

FAMILY COVENANT

WHY WE COVENANT?

In and through the gospel, God has already given us a new identity. As Jesus' body, we want to be serious about how we walk this out, so that we-and the city-would experience his awesome presence and power!

"Covenant" is the deepest of agreements between two parties, and is a very significant theme throughout the Bible. This theme reaches a climax in the New Covenant, the agreement that we can now enter into relationship with God through Jesus Christ. (Matt. 26:26-29) The New Covenant is all about God's faithfulness and commitment to us, even when we are unfaithful to him. The New Covenant offers us new desires, a new heart, a new identity, and new power, through God's Holy Spirit, to live an entirely new life! In light of this New Covenant, and merely as a response to it, we are making this agreement together as a Family to walk out this new life together.

HELPS CLARIFY WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW JESUS WITHIN THE MERCY HILL CHURCH FAMILY

Jesus encouraged his potential followers to "count the cost" of following him (Luke 14:25-33). This Family Covenant helps us create a common understanding of the basics of following Jesus, and becomes a way for us to affirm, "we believe these are key elements in following Jesus."

HELPS THE ELDERS OF MERCY HILL CHURCH SHEPHERD THE FLOCK

1 Peter 5:1-5 calls the elders of a local church, on behalf of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus, to shepherd the flock of God. A big part of shepherding the people of God is to live among them, both to serve as an example, and also to know how to best care for them. This Family Covenant will help the elders know who has submitted to their leadership (Hebrews 13:17), who "the flock" is that they've been called to shepherd.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Name: _____

1. SALVATION: "Follower of Jesus" - repented of your sins & turned to God placing your faith in Jesus
 - Write a Brief Statement describing how you came to know Jesus as Savior, Lord & King (use the back side if necessary).
2. BAPTISM: "Identified with Jesus & Commissioned to Make Disciples" - Followed Jesus in Believers Baptism (after salvation) and sent out by the Holy Spirit to make disciples who make disciples

- DATE: _____ CHURCH NAME: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

As a part of the Mercy Hill Church Family, we are committing to the following...(Acts 2:42-47)

1. GATHER - in Missional Communities as the primary organizing structure of the church & in the Sunday Gathering for celebration, teaching & edification
2. GIVE - as regular, percentage givers of our finances, time & physical resources
3. GROW - as disciples of Jesus who actively pursue a growing relationship with Jesus & His church
4. GO - sharing the Gospel of Jesus in word & deed in all of life
5. Affirming and submitting to church leadership (Hebrews 13:17) and, if necessary, church discipline (Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13)