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# FORMAL MEMBER COMMITMENT

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As a formal member of Hope Church Toronto West,

- I have, by faith, become a follower of Jesus Christ (Jn 3:3-5, Acts 2:47) and I have been baptized as a visible way of demonstrating that commitment. (Acts 2:41)
- **I am committed to ABIDE in Christ.**
  - It is impossible to follow Christ without abiding in him (John 15:5).
  - I am committed to abiding in Christ through daily times of personal prayer (Mark 1:35) and study of His Word (Acts 17:11). I commit to rightly understanding God's Word (2 Timothy 2:15), and be not only a hearer but also a doer of the Word (James 1:22).
- **I am committed to CONNECT with other believers in Christ**
  - God has designed his church to be one body. We cannot follow Christ without being engaged with one another (Romans 12:4-5).
  - I commit to the weekly Sunday worship gathering centred on the preaching of God's word (2 Tim 4:2). I commit to not neglect the gathering, but encourage one another (Heb 10:24-27). At the gatherings, I commit to the regular partaking of the Lord's supper together (1 Cor 10:16-17, 21, 1 Cor 11:23-26)
  - I commit to serving one another as a steward of the spiritual gifts that God has given me (1 Pet 4:10-11). I have found my place of service at Hope Church.
  - I commit to growing in sanctification (1 Thess 4:1-8) and helping others grow in sanctification through small groups (Heb 3:12-13, Heb 5:12-6:1).

- **I am committed to CONNECT with other believers in Christ (cont'd)**

- When friction arises between myself and another member, I commit to biblically resolve any conflicts in the spirit of Matthew 18:15-17 & 5:23-24. Putting away bitterness and slander (Eph 4:31-32), I commit to bear with one another and eagerly maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph 4:1-6).
- When I am caught up in sin, I commit to accepting the loving correction of my church family (Gal 6:1-2, Eph 4:15-16, 2 Thess 3:13-15). If there is significant, verifiable and unrepentant sin in my life, I will submit to the loving, restorative discipline of my church as guided by the elders (1 Cor 5).

- **I am committed to SHARE Christ with others**

- A true follower of Christ cannot hoard their faith. They are compelled to share and multiply it in others (Matthew 5:14-16 & 2 Timothy 2:2).
- I am committed to sharing my faith with others who have not yet trusted in Jesus for salvation. I commit to sharing the love of Christ in both word and deed (Rom 15:18-20).
- Further, I am financially supporting the ministry of our church by giving back to the Lord a biblical portion of my increase (2 Cor 8:1-15, 9:6-7).

- **I have reviewed and am in agreement to live under and abide by the Doctrinal Statement and By-Laws of Hope Church Toronto West and the Elder-led governance structure they reflect.**