

Membership Interview Questions

The questions that follow are designed to assist prospective members in preparing for their membership interview. The purpose of a membership interview is to ascertain whether a prospective member has a credible profession of faith. A credible profession of faith demonstrates a right understanding of the Christian faith and evidence of receiving and resting on Christ by faith alone. Below are four segments of questions. The first is a guide toward writing a testimony, the second addresses your understanding of the Christian Faith, the third, evidence of your receiving and resting on Christ by faith alone, and fourth, summary membership questions that you will be asked to answer publicly to profess your faith before the church.

Guide to Writing a Testimony

1. Can you briefly tell us what the gospel is in your own words?

2. What are the circumstances that led you to believe that the gospel is true?

3. What are the circumstances that led you to faith in Christ?

4. What difference has receiving the gospel made in your life?

I. INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: Understanding of the Christian Faith

1. What is the Bible and what does it principally teach?

2. What is God and how many are there? How many persons are there in the Godhead?

3. What is Creation?

4. How did God create man?

5. Did the first man and woman remain as they were created?

6. What is sin and its consequences?

7. Is there any way to be saved from sin?

8. Who is Jesus Christ?

9. Do you believe in the death and resurrection of Christ and if so, what did that accomplish?

10. How do people receive the redemption purchased by Christ.

11. What is Faith in Jesus Christ?

12. What is repentance?

13. What is justification?

14. What is Sanctification?

15. What is the visible church and why do you want to be a part of it?

II. INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: Evidence of Receiving and Resting on Christ by Faith Alone

1. How did you become aware of your own sinfulness and how do you feel about it?

2. In light of your sinfulness, what is your ultimate hope? Why have you decided to entrust yourself to that hope?

3. If Jesus Christ were not your Lord and Savior, what would be different about your life? How has your life changed since you began to believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior (give examples)?

4. What does your devotion to God look like? Do you pray regularly? Do you commit time to God's Word? Do you find ways to serve others? Do you have devotions? Are you committed to a life of holiness? All of the above?

5. To those who are married: How do you try to practice faith and repentance at home? What does this look like on a daily basis? If you have children: Do you pray with them? How do you train them in the truth of the Christian faith?

6. Is there anyone that you need to be reconciled to? Is there anyone that you need to forgive?

7. Do you have a problem committing to attending Harvest on a weekly basis? Are evening services a practice in your life?

8. What areas of service do you feel equipped and gifted for? How do you see yourself being able to serve in the church? Will you commit to serve the church with your gifts insofar as you are able?

9. How do you honor the Lord in the stewardship of your time and finances?

10. If transferring from another church: Why are you transferring and are you leaving in good standing?

11. Are there specific ways that the elders and members of this church can serve and assist you in your life of faith?

III. INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: Membership Questions

1. Do you believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the Word of God, and its doctrine of salvation to be the perfect and only true doctrine of salvation?

2. Do you believe in the one living and true God, in whom eternally there are three distinct persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—who are the same in being and equal in power and glory, and Jesus Christ is God the Son, come in the flesh?

3. Do you confess that because of your sinfulness you abhor and humble yourself before God, that you repent of your sin, and that you trust for salvation not in yourself but in Jesus Christ alone?

4. Do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your sovereign Lord, and do you promise that, in reliance on the grace of God, you will serve him with all that is in you, forsake the world, resist the devil, put to death your sinful deeds and desires, and lead a godly life?

5. Do you promise to participate faithfully in this church's worship and service, to submit in the Lord to its government, and to heed its discipline, even in case you should be found delinquent in doctrine or life?