



New Hope Bible Church Membership Guidelines

Purpose and Direction of New Hope Bible Church

The following Scriptures have been the central focus of ministry for this assembly from its inception in 2001:

Hebrews 10:24-25 – “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Acts 2:42 – “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers.”

Matthew 28:19-20 – “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.”

The following distinctives were derived from these Scriptures. We strive to be steadfast and devoted to:

- worship – to faithfully and regularly gather together as a local body of believers for the corporate worship of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- the apostles doctrine – to be devoted to preaching the truth of God’s Word. To learn, to understand, to grow, and to mature in the ways of the Lord.
- fellowship – to love, support, encourage and pray for one another as a body of believers.
- the breaking of bread – to partake of communion on a regular basis where we can remember the Lord’s sacrificial death on our behalf and the hope we have through his marvelous resurrection.
- prayer – to offer praise and thanksgiving to our God, to make supplication for one another and our missionaries, to make prayer a priority in our church and in our own personal lives.
- disciple making and evangelism – to obey the great commission of going into the world proclaiming Christ and making disciples of all men.

The Role and Purpose of Membership

Upon salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, a person becomes a member of the Body of Christ, His Bride, the Church. (I Cor 12:13) In the New Testament, the tangible living expression of that is seen in the local church. To be a committed part of a local church is the example and directive given.

In our present age it is very common to see a lack of commitment to a local church among many professing believers. This often results in a continuous moving from church to church which contributes to a weakened fellowship and ministry of the church. Such



believers are also unable to gain the blessings of and participate effectively in the ministry of the church to the glory of Christ Jesus and for their own personal growth in Christ.

Specific church rosters or systematic membership are not prescribed or described in Scripture. However, the example of Christians faithful to their local assembly of believers is seen throughout the New Testament epistles. The epistles themselves were commonly written to churches in various cities. The epistles written to individuals such as Philemon, Timothy and Titus were for these men who were church leaders.

This is exemplified through the gathering together of believers for fellowship on a regular basis, instruction and implementation of church government, application of church discipline, and numerous commands and exhortations to mutual edification, or what are commonly referred to as the “one another” scriptures (Heb 10:24-25).

A person becomes a member of the universal church or body of Christ the moment he or she is saved. The universal church of Christ is expressed on a local and intimate level in the local church. To become a follower of Jesus Christ and not be a part of a local church is inconsistent with the picture given of salvation and the church in scripture. Upon repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, believers were then baptized and “were added” to the church (Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 16:5)

Membership at New Hope Bible Church is reflected by one’s consistent involvement in the life of the church including loving, fellowshiping and serving one another, regular attendance at church gatherings including weekly worship services, willing submission to church leadership, and faithful prayer for the church and its people. Further understanding is given below.

Biblical Fruits Pursued in Church Life

A local church member is one who commits himself or herself to participate in a particular local assembly of followers of Jesus Christ. Participation includes:

- Consistent gathering together with the saints in the regular corporate worship services of the church (Heb 10:24-25)
- Serving and edifying one another through the proper use of spiritual gifts (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-31; 1 Pet. 4:10-11)
- Receiving instruction from God’s Word (Acts 2:42; 1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:2-4)
- Participating in the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s supper (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42),
- Evangelism to the lost (Matt. 28:18- 20, II Cor 5:20).
- Praying for each other regularly (James 5:16)
- Confessing of sin to one another (James 5:16)



- Submitting to and praying for church leadership (Heb 13:17,18)
- Giving cheerfully of resources (2 Cor 9:7)
- Fellowship (Acts 2:42, Hebrews 10:24-25)

Becoming a Church Member

One is considered a member at New Hope Bible Church through the following.

- A testimony of being born again through the gospel of Jesus Christ by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone
- Obedience to the Biblical command to identify with Christ through baptism upon repentance and belief in Christ as Lord and Savior
- Pursuing growth in the biblical fruits of church life as described above in the “Biblical Fruits Pursued in Church Life”.
- Submission to the care and authority of elders at New Hope Bible Church
- Agreement with the statement of faith of New Hope Bible Church (Any disagreements with the Statement of Faith are to be presented to the elders and discussed with the elders to determine their Biblical significance.)
- Is at least eighteen years of age. (This age stipulation is primarily for the purpose of respecting parental authority for minors.)

