



9. Please provide two references (please do not use relatives). [*They will be asked if they have any hesitations in affirming the genuineness of your profession of faith, and if they know of anything in your life that would disqualify you from being a church member in good standing.*]

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

10. Tell us briefly what you believe about:

Jesus Christ

Salvation

The Bible

The Trinity

The Church

Baptism

Creation

Sin

# Grace Family Bible Church

PO Box 892, Midway, UT 84049

## Abbreviated Statement of Faith and Conduct

### WE TEACH:

- 1) The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God, His full written revelation, and our only rule of faith and practice.
- 2) The unity and trinity of the God head.
- 3) That God created the heavens and the earth and all life in six literal days.
- 4) That God is sovereign in all things.
- 5) That Jesus Christ is God's only Son, and shares the title of God as the second member of the trinity. He is our sole Mediator to the Father. We further teach His pre-existence, His incarnation, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His atonement, His bodily resurrection from the grave, and His personal, visible return from heaven.
- 6) The Holy Spirit, His personality and His activity in regeneration, sanctification and preservation.
- 7) That man was created in the image of God, and that due to Adam's sin, he is born with a sin nature and therefore sins by nature.
- 8) That salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ apart from human merit, works, or ceremonies. Those who are in Christ are kept by God's power and are eternally secure in Him.
- 9) That the church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head and that there is a two-fold aspect of the church, the universal and the local. Also that the ordinances of the local church are two in number: Baptism—a symbolic act representing the death, burial, and resurrection of the believer in Jesus Christ consisting of the immersion of the believer in water following salvation, and the Lord's Supper—a symbolic memorial of the atoning death of Christ until he comes.
- 10) The resurrection of the human body; the everlasting existence of all men either in heaven or hell; divine judgments, rewards and punishments.
- 11) Miraculous gifts have ceased since the completion of the New Testament. The only gifts in operation today are those non-revelatory equipping gifts given for edification.
- 12) The personal, bodily, and imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ preceding the seven year tribulation to rapture His church from this earth.
- 13) The mutual accountability of all believers to each other as well as the need for discipline of willfully and continually sinning members of the congregation in accord with the standards of Scripture (See Matthew 18:15-18). This means that each member agrees to abide by the judgments of Biblical church authority.
- 14) That legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. This church recognizes marriage as exclusively the legal union of one man and one woman. Hence, sexual activities, such as, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, incest, homosexuality, and bestiality are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible and Grace Family Bible Church. Further, lascivious behavior, the creation and/or distribution and/or viewing of pornography, and efforts to alter one's gender, are incompatible with the Biblical witness.
- 15) That women are not to be ordained to the pastorate nor are they to teach in mixed settings (cf., 1 Corinthians 14:34-38; 1 Timothy 2:11-12, 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-6).

Every employee and volunteer shall be in good standing with the above statement of faith and shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with said views and be obedient to the Scripture.

I agree to abide by this Statement of Faith: Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Grace Family Bible Church Covenant

We, the members of Grace Family Bible Church, believe that God has placed a desire in our hearts to have a church in our community where we and our children may worship Him and grow in His grace together. We further desire that this church would be established on the strongest foundation possible so that it may actively serve the Trinity as prescribed in the Scriptures for many generations to come. In that light, we testify in the presence of God and this assembly that we most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

## Articles of the Covenant

1. We will walk together in Christian love, in spite of our weaknesses and shortcomings.
2. We will strive together for the advancement of our people in areas of knowledge, integrity, discipline, doctrine, and unity.
3. We will commit together in faith to contribute cheerfully and regularly to support the ministry with our giving.
4. We will strive for the salvation of our lost family, friends, neighbors and coworkers.
5. We vow to walk circumspectly in this world, avoiding unnecessary entanglements as soldiers for His kingdom.
6. We will strive to not forsake the gathering of the saints.
7. We will be honorable in our conduct and faithful in our commitments.
8. We will abstain from coarse humor, gossip, cutting sarcasm, complaining and overall negativity.
9. We will abstain from habits that bring harm to the church.
10. We will joyfully support and honor our leaders as they shepherd this body in all practical and spiritual matters.
11. We will be slow to take offense, but always eager to reconcile when a wrong is suffered.
12. We promise not to break away from fellowship in a way that is dishonoring to Christ or His church.

*I agree to abide by these articles:* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Member Signature)

## **Church Membership\***

### **Section 1. Purpose of the Fellowship**

The congregation of Christian believers who have applied for membership and have been duly accepted shall constitute a spiritual body, united for the spiritual purposes set forth in Article II of these Bylaws.

### **Section 2. Active Membership**

Active membership in Grace Family Bible Church shall be open to all persons who confess Christ as their Lord and Savior and who have been baptized.

