

Everything You Wanted to Know about 'Church' but were Afraid to Ask! "Why Belong to a Spiritual Family?"

Ephesians 2:11-22

If you belong to Jesus, then "we are family!"
(with special thanks to Sister Sledge!)

1. Belonging helps you develop _____.

- 1) Healthy relationships are marked by _____.
- 2) Healthy relationships are marked by _____.
- 3) Healthy relationships are marked by _____.
- 4) Healthy relationships are marked by _____.

2. Belonging helps you develop _____.

- 1) What are those qualities? Read Galatians 5:22-23 for starters!
- 2) Are you more like Jesus today than yesterday?

3. Belonging helps you develop _____.

- 1) What _____ your values—name them one by one!
- 2) What is the ultimate _____ of your values—where do they come from?

4. Belonging helps you develop a _____.

- 1) No one can "do it all alone." Why are you trying to?
- 2) Everyone wants to belong to a loving family. Why not choose to belong to this one?
- 3) Belonging is good for _____, for _____ and, for God's _____ in the world.

FBCE Amended Constitution: Article V – Membership Covenant

We, the members of the First Baptist Church of Eden, Texas, having been led as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized by immersion in faith in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, enter into the following covenant with each other, as one body in Christ.

God established a covenant relationship, first with His people Israel, and then a new covenant with His people, the church.¹ Therefore, as members of God's covenant family known as First Baptist Church, we commit ourselves to God and to one another to be Christlike² in our lives and relationships through the presence, guidance, and power of God's Holy Spirit.

We will love one another as Christ loved us,³ honor one another above ourselves,⁴ be kind and compassionate to one another,⁵ encourage and build up one another,⁶ comfort one another,⁷ and offer hospitality to one another.⁸

We will have a spirit of unity based on our common bond in Christ,⁹ be united in mind and convictions,¹⁰ meet together regularly,¹¹ have equal concern for each other, suffer when one suffers and rejoice when another is honored,¹² and consider others more important than ourselves.¹³

We will use our God-given knowledge to instruct one another,¹⁴ use our spiritual gifts to bless one another,¹⁵ use the Word of Christ to teach and admonish one another,¹⁶ and nurture one another toward spiritual maturity measured by the life and ministry of Jesus.¹⁷

We will confess our sins to one another, pray for each other,¹⁸ warn those who are idle, encourage the discouraged, help the weak, be patient with one another,¹⁹ forgive one another as the Lord forgave us,²⁰ and gently restore those who sin.²¹

We will not talk negatively about one another,²² not pass judgment on one another, not put any stumbling block in one another's way,²³ not be morally impure, not use obscenities, not be greedy,²⁴ but we will be filled with the Spirit.²⁵

We will let the light of our godly lives shine together to bring glory to God.²⁶

1. Heb. 8:7-13; 9:15 2. 1 Peter 2:21 3. John 13:34 4. Romans 12:10 5. Eph. 4:32 6. 1 Thess. 5:11
7. 2 Cor. 1:4 8. 1. Peter 4:9 9. Eph. 4:3-6 10. 1 Cor. 1:10 11. Heb. 10:25 12. 1 Cor. 12:25-26
13. Phil. 2:3 14. Romans 15:14 15. 1 Cor. 12:7 16. Col. 3:16 17. Eph. 4:13 18. James 5:16
19. 1 Thess. 5:14 20. Col. 3:13 21. Gal. 6:1 22. James 4:11 23. Romans 14:13
24. Eph. 5:3-4 25. Eph. 5:18 26. Matt. 5:16

Believe, Belong, Become—you can do it!