

# Affirmation of Commitment

## *City Bible Church*

### **Introduction**

As Christians, we are members of God's household (Eph 2:19) called to function, participate, and minister in a particular place within the body of Christ. A healthy body requires that each member do its part well. A healthy church requires the same: members who are sacrificially committed and well-equipped to do the works of service that God has prepared in advance for us to do (Eph 2:10; 4:12). City Bible Church of Sacramento (CBC) holds its members in high regard; we expect them to lead as missionaries of the gospel to the culture. God, in his sovereignty, placed us in this city, among these people, in this century, for a reason.

“For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly” (Rom 12: 3-8)

Being a member of CBC is really about being part of a family. All members are disciples of Jesus, unified by their identity in Christ. This unity is expressed in the way they collaborate in loving God, loving fellow Christians, and loving non-Christians. Members who enter into a commitment with their local church are called to a higher degree of responsibility and service. At the same time, the Elders and Deacons are committed to assist members first and foremost, to love and lead, provide counsel and aid, and pray for, teach, and guide them.

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace...” (1 Pet 4: 8-10)

This commitment is a promise by which we obligate ourselves to one another in such a way that the obligation of one party is not dependent on the faithfulness of the other (Ezek 20:44; 36:22; Ps 76:11; Hos 2:19-20; 3:1; 2 Tim 2:13). This presumes that the individual making the commitment:

- Is a Christian saved from the eternal wrath of God by faith in Jesus Christ, their Lord and Savior, through His death and resurrection, by which he or she is assured of eternal life (John 3:16-18; Rom 3:23-26).
- Is in agreement that in obedience to Scripture he or she should be baptized, if they have not done so already (Col 2:12; 1 Pet 3:21).
- Is in agreement with CBC's statement of faith & bylaws.

## My Commitment to CBC

We want you to remember the responsibilities that church membership brings. With the aid of the Holy Spirit:

- I agree that the sixty-six books of the Bible are the ultimate doctrinal authority on all matters. I will submit to the authority of Scripture as the final arbiter on all issues.
- I will be diligent to exercise self-control so that my lifestyle exhibits both true Christian love and personal holiness.
- I will faithfully assemble with this body of believers, striving to maintain unity, and doing all I can to stimulate love and good deeds in others as I seek to exercise my spiritual gifts in faithful service.
- I will consistently contribute, as a good steward of God's blessings, such time, talent, and resources, in the measure that God prospers me, so that our local and worldwide ministry of spreading the gospel may continue.
- I will not function in leadership or as a member in another church family (Heb 13:17).
- I will teach biblical truth to my family and acquaintances, as God gives me opportunity, with a desire to see them come to trust Jesus Christ and be saved.
- I will always be willing to both give and receive admonition and instruction with meekness and in love.
- I will commit to praying for the ministry here in this church, my brothers and sisters in Christ, the elders, pastors, and deacons; and for the lost who need the Savior.
- I will not be divisive over secondary issues (Eph 4:1-3; Heb 13:7, 17).
- I understand that this commitment obligates me to the members of CBC and is an acknowledgment of my submission to the Elders of the church. I accept the responsibility to notify CBC leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this commitment, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding CBC.

As prescribed by the Holy Scripture, the chief duty of the church—the body and bride of Christ—is to honor and glorify God by worship and by committed, obedient love. The chief pursuits by which the church brings this glory to God are the edifying of itself (Eph 4:11-16), the purifying of itself (Eph 5:26-27), the educating and equipping of its members (Matt 28:19; Eph 4:11-12), the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the whole world (Matt 28:19; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8), acting as a restraining and enlightening force in the world (Matt 5:13-16; 2 Thes 2:6-7; Phil 2:16), and by promoting all that is good (Gal 6:10). I commit to this duty and these pursuits as a diligent, faithful disciple of Jesus.

## **CBC's Leadership Commitment To You**

- We commit that to the best of our knowledge your Elders and Deacons will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Pet 5:1-4).
- We commit 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; 1 Pet 5:1-5).
- We commit to care for you and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, in part by equipping you for service (Eph 4:11-13) and praying for you regularly, particularly when you are sick (Jas 5:14).
- We commit to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal 6:6; 1 Tim 5:17-18).
- We commit to be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).
- We commit to exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 5; Gal 6:1).
- We commit to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church members (1 Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17; 1 Tim 4:12).