These will be communicated in an interview with church elders and demonstrated through actual participation in the local body of Christ. The purpose of the membership interview will be for the elders to discern whether the person interviewed understands the Biblical gospel and has believed on Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Any differences a potential member has with the statement of faith will be discussed in an interview with the elders to determine the significance of the disagreement. Following the interview, the church elders will then give prayerful consideration and determine whether to accept the individual as a member to this local assembly. Members agree not to promote differences with the statement of faith or 1689 London Baptist Confession among this local assembly. Both of these afore mentioned documents serve as commentaries and guidelines in helping interpret and apply Scripture for this local assembly. Neither are viewed as inspired or inerrant or on par with the inspired 66 books of Holy Scripture.

Leadership and Servant Roles & Opportunities Requiring Membership and Agreement with the Church Statement of Faith

- Leadership roles in public corporate worship services such as: (subject to exceptions allowed by elders)
 - Scripture Reading
 - Leading in Corporate Prayer
 - Leading Music in Worship Service
 - Serving Communion



- Leadership and teaching in church sanctioned ministries including Bible studies
- Receive church financial support for individual participation on mission trips

Transfer or Termination of Church Membership

If a member desires to transfer or terminate their membership from New Hope Bible Church the elders desire that the member communicate their intention and reason to the elders.

If a member has not participated in the activities of the church for six months, the member will be considered for termination of membership. The elders will attempt to contact the member and prayerfully consider their response or lack of response before the elders make the decision to terminate or continue membership.

Explanation of Biblical Church Leadership:

Jesus Christ is the head and authority for the church. (1 Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18) Biblical leadership of the local church assembly is exercised through the roles of elders (also called overseers, pastors, and pastor teachers; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11). Scripturally established qualifications must be met by those in the role-of elder (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5). Elders have been given Christ's authority to lead the local assembly and must do so as servants of Christ and His body, the church (1 Timothy 5:17-22, Ephesians 5:21, I Peter 5:5). The local congregation is to submit to their leadership. (Hebrews 13:7, 17)

Under this biblical structure, church decisions are made with prayer, scriptural study and application and with consensus of the elders. All elders serve as equals. Input from the local congregation is very important and will be sought by the elders when appropriate and practically possible. However, the final responsibility in decision making is upon the elders.

Deacons exercise the role of servant in ways that help meet the practical needs of the church and also provide valuable input for church matters. Scripturally established qualifications must be met by those in the role of deacon, as well (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

Elder-and deacon positions will be served by those who have been members of this local assembly for a minimum of two years and are in agreement with the church's statement of faith and in general agreement with the Second London Baptist Confession of 1689.

Appointment of Elders

A man who is appointed as an elder will be one observed and considered by the current elders to meet the Biblical qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; and 1 Peter 5:1-5.



He will also demonstrate the characteristics of humility, faithfulness and love in ministry to the local assembly.

The elders may determine a need for additional elders and observe a man who appears to meet the Biblical qualifications. If a brother in the assembly desires to be considered for eldership, he is to communicate to the elders this desire and begin discussion regarding his qualifications and ministry. A personal interview will be held by the current elders with the candidate to determine if the candidate meets biblical qualifications, is in agreement with the church statement of faith and in general agreement with the Second London Baptist Confession of 1689. Any differences held by the candidate with the SLBC 1689 are to be presented by the candidate and to be discussed with the elders to determine their Biblical significance. Additional input may also be sought from others.

If, after careful prayerful consideration, the elders believe the candidate to be suitable for the role of elder, this will be announced to the assembly.

A 30 day period will then be given for the assembly to respond with any encouragement, concern or other important input that would be pertinent to the consideration of the candidate for the responsibility of elder. The current elders will respond as needed to input given.

Following the period of assembly feedback, if the elders unanimously agree that the candidate is qualified for leadership and service as an elder, the candidate will be appointed as an elder, the appointment announced to the assembly and public ordination conducted.

Appointment of Deacons

The elders will evaluate the needs of the assembly to determine the appropriateness of appointing additional deacons. If this is so determined, the elders will consider and evaluate men based on their living out the Biblical qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13 as well as demonstrating the characteristics of humility, faithfulness and love in ministry to the local assembly.

A personal interview will be held by the current elders with the candidate to determine if the candidate meets biblical qualifications, is in agreement with the church statement of faith and in general agreement with the Second London Baptist Confession of 1689. Any differences held by the candidate with the SLBC 1689 are to be presented by the candidate and to be discussed with the elders to determine their Biblical significance. Additional input may also be sought from others.

