

## *I Am a Member*

## *Membership Comes with Responsibilities*

*My understanding of what the church and church membership is will shape my life, my living and my church. ~adapted from Jonathan Leeman, in Rediscovering Church*

➤ What did you learn or what were you reminded of today in \_\_\_\_\_? (Sunday school, Church, AWANA, Pursue, Small group, Bible study)

➤ My motivations is because of, to and for the gift Giver.

• Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:12-13

### 1. A member is expected to be

\_\_\_\_\_ to prayer.

• Romans 12:10-13, Acts 1:14, Acts 2:42, Acts 6:4, Colossians 4:2,

*It does not mean that prayer is all you do — any more than being devoted to a wife means all the husband does is hang out with his wife. But his devotion to her affects everything in his life ... So being devoted to prayer doesn't mean that all you do is pray. ~John Piper, December 29, 2002 sermon*

➤ We are simply to pray; we are to be devoted to prayer.

A. Make prayer a priority.

B. Pray beyond the Prayer Bulletin.

C. Pray beyond immediate and physical needs.

### **What can I pray for others?**

*Hunger for God, His word and prayer.*

*Listen and apply what God speaks to them about.*

*Grow spiritually. Gain victory over sin in their life.*

*Joyfully fulfill the responsibilities of membership.*



*Protection from temptation and finding the escape.*

*Protection from spiritual attacks.*

*Encouragement & protection from discouragement.*

*Discernment and wisdom.*

### 2. A member is expected not to show

\_\_\_\_\_.

• James 2:2-9, 13, Colossians 1:9-14

A. Remember the grace I have received.

B. Be an agent of grace.

*You won't treat people with compassion and grace until you apply God's grace in your own heart ... and reflect to others God's amazing mercy toward you. So, as ever, it all comes back to the gospel. ~Tony Merida Love Your Church. (pg. 48)*

➤ As an agent of grace, I extend grace and favor to everyone, every person I meet, because God has extended it to me.

*We should ask ourselves what kind of attitude we have towards those of different backgrounds. Is your instinct one of "Sit by us," or "Let's go sit by them," or is it one of "I hope they sit elsewhere" or "Let's move somewhere else"? Do you joyfully move toward those who are different than you or do you shuffle quietly away? ~Tony Merida Love Your Church. (pg. 43)*

*As a church, do we really want to grow, or do we want more people that just look like us and share our interests [and] opinions? ... Do we really want to be a truly welcoming church? ~Tony Merida Love Your Church. (pg. 38)*

What do I need to do to be more \_\_\_\_\_

to pray and be an \_\_\_\_\_ of grace?