### **Section 3. Voting Privileges**

Membership in this church shall not vest in any member any proprietary rights in the corporation, but shall only entitle the member to vote at a meeting of the members on those matters that the Board of Elders chooses to submit to the church membership for affirmation. In such cases, voting privileges are restricted to members who are in good standing, who are not under any disciplinary action, and who have passed their sixteenth (16) birthdays. Membership shall not be assignable inter vivo by any member nor shall membership vest to any personal representative, heir, or devisee.

### **Section 4. Applications for Membership**

All requests for membership shall be made to an Elder. Upon making such a request, the person shall be given an application for membership, and an abbreviated Statement of Faith to sign. A copy of the church Bylaws will be made available for review in the sanctuary. An Elder shall meet with the applicant following receipt of the application. Each applicant shall assent to the Statement of Faith and subscribe to the Bylaws. Any questions about, or disagreements with, the Statement of Faith or Bylaws must be indicated on the membership application. A duly appointed Committee of the Board will evaluate these questions or disagreements to determine whether the request for membership will be approved.

### **Section 5. Denial of Membership**

If, upon review of an application for membership or after meeting with a prospective member, the Board of Elders determines that the applicant does not confess Jesus Christ as his or her Lord and Savior, or that there is a lack of evidence of a godly lifestyle, membership shall be denied. The decision made by the Board shall be final and there shall be no appeal to any court from that decision.

### **Section 6. Admission of Applicants**

Applicants admitted to membership shall, if possible, present themselves at a worship service designated by the Pastor-Teacher or Board of Elders, at which service such applicants shall publicly affirm their membership commitment and be publicly acknowledged as members.

### **Section 7. Responsibilities of Members**

Members shall seek to exercise their spiritual gifts for the mutual benefit of all the church body and shall submit to the loving rule of the Elders and sign the church covenant.

### **Section 8. Church Discipline**

(a) The threefold purpose of church discipline is to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6), to edify believers by deterring sin (1 Timothy 5:20), and to promote the spiritual welfare of the offending believer by calling him or her to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Galatians 6:1).

(b) Members of this church and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church who err in doctrine, or who engage in conduct that violates Scripture as determined by the Board of Elders, shall be subject to church discipline, including dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18. Before such dismissal, however, (1) it shall be the duty of any member of this church who has knowledge of the erring individual's heresy or misconduct to warn and correct such erring individual in private, seeking his or her repentance and restoration. If the erring individual does not heed this warning, then (2) the warning member shall again go to the erring individual, seeking his or her repentance, but accompanied by one or two other members who shall confirm that the sin has occurred or is continuing to occur, and/or that the erring individual has been appropriately confronted and has refused to repent. The first and second warnings may occur with no specified time interval. If the

erring individual still refuses to heed this warning, then (3) it shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders. If the Board of Elders determines—after thorough investigation in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19—that there is corroborating evidence that the erring individual has sinned or is continuing to sin, that he or she has been appropriately confronted, and that he or she has refused to repent, then the Elders shall inform the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance. If the erring individual demonstrates repentance, then notice to that effect may be given at a regularly scheduled worship service. If, however, the erring individual does not repent in response to the church in its collective call to repentance, then (4) he or she shall be publicly dismissed from the fellowship and/or membership of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service. If the erring individual, after such dismissal, heeds the warning, demonstrates repentance, and requests reinstatement before the Board of Elders, then he or she shall be publicly restored to all the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of fellowship and/or membership.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the elders in the exercise of their discretion may proceed directly to the third stage of church discipline, (i.e. the informing of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance) or to the fourth stage of church discipline, (i.e. the dismissal from the fellowship and/or membership of the church) when one or more of the following have occurred:

- (i) Where the transgression and the refusal to repent have been public, i.e. openly and to the offense of the whole Church (1 Cor. 5:1-5);
- (ii) Where the disciplined party has taught or otherwise disseminated doctrine deemed false or erroneous by the elders, then chosen to disregard the direction and reproof of the elders (Romans 16:17); or
- (iii) Where the disciplined party has been warned twice to cease from factious and divisive conduct and has chosen to disregard that warning (Titus 3:10-11).

(d) The members of this church, and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church, agree that there shall be no appeal to any court because of the dismissal or because of public statements to the congregation at the third or fourth stages of church discipline. Members, who are under discipline by the church, as defined in the previous paragraphs, forfeit and waive the right to resign from this church. Resignations from membership are possible only by members who are in good standing and who are not under any disciplinary action.

(e) Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the elders, a member, non-member regular attendee, or other individual may be notified that he or she is not to be present upon church premises for such a period of time as is deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of others on church premises. Such required absence may, but need not, be concurrent with church discipline of that person.

(f) Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the elders (or a duly constituted subcommittee thereof), the names of any members who have not attended a worship service, Sunday School class session or Fellowship Group meeting at Grace Family Bible Church for a period of six months or longer may be removed from the membership rolls.

*(\*Quoted Directly From Actual Bylaws of Grace Family Bible Church of Heber and Midway, Utah)*

I agree that I have read and understand this document explaining church membership:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGN NAME

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE