



NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION HOMEWORK

WHY MEMBERSHIP?

1. Of what church was Phoebe identified and a servant?

(Romans 16:1)

2. When did the believers gather together?

(Acts 20:7)

THE MEANING OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Church membership is the commitment of a Christian to be identified and involved with a local group of believers who are devoted participants of that community of faith.

THE ACTIVITIES OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

There are some specific activities that are conducted among believers when they gather together, such as:

1. Hebrews 10:25 _____

2. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 _____

3. 1 Timothy 4:13 _____

4. 1 Peter 4:10 _____

5. Philippians 3:3 _____

6. Acts 12:5 _____

7. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 _____

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Membership at New Life Fellowship expects a commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and this local church in the following areas:

1. To _____ with respect to your salvation (1 Peter 2:2). God desires for each member to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ; this growth effort requires one to prioritize moments and opportunities for spiritual growth such as: prayer, bible study, and worship.
2. To _____ in the church (1 Peter 4:10). God had gifted each member in the body of Christ with a spiritual gift to be used to serve each other and bring glory and honor to God.
3. To _____ support the ministries of the church (1 Corinthians 16:1). God provides monetarily to his saints but asks that believers give cheerfully, willfully, and generously to support ministries of the church such as out reach efforts, oversees mission, members in need, etc.
4. To _____ others into a relationship with Christ or visit the Church (John 4:29). God anticipates that Christians will regularly and enthusiastically tell others about His Son Jesus Christ and/or invite people to church service to hear about God's love for them.
5. To _____ authentic and genuine relationships with other Christians (Ecclesiastes 5:9-10). God created people not to be isolated from one another, but for companionship and relationship. True spiritual growth happens in the context of believers who gather together for prayer, study, and accountability.

SALVATION

The Need for Salvation

1. What does the Bible say about humanity's spiritual condition:
 - a. Romans 3:9 _____
 - b. Romans 3:10 _____
 - c. Romans 3:11 _____
 - d. Romans 3:23 _____
 - e. Ephesians 2:1 _____
2. What is the consequence of sin:
 - a. Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23 _____
 - b. Isaiah 59:1-2 _____

The Provision of Salvation

1. What is the gift of God? _____ Rom. 6:23
 - a. What does "a gift" generally mean? _____
 - b. What does the gift of God mean for "sinners?" _____

2. What is the role of Jesus as the provision of salvation (1 Corinthians 15:3)?
3. What made Jesus qualified to be the provision for our salvation (2 Corinthians 5:21)?

The Process of Salvation

1. What must a person do to become a Christian (Romans 10:9):
 - a. _____ in your heart
 - b. _____ died for our sins and was raised from the dead
 - c. Then you will be _____.
2. To sum it up, Ephesians 2:8-9 says: We are _____ by _____ through _____ and not according to _____.

Explain how you become a Christian. Use back page if you need more space.

BAPTISM

When people consider the topic of Baptism, two categories of questions are often asked. The first is a very basic one: "What is the spiritual significance of baptism?" The second has to do with traditions from the past—specifically, pre-conversion baptism. The issue in that case is, "Why be baptized as an adult believer when I was baptized as a baby?"

Why Baptize?

1. Baptism was commanded by the Lord Jesus Christ: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Baptism is the means by which disciples of Christ are identified.
2. Baptism was practiced by the early church. In the book of Acts, believers expressed publicly, through the act of baptism, their inward decision and intent to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. In Acts, it is evident that the act of baptism came after an individual's decision to trust Christ for salvation (Acts 2:28, 41; 8:12; 10:47-48). Baptism can't give a person anything, spiritually speaking. It can signify something that has already happened.

Who Should Be Baptized?

Believers/Disciples—The Apostles were commanded to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..." One must have the heart to be a follower of Christ. Individuals who trust Christ as their own personal Savior should be baptized.

1. Anyone who has not been baptized since becoming a Christian.
2. Any Christian who has never clearly understood the meaning of baptism, even though they may have been baptized previously
3. Any Christian who desires to recommit their life to Christ

What Does Baptism Mean?

The Apostle Paul says in Romans 6:3-4, "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore, we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so too we might walk in newness of life."

1. Baptism is a public declaration of the believer's identification with Jesus Christ, death, burial, and resurrection.
 - a. Death – placed into the water, "Baptized into His death (Romans 6:3).
 - b. Burial – submerged, "Buried with Him through baptism into death (Romans 6:4).
 - c. Resurrection – brought up out of water, as Christ was raised from the dead...so we too might walk in newness of life.
2. Baptism is a testimony to a new life.
 - a. New direction and purpose for living.
 - b. Complete trust in God to direct your life.
 - c. Courage and excitement to share Jesus with others.
 - d. Controlled and directed by the Spirit of God.