

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having, by God's Grace, received Christ as my Lord and Savior and having been baptized, understanding Berean Baptist Church's Statement of Faith, and being in agreement with the leadership structure, ministry strategies and pattern for church life, I now unite with and enter into covenant before God with this congregation of believers.

The Elements of our Covenant are:

1. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- **Living out the "one anothers" of scripture and acting in love towards other members**

"Seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that you love one another with a pure heart fervently." (1 Peter 1:22)

- **Refusing to gossip or cause dissention**

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." (Ephesians 4:29)

- **Following the leaders, submitting to the leadership of the Elders (Pastors) in action and heart attitude.**

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." (Hebrews 13:17)

- **Continually Striving for Purity of Heart**

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

2. I WILL SHOW PASSION FOR MY CHURCH BY:

- **Recognizing that my church is but a small local manifestation of the larger invisible church of God**

Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. (1 Corinthians 1:1-2)

- **Praying for her regularly**

To the Church: "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers." (1 Thessalonians 1:2)

- **Attending faithfully**

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

- **Inviting the unchurched to attend; the unbeliever that they may hear the gospel and know the Lord, the believer that they may be encouraged through this body to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." (Luke 14:23)

- **Warmly welcoming those who visit, practice hospitality**

"Practice hospitality towards one another without grumbling." (1 Peter 4:9)

- **Sharing the gospel with those God puts in my life path**

“but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;” (1 Peter 3:15)

- **Studying the Word of God**

“for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.” (Acts 17:11)

3. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- **Discovering my gifts and talents and using them in service**

“As every man received a gift, even so minister the same one to another.” (1 Peter 4:10)

- **Being ready to serve**

“And he gave some...pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-12)

- **Developing a servant’s heart**

“Look not every man on his own things, but everyman also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...[Who] took upon him the form of a servant.” (Philippians 2:4, 5, 7)

- **Bearing the burdens of others**

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)

- **Giving sacrificially and joyfully**

Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

If I move away I will seek to be united with a faithful, Bible believing church and will seek at that time official dismissal from my covenant with the congregation at Berean Baptist.

If I know I am struggling to fulfill this covenant I will in a straightforward way seek counsel with a pastor of the church.

In accordance with Matthew 5:24, if I am hurt by a fellow believer or pastor, I will go to them to resolve the issue. I will not let bitterness and unforgiveness overtake me.

In accordance with Matthew 18:15-18, if I am found in open, unrepentant sin, I understand that the Elders and the congregation will pursue me in love for the purpose of holding me accountable to my profession of faith in Christ for the good of my soul.

Before God and before men, I now covenant.

Signature of Member _____

Signature of Pastor _____