

# VERITAS MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

[18] For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. [19] So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [20] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, [21] in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. [22] In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:18-22)

When anyone enters into relationship with God by grace from, and faith in, the person and work of Jesus Christ they are committing themselves...

1. To journey with God for the rest of their lives and love Him fully.
2. To journey with His other children in the community of the local church. Your partnership in a church is an official recognition of this.

The Purposes of the Veritas Membership Covenant is:

- To join the Spirit in forming an authentic church community that reflects the relationship between the Father, Son & Spirit.
- To clarify the on-going blessings & responsibilities of each member.
- To encourage consistency, accountability, and loving unity within the church family.
- To accomplish God's call for the Veritas church family. This agreement does not imply that you will never fall short of the goals, but that the desire of your heart is to fulfill each of the responsibilities stated to the best of your ability. We trust that your commitment will be a personal blessing to your own journey in Jesus, as well as blessing to those around you.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, the church leadership covenants the following:

- To lovingly caring for you and seeking your growth in Christ (Heb. 13:17; I Thes. 5:12).
- To provide teaching, preaching and counsel from the Scriptures (Gal. 6:6; I Tim. 5:17-18).
- That this teaching will span the whole counsel of God's Word (Acts 20:27-28).
- To helping you in times of need (Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-35, Jm. 2:14-17).
- That your elders and deacons (when they are recognized) will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (I Tim. 3:1-13 & 5:17-22, Titus 1:5-9, I Pt. 5:1-4).
- To pray for you regularly, particularly when you are sick (Jm. 5:14).
- To be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).
- To exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt. 18:15-20; I Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1).
- To help you become equipped to serve Christ (Eph. 4:11-13).
- To seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit (Acts 20:28, I Peter 5:1-5).
- To set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church partners (1 Co. 11.1, Philip. 3:17, I Tim. 4:12).

With the guiding help of the Holy Spirit, I, the undersigned, covenant the following:

- I am a Christian who has been saved from my sins by the grace of Jesus Christ. I have been baptized to give testimony of my identification with the body of Christ & obedience to the Scriptures.
- I have read and understood the Veritas doctrinal statement and agree to not be divisive to it's teaching. I also understand the importance of submission to church leadership and will be diligent to preserve unity and peace (Heb. 13:7, 17; Eph. 4:1-3)
- I will endeavor to maintain a close relationship with the Lord through regular personal Bible reading, prayer, community, and practice of the other spiritual disciplines. My journey in Christ will be evident through my regular participation in church gatherings, and involvement in a City Group (Ps. 119:97, 105; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25).

- I will strive to properly manage the resources God has given me, including my time, body, gifts and talents, attitudes, finances and possessions (Eph.5:15-18; Rom. 12:1-2; Eph. 4:1-16; Gal 5:22-26; Prov. 3:9-10). This includes regular giving to Veritas that is sacrificial and cheerful (2 Cor. 8&9).
- I commit myself to the Veritas church family and agree to aid in fulfilling its missional purpose to bring the gospel to Dayton and the nations (Matt. 28:16-20). I recognize that this will be accomplished by pursuing the conviction, vision, and identities of Veritas as prescribed in the Scriptures.
- I commit myself, if I am married, to the health and vitality of my marriage. God enabling me, I will strive to live according to Scripture's vision of marriage (Gen. 2:4-25; Matt. 19:5-9; Eph. 5:22-33)
- I commit myself, if I am a parent, to the discipleship and development of my children. God enabling me, I will strive to train my children to love God, to know and obey his Word, and to discipline them according to his Word. (Gen. 1:28; Deut. 6:4-9; Prov. 13:24; 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15; Eph. 6:1-4;
- I commit to using the spiritual gift(s) God has given me for the building up of the church, both at Veritas and universally (1 Pt. 4:10-11; Rom. 12:1-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-31).
- I covenant to practice the humility and sacrificial attitude of Christ by considering the needs of others (Philippians 2:1-11), not gossiping (Pr. 16:28; Matt.18: 15-17), and seeking spiritual friendships (Pr. 17:17).
- I covenant to follow the biblical procedures of church discipline, and submit myself to discipline if the need should ever arise (Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1-5).
- I covenant to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Psalm 119; 1 Tim. 3:16-17). God enabling me, I will strive to consider my commitment to this Membership Covenant on a yearly basis. I understand that it is an evaluative tool, as well as an affirmation of my continuing conviction and purpose. My responsibility will be to notify the Veritas leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Veritas.

I am a follower of Jesus (take time to share your story with an elder)

I, by God's grace, will give myself to the above commitments

I have been baptized as a follower of Jesus

I have completed my meeting with an elder

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Elder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_