



## COMMITMENT OF THE CHURCH IS PRACTICAL

November 29, 2020  
Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning church! Welcome to our Worship Service & Membership Emphasis month as we discuss who we are as a church, what we believe as a church and doing God's Will as a true Church. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER? At First Baptist Church we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible commands every Christian to do. These responsibilities are spelled out below in the Membership Church Covenants.

*The Four Covenants:*

**1. The MEMBERSHIP Covenant ... is a commitment to CHRIST and to His CHURCH.**

*"We are all parts of Christ's Body, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other and need all the others." **Romans 12: 4-5** (LB)*

**2. The MATURITY Covenant ... is a commitment to the HABITS necessary for growth.**

*"Continue to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."*

**2 Peter 3:18**

*"Take the time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit." **1 Timothy 4:7***

**3. The MINISTRY Covenant ... is a commitment to discover and practice my Spiritual gifts and abilities to SERVE God and others.**

*"God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other..." **1 Peter 4:10***

**4. The MISSIONS Covenant ... is a commitment to SHARE the Good News with others.**

*"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reasons for the hope that you have. But do it with gentleness and respect..." **1 Peter 3:15***

*Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and agreeing with First Baptist Church's Statements, strategy, and structure, I now feel led by The Holy Spirit to unite with the First Baptist Church Family. In doing so I commit myself to God and to the other Members to do the following:*

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### **I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH**

1. By acting in love toward other members
2. By refusing to gossip
3. By following the leaders

*“Live in complete harmony with each other – each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.”* **Romans 15:5**

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs...”* **Ephesians 4:29**

*“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you.”* **Hebrews 13:17**

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### **I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH**

1. By praying for its growth
2. By inviting the un-churched to attend
3. By warmly welcoming those who visit

*“To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly.”*

#### **1 Thessalonians 1:2**

*“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.”* **Romans 15:7 (LB)**

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### **I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH**

1. By discovering my Spiritual gifts and signing up to serve in an area
2. By being active in spirit-led decisions for church functions.
3. By developing a servant's heart by moving through the Discipleship process

*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. **11** If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”* **1 Peter 4:10-11**

*“Each of you should look not only your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ who took on the very nature of a servant...”* **Philippians 2:3-4, 7**

*“Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. **16** He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts*

grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." **Ephesians 4:15-16**

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**I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH**

1. By attending faithfully
2. By living a godly life consistently
3. By giving regularly

"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together... but let us encourage one another." **Hebrews 10:25**

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ." **Philippians 1:27**

"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." **Leviticus 27:30**

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" **2 Corinthians 9:7**