



MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

City On A Hill Church Exists To Glorify God By Making Disciples In Scott County And Worldwide Through Gospel-Driven Worship, Gospel-Driven Community, Gospel-Driven Missions And Gospel-Driven Multiplication

The City on a Hill Church membership covenant is formed out of great love for the Church, birthed by Jesus Christ, and for the members of the Church to experience the joy of walking in Christ within the body and with joy inexpressible. The three primary reasons for this covenant, are to:

- (1) clarify the biblical obligations and expectations for the leadership (elders when established) of city on a hill church and individual members of city on a hill church body,*
- (2) establish teaching/doctrine parameters for city on a hill church body,*
- (3) be useful for growth in holiness and Christ likeness.*

What Is The Church?

The church is the collective body of regenerated, baptized believers graciously saved through Jesus Christ, who gather under His redemptive plan to worship God, fellowship, celebrate the Lord's supper, pray together and gladly share. (Acts 2:41-47)

Membership in a local church is more than just commitment to attendance or service in the church, it is a sacred call to serve as a redeemed agent of our sovereign God and fight against this fallen world through the power of the Holy Spirit with the light and message of His Son, Jesus Christ. Being a member of City on a Hill Church is really about being a part of a family, all who are disciples of Christ, and sharing spiritual gifts to help build up the church, to be equipped and enabled to do the works that God has prepared in advance (Eph 2:10; 4:12) The church shares in the mission of the church, which includes witnessing to others about what Jesus Christ has done and making disciples in every nation. (Matt 28:19-20)

What Is A Covenant?

A covenant is seen in scripture, between God and man (Genesis 6, 9, 15; Matt 26) and between man and man (1 Samuel 18; 2 Samuel 5). This church covenant between City on a Hill Church and its members is first a gentle reminder of a Christian's obligations and an agreement to enter into those duties for God's glory and the good of the church and for the member's joy in Christ. It implies faithfulness between parties and if these demands are not met by City on a Hill Church towards its members, and an honest attempt has been made to show this to leadership, but it still remains unchanged, the covenant member is freed from this covenant and urged to seek membership at another church.

Statement Of Basic Belief

City on a Hill Church requires the following full endorsement of biblical and historical Christian beliefs as essentials for membership.

I believe...

- In the authority of scripture that is without error in the original language and sufficient. (Psalm 19:7-11, 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- There is only One God in three persons, consisting of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit. (Deut 6:4; Matt 28:17-20)
- That I am, along with all human beings, by birth and action a condemned sinner, who deserves the penalty for sin, both physical and spiritual death. (Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:23; 5:8; 6:23; Eph 2:1-3)
- Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, is both fully God and fully man and died a horrible death on a cross to pay the penalty for my sins. (Matt 1:20; John 1:29; Romans 5:8; 1 Cor 15:1-4)
- In Jesus alone to save me from my sins and have been baptized to identify with his death, burial and resurrection and to make a public display of my faith in him. (Col 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21)
- Jesus rose again and conquered death, sin and the works of Satan and is sitting at the right hand of God the Father. (Romans 5; 1 Thess 4:14; Mark 16:19)
- The resurrection of the dead; those who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, will rise to life and spend eternity in heaven with God; those who have not trusted in Jesus Christ are still in their sins and face an eternity separated from God in a real place called hell. (1 Thess 4:13-18; Matt 25:46; John 3:15-16; John 4:14; Romans 6:23; 2 Thess 1:5-12)

Statement Of Biblical Doctrine

There are non-essential beliefs for membership which the leadership of City on a Hill Church are nonetheless passionate about and will preach, teach and counsel in accordance with. It is the responsibility of members to have read the City on a Hill Church 'Statement of Faith' on the website (www.cityonahillscottsburg.com) and if any concerns or questions are raised to share this with the leadership. The following beliefs are distinctions, which are non-essential for membership, but are upheld at City on a Hill Church.

- Divine Sovereignty of God in salvation and providence
- The Continuing work and gifts of the Holy Spirit
- The role of men and women in the church and home
- Baptism by immersion only

I understand that church leadership (elders once established) is established by God for the good of the church, and I will be diligent to preserve unity and peace and not be divisive over these theological distinctions or those in the 'Statement of Faith'.

Obligations Of City On A Hill Church To Its Members

- We covenant that elders and deacons will meet criteria set forth in scripture (1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- We covenant to care for the church and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, by equipping you for service (Eph 4:11-13) and praying for you regularly, when you are sick (James 5:14) and always.
- We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal 6:6; 1 Tim 5:17-18)
- We covenant to be on guard against false teachers and teachings (Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 1 John 4:1)
- We covenant to lovingly exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 5; Gal 6:1, James 5:19-20)
- We covenant to set an example and join members in fulfilling the obligations of church membership stated below. (1 Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17; 1 Tim 4:12)

Obligations Of Members To The City On A Hill Church Body

- I have read and understood the City on a Hill Church Statement of Faith and agree to not be divisive to its teaching. I understand the importance of submission to church leadership and will preserve unity and peace. (Eph 4:1-3; Heb 13:7, 17)
- I covenant to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Tim 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)
- I will maintain a close relationship with the Lord Jesus through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines. I will regularly attend weekly services, engage in gospel-driven community and serve those both within and without the church. (Psalm 105:1-2; Psalm 119:97; Acts 2:42-47; Heb 10:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3)
- I agree, by God's grace, to walk in holiness as an act of worship to Jesus Christ, who has saved me from my sin that I could live a new life (2 Cor 5:17); I will practice complete chastity before marriage, which is between a man and a women, and complete fidelity in heterosexual marriage by abstaining from practices such as cohabitation, pornography, and fornication (Job 31:1; Prov 5; Rom 13:12-14; 1 Cor 6:9-7:16; Heb 13:4); I will refrain from illegal and prescription drug abuse, drunkenness, and other sinful behavior as the Bible, my pastors, and my conscience dictate (1 Cor 8:7; Gal 5:19-21) Should I sin in such a manner, I agree to confess my sins to Christian brothers or sisters and seek help to put my sin to death (Rom 8:13; Col 3:5; 1 John 1:6-10)
- I will be a good steward of my time, resources, and finances. I will regularly, joyfully, and voluntarily give through tithing and service to the church. (Prov 3:9-10; Rom 12:1-2; Gal 5:22-26; Eph 4:1-16; 2 Cor 8-9; 12:7-31; 1 Peter 4:10-11)
- I agree to take seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another (1 Cor 8:1-13)
- I agree, should I leave this church for righteous reasons, to quickly seek another church with which I can carry on my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

I hereby verify that I have read, agree and am willing to submit myself to the:

1. City on a Hill Church Pastoral Leadership of Elders & Deacons
2. City on a Hill Church Covenant
3. City on a Hill Church Doctrinal Statement

I also am willing and committed to engage in:

1. An Active Ministry focus with in the church for the building up of the body of Christ.
2. An Active Missional outreach outside the Church for the sake of the Gospel.

Lastly, I affirm that I have personally placed my faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior and live under His Lordship in my daily life. I openly confess an ongoing personal relationship to Jesus Christ that demands constant introspection of my motives and actions with the Word of God. Because of this relationship with Jesus Christ, I today, submit myself to the local body of City on a Hill Church to be held accountable to Scripture in my daily life.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Church Leadership

Title

Date