



MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Membership at Riverside Baptist Church is a commitment to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ by actively participating in the life of the Riverside Baptist Church family. Members are committed to Christ, His Word and His Body.

Committed to Christ

1. I am a Christian believing that Jesus Christ is exactly who the Bible says He is.
2. I have been brought by God's grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ alone for salvation.
3. I have been baptized by immersion to identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ and to demonstrate publicly that I am a Christ follower.

Committed to His Word

1. I agree that the 66 books of the Bible are the final authority on all matters.
2. I agree with the Riverside Baptist Church Statement of Faith.
3. I will strive to preserve unity of the body by submitting to church leadership on primary theological issues as defined in the Riverside Baptist Church Statement of Faith and will not be divisive over secondary issues.

Committed to His Body

1. Commitment of all Members to Christ as the Head of the Church

Membership in the body of Riverside Baptist Church is a commitment to Christ as the Head of the church. All members of Riverside Baptist Church covenant to:

- Live their lives in a way that glorifies Christ in all things (1 Cor. 10:31)
- Glorify Christ by making disciples of all nations (Mt. 28:16-20)

2. Commitment of Riverside Pastors/Elders to Members

As shepherds and overseers of the local church, pastors/elders are entrusted with protecting, leading, equipping, and ministering to the church body and her individual members. Riverside Baptist Church pastors/elders covenant to:

- Lead the church according to the standard of Scripture and the leadership of the Holy Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)
- Hold to Scripture in all preaching, teaching, counsel, and leadership (Acts 20:27-28; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 4:1-5; Titus 2:1)
- Seek God's will for our church community and steward her resources to the best of our ability based on our study of Scripture, prayer, and following the Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)
- Guard against false teachers and false teachings (Mt. 7:15; Acts 20:28-31; 1 Tim. 1:3-7; 1 Jn. 4:1)
- Equip the members of the church for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:11-16)

- Care for and minister to the church body, seeking her growth in grace, truth, and love (Eph. 1:15-16; Col. 1:28; James 5:14; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)
- Lovingly oversee the exercise of church discipline when necessary, for the glory of God, the good of the one disciplined, and the health of the church (Mt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19-20)
- Along with the aid of members, appoint and affirm pastors/elders and deacons according to biblical criteria (1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- Set an example and serve alongside members in fulfilling the commitments of the membership covenant (1 Cor. 11:1, Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12; 1 Pet. 5:3)

3. Commitment of Members to the Riverside Baptist Church Body

Membership in the body of Riverside Baptist Church is a commitment to gospel advancement in and through the local church. Riverside Baptist Church members covenant to:

- Submit to Scripture as the ultimate and final authority on all matters of life and doctrine (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:14-17)
- Pursue a growing relationship with Christ through Bible reading, prayer, private and public worship, fellowship, gospel-centered community and other spiritual disciplines (Lk. 18:1; Acts 17:11; Eph. 5:1-21; 1 Thes. 5:12-22)
- Steward the resources God has given, including time, talents, spiritual gifts, and finances for His glory (Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 8-9; 1 Pet. 4:10-11)
- Regularly assemble together with the church body to worship God, encourage one another, and celebrate the Lord's Supper (Heb. 10:23-25)
- Pursue holiness in everyday avenues of life by God's grace and through the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Pet. 1:13-16; 4:1-3)
- Refrain from activities that Scripture deems foolish and may cause a fellow believer to stumble (Rom. 14:14-23; 1 Cor. 8:1-13)
- Engage in church discipline by following biblical direction when sin is evident in the life of a brother or sister, as well as receive loving discipline when approached biblically by other believers (Mt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; Gal. 6:1-5; Heb. 12:5-11)
- Submit to the biblical leadership of Riverside Baptist and strive for unity and peace within the church (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5)
- When moving from this church, unite with another church of like faith and practice as soon as possible

Promise of Commitment

Standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, we will strive side by side for the advancement of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in our lives, homes, church, city, nation, and world.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____