

Church Covenant

Having been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and having been baptized upon our profession of faith in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly covenant with each other as members of Jacksonville Bible Church in the following ways.

- **We Covenant to Love God's Glory by:**
 - Endeavoring to bring up those in our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and by a pure and loving example seeking the salvation of our family and friends.
 - Seeking to live carefully in the world, putting off ungodliness and worldly lusts, renewing our mind in the truth of God's Word, and putting on the good deeds He has prepared for us.
 - Working together to build a faithful ministry in this church as we sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines.
 - Striving to be evangelists in our own spheres of influences by sharing the Gospel as often as God allows.

- **We Covenant to Love God's People by:**
 - Working and praying for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
 - Regarding one another as more important than ourselves, patiently bear with one another's difficulties, and exercising our spiritual gifts for the good of others.
 - Rejoicing at each other's happiness and endeavoring with tenderness and sympathy to bear each other's burdens and sorrows.
 - Committing to the assembling of ourselves together in our services and to diligently pray for ourselves and others.
 - Deferring to the judgment of our church and/or the use of binding arbitration rather than pursuing legal action against one another or against the church as a whole.
 - Walking together in brotherly love, exercising affectionate care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully admonishing and entreating one another as occasion may require, always being ready for reconciliation.

- **We Covenant to Love God's Local Church**
 - Seeking to eagerly maintain the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace by focusing above all on what is of first importance – the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - Contributing sacrificially, cheerfully, and regularly to the support of our church, the relief of our poor and the spread of the Gospel through our missionaries.
 - Supporting the teaching and applying of God's Word as understood in our Doctrinal Statement.
 - Submitting to the leadership of our elders, the correction of our brothers and sisters and the discipline of our church.
 - Seeking to remain united to one another in membership unless separation is requested and accepted through resignation, separation is required through the process of church discipline, or separation occurs due to death.
 - Committing to, if God moves us from this place, requesting to resign our membership and as soon as possible unite with another church where we can carry out the principles of God's Word.

These things we will strive to do through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.