If, after careful prayerful consideration, the elders believe the candidate to be suitable for the role of deacon, this will be announced to the assembly. A 30 day period will then be



given for the assembly to respond with any encouragement, concern or other important input that would be pertinent to the consideration of the candidate for this responsibility. The elders will respond as needed to input given.

Following the period of assembly feedback, if the elders unanimously agree that the candidate is qualified for service as a deacon, the candidate will be so appointed, the appointment announced to the assembly and public ordination conducted.

Exercise of Church Discipline

Church discipline is a biblically specified process used in hope of restoring a believer who has committed sin back into fellowship with Christ and the church. Church discipline also provides protection of fellow church members.

The steps followed in church discipline are given in Matthew 18:15-17:

1. "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother." V. 15 – Person to person confrontation to be conducted in love and truth.
2. "But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses." V. 16 – If the first confrontation does not result in repentance, one or two other believers are to be brought along as witnesses.
3. "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church." V. 17a – If the sinning individual refuses the additional attempt with witnesses, then the matter is to be taken up on a church level.
4. "And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector." V. 17b (I Cor 5:1-13) – If there continues to be no repentance, then the person shall be removed from fellowship of the church body.

Church Ministry and Families

Regarding families, the church will affirm and provide instruction that the family is to be a vital center of Christian discipleship. The husband is under Christ and the head of the home. He is to give godly leadership, seeking to direct his family in the ways of the Lord. He is to love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her. Wives are to submit to their own husbands as to the Lord. Parents are primarily responsible for the spiritual training of their children, including Biblical instruction and discipline.

We believe that children are a blessing from God. (I Cor 11:3; Eph 5:21-6:4; Col 3:18-21; Tit 2:4-5; I Pet 3:1-7)

Church Facilities Usage

Church members receive free use of church facilities dependent upon availability and elder approved purposes.



Changes to Church Guidelines

Changes to these guidelines are to be made at the discretion of the elders with prayerful Biblical consideration and after seeking input from the assembly. Proposed changes will be communicated to the assembly after which at least two weeks of time will be given for additional input from the assembly regarding the changes being considered. Following this time of input, the elders will give a final decision regarding the implementation of the considered changes.



Scriptures Referenced in the Above Guidelines

Intro

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

Act 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Act 5:14 And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,

Act 16:5 So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.

Definition of Church Membership

Rom 12:3-8 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1Co 12:4-31 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is



Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, 25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

1Pe 4:10-11 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Act 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

1Ti 4:13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

2Ti 4:2-4 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.



Luk 22:19 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

Act 2:38-42 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." 40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Mat 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

2Co 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

Jas 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Heb 13:17-18 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. 18 Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably.

2Co 9:7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Act 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Heb 10:24-25 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.



Explanation of Biblical Church Leadership

1Co 11:3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

Eph 1:22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

Col 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Act 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

1Ti 3:1-13 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; 3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence 5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); 6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 8 Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, 9 holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. 10 But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. 11 Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Tit 1:5-9 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you— 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has



been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

1Pe 5:1-5 The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; 4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. 5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

1Ti 5:17-22 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. 18 For the Scripture says, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE AN OX WHILE IT TREADS OUT THE GRAIN," and, "THE LABORER IS WORTHY OF HIS WAGES." 19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear. 21 I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality. 22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.

Eph 5:21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

1Pe 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

Heb 13:7 Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

Heb 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Appointment of Elders

1Ti 3:1-7 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; 3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence 5 (for if a man does not



know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); 6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Tit 1:5-9 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you— 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

1Pe 5:1-5 The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; 4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. 5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

Appointment of Deacons

1Ti 3:8-13 Deacons likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, 9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. 11 Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. 12 Deacons must be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households. 13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Exercise of Church Discipline

Mat 18:15-17 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.' 17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.



1Co 5:1-13 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! 2 And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 6 Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 9 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. 10 Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. 11 But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. 12 For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? 13 But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "PUT AWAY FROM YOURSELVES THE EVIL PERSON."

Church Ministry and Families

1Co 11:3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

Col 3:18-21 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them. 20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. 21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

Tit 2:4-5 that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

1Pe 3:1-7 Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. 3 Do not let your adornment be



merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel— 4 rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. 7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.