

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Applicant Name: _____

STEPS	ASSIGNED TO	DATE COMPLETED	Applicant Photo
Elder Interview:	_____	_____	
Elder Review:	_____	_____	
Elders Approval:	_____	_____	
Pastor Approval:	_____	_____	
Notification:	_____	_____	
RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP – SERVICE:		_____	

We believe that Scripture clearly points out the need for every Christian to identify with a local church. Ephesians 4:25 says that we are “members of one another.” Church membership is the way we express that oneness.

In becoming a member of this church, you are making a commitment first of all to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is its Head. You are pledging your loyalty to Him; to love Him, obey Him, and to give yourself regularly to the study of His Word and praying to Him.

And because the church is His body, you are making a commitment to love this church as He does; to submit to the loving leadership of the Elders of this church, to seek to discover your own spiritual gifts and to use them for the edification of the body, to support the work of this church with your spiritual and material resources as God prospers, and to faithfully gather together with the other members of this church for worship, teaching, fellowship, and outreach.

But becoming a member of this church also means that we are making a commitment to you; to provide you with the spiritual oversight of the Elders, to feed you on the Word of God, to do all we can to care for your spiritual, physical, and emotional needs, to help you discover and use your spiritual gifts, and to see you reach full maturity as a Christian.

It is the desire of the Elders that the process of becoming a member of this church be an exciting step in your life. If you have any questions about the application or feel hesitant for any reason, we would be glad to talk with you.

In His service,

The Elders of The Bridge Bible Fellowship

THE BRIDGE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Bridge Bible Fellowship is an autonomous church united around these theological convictions:

1. God

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

2. The Bible

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

3. The Human Condition

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled, and renewed.

4. Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

5. The Work of Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

6. The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips, and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

THE BRIDGE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
STATEMENT OF FAITH

7. The Church

We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

8. Christian Living

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

9. Christ's Return

We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

10. Response and Eternal Destiny

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

For a thorough list of Scripture references supporting the above statements, please refer to our Membership Class handouts.

STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY

1. We believe that the term “marriage” has only one Biblical meaning: namely, marriage is an ordinance instituted and sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive husband-wife union – the meaning that is clearly and uniformly delineated in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur exclusively between a man and a woman who are joined in marital union to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged outside a marriage between a man and a woman.
2. We believe that the only legitimate and accepted form of sexual intimacy is that which occurs within the Biblical definition of marriage. Any form of sexual intimacy outside of the marital union of a man and a woman is in violation of God’s ordained purpose for mankind, and constitutes immoral behavior. We hold that sexual immorality includes adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, transgender function, or disagreement with one’s biological sex. We hold that these or related immoral behaviors are sinful and offensive to God, the Sovereign Creator and Judge of all mankind.
3. We believe that God graciously offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and repent (forsake) their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness offered through faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that this offer of mercy and forgiveness includes the full array of sins of immorality noted above in this Section (see item 2).
4. We believe that every human being is to be afforded dignity and respect without discrimination of persons. We repudiate degrading attitudes or actions communicated toward an individual that demeans personal dignity as a creature made in the image of God. All personal interactions are to be in consistency with the doctrines and practices articulated in these By-Laws or authorized by the Board of Elders in accord with their interpretation of Scripture.
5. We believe that the preservation of the function and integrity of the Church as the local Body of Christ requires that all persons employed by The Bridge Bible Fellowship in any capacity, and that all volunteers serving within the function of the Church and any of its ministries, agree with this Statement on Marriage & Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly in abiding conformity. Furthermore, all individuals involved in any ministry operation, activity or event at The Bridge Bible Fellowship are expected to uphold the principles and perspectives set forth in this Section, and individuals or organizations desiring use of any facility of The Bridge Bible Fellowship must also comply with the policies and practices set forth in this Section.

THE BRIDGE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having been led by the Holy Spirit and brought by His grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and to give myself wholly to Him by receiving Him as Savior and confessing Him as Lord in baptism and testimony, I am committed to forsake the ways of sin and to walk in Christian love and in the paths of righteousness.

The following is my covenant with the Lord and my commitments to The Bridge:

1. I commit to continually trust in Christ alone for my salvation and demonstrate my love for him through my complete obedience to His Word (John 14:15, 21).
2. I commit to continually turn from my sin, pursue spiritual growth, and renewal of my mind (Eph. 4:17-24).
3. I commit to regularly attend (1) the main Sunday morning worship service, and (2) a Sunday morning class or mid-week LIFE Group.
4. I commit to attend the Annual Member Meeting (usually in July/August).
5. I commit to give my time, talents, and treasures (resources) to the church body for the building up of the entire church and the glory of God.
6. I commit to pray and provide for the needs of other members in the church and for the overall growth of the church for the glory of God.
7. I commit to both give and receive admonition with humility and compassion.
8. I commit to be slow to take offense with another and to always seek reconciliation as quickly as possible.
9. I commit to maintain my own personal devotion to God through prayer and the regular reading and application of His word to my life.
10. I commit to instruct my children to love God and obey His word.
11. I commit to call my children and family members to worship God and place their faith in Christ alone for salvation.
12. I commit to pray for the salvation of my family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.
13. I commit to care for my family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers by tangibly demonstrating Christian love and concern for their physical and spiritual needs.
14. I commit to share the gospel with my family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers and call them to place their faith in Christ alone for salvation.
15. I commit to honor the Lord in my conduct before my family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers, so as not to be a stumbling block to them or to give them a reason to blaspheme the Lord.
16. I commit to submit to the loving leadership of the Elders, being willing to receive their admonition and accountability to obey God's word.
17. I understand that if my conduct so requires, the Elders have both the right and responsibility to discipline me in the manner prescribed by Matthew 18, 1 Corinthians 5, etc.
18. I understand that I will not be able to transfer my membership or remove my membership from the church rolls while subject to any stage of church discipline, without the consent of the elders. The disciplinary process will continue to completion.
19. Should my family and I move from this area, I commit to pursue membership at another local church where I can carry out the spirit of these commitments and principles of God's word.

SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINT NAME

THE BRIDGE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Note: Please use the final page for additional notes or to explain any of your responses.

(Check one) Mr. | Mrs. | Miss | Dr.

Today's Date: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Birthdate: _____

Occupation: _____

Home Phone: _____

Employer: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Marital Status: (check one) Single | Married | Separated | Divorced | Remarried | Widowed

Spouse's Name: _____

Anniversary Date: _____

If divorced or separated, please explain the circumstances:

Names of all children in your family (*living at home*):

Birthdate:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Have you been baptized since your decision to receive Christ?

Yes No

If not, are you willing to be baptized?

Yes No

Have you thoroughly read **The Bridge Statement of Faith**?

Yes No

Do you agree with it in its entirety?

Yes No

If there is an area of disagreement or misunderstanding about anything in the statement, please explain further in the space below: _____

Are you in agreement with The Bridge's **Statement on Marriage and Sexuality** (p.4)?

Yes No

Have you read The Bridge's **Membership Covenant** and signed it (p.5)?

Yes No

Do you have any questions or reservations about signing the **Membership Covenant**?

Yes No

If so, please explain below:

Have you ever been convicted of a sexual offense?

Yes No

In what area(s) of ministry do you desire to serve as a member? _____

THE BRIDGE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Your Testimony of Salvation:

1. Please describe your life before you came to know Jesus:

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2. Please describe how you came to know Jesus and what you now believe about who He is and what He has done for you:

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3. Please describe how your life is different now that you know Jesus as Lord and Savior and how you are growing in your faith, obedience, and service for His glory:

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