



Membership Application

The membership covenant of Harvest Bible Chapel Annapolis is birthed out of a desire to honor Christ and give loving care and spiritual direction for the church body and its individual members (1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:7, 17; Acts 2:42-47). The primary purpose of this covenant is to express common commitment to the Word of God and to fellow believers who are called to worship God in this community of faith (1 Corinthians 12:12-27).

Member and Family Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Birthday: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Birthday: _____ Email: _____

Children's name and ages: _____

Membership means:

I want to make a public declaration of my commitment to God's work in this church. I share the same ministry goals as Harvest and I want to join with others at Harvest who share this vision and desire to work for Christ.

I affirm, believe and support the teaching of this church and am in full agreement with the Statement of Basic Beliefs. God says the early believers had all things in common including devotion to the apostle's teaching (Acts 2:42-47).

I desire to associate with people of like mind and conviction, embracing the authority of God's word in my life and in the life of the church.

I accept responsibility for a group of fellow believers in the family of God. I want to be part of a caring community of believers, sharing joys and sorrows, and helping each other grow through worship, Bible study and fellowship.

I will be accountable to mature brothers and sisters in Christ for my walk with God. God warns against spiritual autonomy (Hebrews 13:17, Matthew 18:15-20). I want to receive the guidance, equipping, and assistance necessary to walk worthy.

I accept the authority and role of church leadership. God has established this structure (1 Corinthians 12:20-27). Elders, deacons and other church leaders are called from within to serve the church body. I also believe that every church member needs to contribute their gifts and serve within the church.

The opportunity to join a local church is more than just a commitment to consistent attendance or active involvement. It is a sacred call to join with the faith family of God to pursue God's purpose and mission together. Membership at Harvest Bible Chapel is a participation in a family that exists to glorify God through the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Background Information:

How long have you been attending Harvest?

How did you hear about Harvest?

How has attending Harvest impacted your life?

Why would you like to become a member at Harvest?

When and where were you baptized as a believer in Jesus Christ (required for membership)?

Personal Testimony:

In order to become a member of Harvest Bible Chapel, you need a clear testimony of personal faith in Jesus Christ. Please follow this outline to write your testimony:

Before I trusted Christ my life was:

Writing your story of personal faith in Jesus Christ is a wonderful way to reflect on how God has drawn you to himself and changes your life. As you write, make sure the focus is on God, what he has done and is doing in your life.

This is how, when and why I trusted Jesus Christ as my savior:

I once was...
Spend a brief time on the "before". This is not a biography from childhood. It is best to start at a time related to your experience with Christ.

But Christ...
Be as specific as possible about surrendering your life to Christ. What was happening at the time? How did Christ get your attention? If possible share the month and year you were saved.

Here are one or two ways that Christ has changed my life:

And now
Be practical. Explain how Christ has changed your life. Share how you are growing in your walk with Christ.

Membership Covenant:

Understanding that *common commitment* is essential for any covenant community, I affirm and promise to:

- 1) **Worship Christ (John 4:23-24)** personally and as part of this church family. Because a disciple worships Christ, I will make attendance at Harvest a high priority in my life and participate fully in worship services at Harvest.
- 2) **Walk with Christ (Ephesians 4:1-16)** personally and as part of this church family. Because a disciple walks with Christ, I will seek to maintain consistent disciplines of Bible study, prayer and personal witness. I will pursue holiness and reject unrighteousness in my attitudes and actions as I live my life in front of each other and the community around me. I commit to disciple and care for one another at Harvest and will walk in fellowship with other believers by participating in a small group. I will pursue and maintain unity in fellowship by submitting to the leadership of the church and will neither criticize nor listen to criticism concerning any member(s) of this body. I will, when personally offended, first speak directly and lovingly with those involved.
- 3) **Work for Christ (1 Peter 4:10-11; Matthew 28:18-20)** personally and as a part of this church family. Because a disciple works for Christ, I commit to shouldering the Kingdom responsibility of service and will use my spiritual gifts and passions within the church ministry. I will intentionally steward and give generously of the resources that God has entrusted to me and will financially support the ministries of Harvest by faithfully giving back to the Lord a biblical portion of my increase. I will also intentionally pursue purposeful engagement and activity in God's mission by sharing the Gospel both locally and globally as God would allow.

I have shared truthfully in this application and have read and agree fully with the Harvest Statement of Basic Beliefs. Having spent adequate time in prayer and reflection on its content, I am strongly convinced that God would have me be a part of this faith family in a covenant relationship. I commit myself to Jesus, His church and to the fellow members of Harvest Bible Chapel Annapolis.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Spouse: _____ **Date:** _____

For internal use:

Interviewer: _____ **Date:** _____

Date of Membership: _____ **Date:** _____