

Church Membership and Me, Doing my Part

1 Corinthians 12:1-27 and Acts 2:40-47

July 2, 2017

1) We are ONE Body!

Saved

God's Child

Biblically baptized

2) A healthy body is a fully functioning body.

An unhealthy body is not fully functioning; putting "stress" on the other parts of the body.

Have you ever broken a bone?

Remember our mission? To love Jesus and to lead others to love Him too. It takes the whole Church!

3) In order for the body to work together, its various "parts" must not be jealous of the other parts, but rather do their part.

- The human body contains nearly 100 trillion cells.
- The average adult takes over 20,000 breaths a day.
- The human brain contains about 100 billion nerve cells.
- Water makes up more than 50 percent of the average adult's body weight.

In our "Discovering Church Membership 101" Class, we talk about The Membership Covenant. This covenant is what is asked of every member:

Having trusted Jesus as my Lord and Savior and being baptized by immersion:

1) I will protect the unity of my Church.

- By acting in love towards others.

Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

Romans 14:19

Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3:12-17

- By refusing to gossip.

... Though some tongues just love the taste of gossip, Christians have better uses for language than that. Don't talk dirty or silly. That kind of talk doesn't fit our style. Thanksgiving is our dialect. **Ephesians 5:4b (The Message)**

- By following the leaders.

Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. **Hebrews 13:17**

2. I will share the responsibility of my church.

- By praying for its growth.

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.² We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers. **1 Thessalonians 1:1-2**

- By inviting the unchurched to attend.

Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'²⁴ For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.

Luke 14:23-24

- By warmly welcoming those who visit.

Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Romans 15:7

3. I will serve the ministry of my church.

- By discovering my gifts and talents.

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

- By being equipped to serve by my Pastors.

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. **Ephesians 4:11-12**

- By developing a servant's heart.

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ... but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. **Phil 2:3-4, 7**

4. I will support the testimony of my church.

- By attending faithfully.

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. **Hebrews 10:24-25**

- By living a Godly life.

Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel

Philippians 1:27

- By giving regularly

On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

1 Corinthians 16:2

Prayer Focus:

-Member: Am I a healthy member of God's Church? Which area might God be dealing with me on?

-Non- Member:

Have I been saved?

Have I followed the Lord in Believer's baptism?

Would God have you make HCBCCH your church home?