTNERSHIP CLASS 2

In Class 1, we explored who we are as a church—our identity, our story, our mission and vision, what we believe, and how we are biblically led.

In Class 2 we will explore what it means to enter into committed partnership within this church family.

## Biblical Foundations for Partnership

First we begin by recognizing that the New Testament does not command believers to become “members” or “partners” of a local church in the modern sense. The early church existed in a vastly different cultural setting—one in which belonging, accountability, and submission to spiritual leadership were simply assumed parts of Christian life.

In the first century, churches met in homes (Acts 2:46), often as small, tightly connected spiritual families. There was usually only one church in a city, so following Jesus meant walking closely with that single community, its elders, and its shared mission (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5). Christians did not choose between dozens of congregations, commute across town, or supplement their spiritual diet with online teachers or influencers. Their faith was lived out in deep, relational community, under the shepherding care of elders who personally knew the flock (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1–3), and within a shared expectation of mutual responsibility (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13).

Our context today is different — not wrong, just different. We live in a world with:

- many church options,
- digital and mobile environments,
- less natural relational accountability.
- complex ministry structures – designed to serve hundreds or thousands of people instead of a few families.

Because of these differences, it can be hard to discern who is truly committed to a local body, who the elders are responsible to shepherd, and how we live out the biblical commands to unity, submission, generosity, accountability, and mutual care.

Beacon Partnership is our way of reclaiming the relational commitment that was inherent in the early church—while faithfully stewarding the mission God has given us here in Green Valley Ranch in 2026.

The goal of this partnership is to give each of us the opportunity to declare: "I belong to this church family. I am committed to walk with these brothers and sisters, under these shepherds, in this mission, for the glory of Christ."

## What Partnership *Is* and *Is Not*

### Partnership *Is*:

- A declaration of shared belonging
- A commitment to grow together as disciples
- A participation in the mission God has given CGVR
- A joyful unity with the church family
- A partnership with our leaders as they discern the will of the Lord for the church
- A way to enjoy increased transparency and engagement in our church life

### Partnership *Is Not*:

- A legal contract
- A test of spiritual maturity
- A list of rules or obligations
- A requirement to be loved or welcomed
- A performance metric

Partnership is not about perfection or status — it is about a shared heart posture of unity, love, and commitment. This is a mutual agreement to pursue our mission together:

***"We are followers of Christ — growing together in radical obedience to God; impacting our world with the love of Christ; seeing lives transformed by the Good News of salvation and the Truth of His Word."***

To be clear - those who choose not to become Beacon Partners will continue to be welcome in the church in the same way as before.

## Benefits of Beacon Partnership

Beacon Partners enjoy deeper participation and transparency in the life of CGVR:

- **A meaningful sense of belonging** - first off, we want to confidently define the relationship. we are your church, and you are part of us. No question or doubt - we are family

- **Access to the church directory and internal communication** – Connection is important – names, email addresses, phone numbers and directory information. We won't make this info publicly available, but it is nice to be able to follow up with the person you were talking with at church.
- **Benevolence support and financial counseling** – in general, our benevolence and financial counseling is not offered to those outside of the church. But as a partner with us, we are glad to consider requests that you submit.
- **Permitted facility use** – still subject to approval for appropriate events, our facility belongs to the family of faith and serves that purpose. For approved services, facilities may be available at no cost to Beacon Partners in good standing
- **Wedding & Funeral Services** – Beacon Partners in good standing may request Wedding or funeral hosting services for themselves or immediate family members. Pastoral requirements and counseling is still applicable.
- **Pastoral care, counseling, and discipleship other services** – services such as pastoral counseling, financial peace university & Parent's night out (for example) are given as no cost to members of the church. Some of these services may be made available to the general public at a cost
- **Participation in congregational meetings** – church leadership will hold an annual congregation meeting to review the financial condition and update on the direction, annual calendar and governance of the church for the next year. Beacon Partners will be asked to vote, give feedback and ask questions where appropriate
- **Advisory voting on major church decisions** – church leadership will make good faith effort to pose major decisions pertaining to the operation of the church to the Beacon Partners either by in person advisory vote and meeting format or by electronic poll.
- **Access to governance and financial records (as approved)** - we will consider all reasonable requests made in good faith by Beacon partners in good standing: profit and loss, records of board meetings, governance and plans for church direction will be made available to Beacon partners in congregational meetings, mailers and upon request (confidential information pertaining to individual staff payroll, personal matters, individual giving records, or any information which may be deemed sensitive will be redacted or withheld from records requests.

## Requirements to become a Beacon Partner

**Complete Beacon Classes 1 and 2:** Recordings available for those unable to attend; in-person participation is preferred.

**Affirmation of CGVR's Statement of Faith:** We invite respectful questions, discussion, and clarity—but we require Partners to submit to our doctrinal foundations.

**Baptism as a Follower of Jesus:** Baptism is a public declaration of faith and **one of the foundational commands to new believers;** We believe that this is the first logical step to be taken before seeking membership. If not yet baptized, we can make an exception if you make plans to be baptized at the next available opportunity.

