

Covenant membership is a commitment to one another—a willing pledge to guard, care, submit, support, and minister together for the building up of our church body.

Step 1: Inquirer's Class

Upcoming Inquirer's classes for each year:

- March
- June
- September
- December

The Inquirer's class has a two-fold purpose.

1. To provide an informal setting to learn what the staff, church, and Baptists in general believe on various topics. All are welcome, whether or not they are interested in membership.
2. To give an opportunity for potential members to become acquainted with the work of the church as well as discover their spiritual gifts and use them for the glory of God through serving one another in our church's ministries. The Inquirer's class is a requirement for church membership.

Please contact the church (256-328-9827) to pre-register.

Step 2: Baptism (if needed)

If you have not yet been baptized as a believer by immersion, baptism is the next step to proceeding toward covenant membership.

We want to help every follower of Jesus obey his command to be baptized according to Matthew 28:19. If you have trusted Christ but have not yet been baptized as a believer, the Inquirer's Class will help answer your questions and prepare you for this step in following Christ.

Step 3: Elder Interview

One or two elders will be assigned to meet with you for an elder interview.

Goals of this interview:

- To learn how the Lord drew you to himself.
- To confirm you have a good understanding of the meaning of church membership.
- To discuss ways you can serve through your gifts.
- To answer questions or help you find opportunities to connect at Harvest.

Step 4: Covenant Affirmation

A Covenant Affirmation is held during our Sunday worship service. Each potential new member voices his or her hearty "I do" to the Church Membership questions and is given the Lord's Supper then the right hand of fellowship by the congregation into Harvest's membership during our service.

One often asked question: "Why do I need to become a member of a local church?"

1. It identifies genuine believers (Ephesians 2:19)
2. It provides a spiritual family to support and encourage you (Galatians 6:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25)
3. Gives you a place to discover and use your gifts for God's glory (Romans 12:6-8; I Corinthians 12:4-27)
4. It places you under the spiritual protection of godly leaders (Act 20:28-29; Hebrews 13:17)
5. It gives you the accountability you need to grow (Ephesians 5:21)