**A Pattern of Participation and Faithfulness** Not perfection—simply a commitment to walk faithfully with the church.

**Signing the Beacon Partnership Agreement:** with prayerful consideration.

## Commitments of Beacon Partners

These are *shared discipleship commitments* rooted in Scripture and embraced in unity as a church, not clauses in a legal contracts. All commitments are framed together as the family of God. And every commitment that we ask our Beacon partners to make is firmly rooted in the commands of Scripture:

**Pursue Personal Devotion to Christ and Spiritual Growth:** we grow in Christ through devotions, study of the Word, Scripture memorization, prayer & fasting, worship, and obedience — trusting the Holy Spirit to conform us to the image of Christ.

**Participate in Worship & Community Life:** we gather with the church family regularly, walk in fellowship, and cultivate meaningful relationships (Acts 2:42). This is belonging, not attendance policing.

- There is no minimum requirement for attendance. Everyone's circumstances are different, but we have found that under normal circumstances regular attendance of 2-3 Sundays out of the month is very manageable for those who are committed to partner with the church.

- Attendance on Sunday mornings is one piece of the puzzle. We also encourage church partners to be part of at least one small group or Bible study within the church.

A list of Small Groups and Bible Study opportunities can be found at the back of this handbook.

**Serve Joyfully in the Life of the Church:** we use our gifts, skills, experience, and passions to build up the Body of Christ. Serving is an expression of love, not obligation. Serving builds our confidence and trust in the Lord and helps us to grow in our joy and fulfillment of Him.

With the understanding that each believer goes through different seasons in life and ministry, we encourage and expect that every Beacon Partner would commit to serve faithfully and regularly in some ministry within the church. (we don't police or monitor the frequency of serving, but encourage a pattern of service).

There are a variety of different ways to serve or lead within the church. Here are a few of the ways to get involved. (list of contacts can be found at the back of this handbook)

- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Worship & Music
- Audio/Visual & Media
- Hospitality
- Outreach
- Prayer Ministry
- Newcomer and First Impressions
- Small Group Leadership or Hosting
- Mobile Church (Setup/Teardown)
- Flags & Signs
- Spanish Ministry
- Men's & Women's Ministries
- Administrative, Design & Communication Support

We encourage every partner to be part of **a circle (community)** and **a team (service)**.

**Live on Mission:** we shine the light of Christ in our families, workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods—carrying the Gospel with compassion and courage. Always sober-minded and looking for opportunities to do God's work.

This is about a commitment to a missional lifestyle, but it is also about actively promoting the mission of Calvary Green Valley Ranch. If you know someone is moving to town, looking for a church, needs help, or wanting to know more about Jesus – point the way to us. Partners talk about their

involvement in the church, invite co-workers to Bible studies and share us on Social Media. *Help us Shine that light in your circle!*

**Practice Biblical Generosity:** we give faithfully, joyfully, and intentionally.

We affirm the tithe (10%) as a biblical principle and baseline for generosity.

But we give under grace—not compulsion. Leadership will not police giving or examine individual giving records for compliance. We do require a commitment to give and encourage a pattern of faithful giving in worship to the Lord.

**Pursue Unity, Peace, and Biblical Reconciliation:** we practice forgiveness, humility, and honest communication. We do not gossip, hold grudges, avoid hard subjects or try to trap others – we are quick to address misunderstanding in order to heal from it and be restored to relationship.

If conflict arises, Beacon Partners commit to follow Jesus' pattern that He laid out for us in His Word:

It begins with a simple private conversation --> If needed, involve one or two mature believers --> Only in extreme cases do the church leadership need to be involved. Always with the aim of these conversation is restoration, not punishment. (Matthew 18:15-17)

**Support and Submit to Biblical Leadership:** we respect, trust, and pray for our pastors and elders as they shepherd the church under Christ. We submit joyfully where Scripture commands it (Hebrews 13:17).

Submission does not mean that we do not have a diversity of opinion. And it does not mean that we don't state differing opinions – quite the opposite – our diversity of belief, gifting and conviction is essential to share with leadership. However, disagreement or dissenting opinions are to be shared respectfully, in appropriate setting. And when a matter has been addressed, considered and prayed over we prayerfully accept and submit the decision of godly leadership – trusting.

**Participate in Shared Discernment & Transparency:** we engage in church life by intentionally:

- Attending congregational meetings
- Offering advisory votes and feedback when invited
- Considering and praying over shared information relating to the direction of church ministry
- Walking in unity as decisions are prayerfully discerned

# Taking the Next Step

As we conclude Class 2, you will have the opportunity to:

- Ask questions
- Pray with a pastor or elder
- Review the Beacon Partnership Agreement
- Sign the agreement if—and only if—you feel ready

There is **no pressure** and **no deadline**. But we don't want this to go by the wayside. We will soon begin communicating differently to our Beacon group and sending invitations to our first congregational meeting.

We encourage you to pray and discern this.

**We are honored to walk with you and grateful for your desire to partner with this church family.**

**May the Lord unite our hearts as we shine His light in Green Valley Ranch and beyond.**