

THE LIFE CHURCH

INTERNATIONAL

Membership Class 101

Exploring Membership

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MATURITY

201

**Spiritual
Maturity**

**Spiritual
Leadership**

MINISTRY

301

WORSHIP

MEMBERSHIP

101

**Exploring
Membership**

**My Life
Mission**

MISSION

401



Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

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Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

1. The church is a **family**.
2. God expects me to be **a member** of a church family.
3. A Christian without a church family is **an orphan**.
4. THE LIFE CHURCH is my **spiritual** family.

Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

- I need

healthy relationships.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up.

But pity the one who falls and has no one to help him up!”

- Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

- I need
a place to grow.

"They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the breaking of bread and prayer."

- Acts 2:42

Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

- I need

a place to use my gifts.

*"Do not neglect the gift
that is in you,
which was given to you..."*

- 1 Timothy 4:14

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Why Join THE LIFE CHURCH?

- I need

**to belong to something
bigger than myself.**

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

- Romans 12:4-5

Requirements For Joining THE LIFE CHURCH

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Requirements for Joining

I. Salvation

What about Baptism?

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What is the meaning of adult believer's baptism by immersion?

I. It illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection.

"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ."

– Colossians 2:12

What is the meaning of adult believer's baptism by immersion?

2. It illustrates my **new life** as a Christian.

"When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun!"

– 2 Corinthians. 5:17

"By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... so also we may live a new life!"

– Romans 6:4

Who should be baptized?

- Every person who has believed in Christ.

*"Those who believe and accepted
His message were baptized..."*

– Acts 2:41

"But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News... and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women."

– Acts 8:12

When should I be baptized?

- As soon as you have believed.

*"Those who believe...were
baptized...that day!"*

– Acts 2:41

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"Then Philip began with the scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said,

'Look, here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The man answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.'

So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him."

– Acts 8:35-38

Requirements for Joining

2. 2 Months Attendance

3. Membership Class

4. Sign the Membership Covenant

Purpose of THE LIFE CHURCH

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“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind . . . Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

– Matthew 22:37 – 40

Purpose of THE LIFE CHURCH

- This passage is commonly called the **Great Commandments**.

*“Go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit, and teaching them to obey
everything I have commanded you.*

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

– Matthew 28:19–20

Purpose of THE LIFE CHURCH

- This passage is commonly called the **Great Commission**.

“Then the King will say to those on the right, ‘... For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’

... And the King will tell them, 'I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"

– Matthew 25:34–41

Purpose of THE LIFE CHURCH

- This passage is commonly called the **Great Compassion**.

Purpose of THE LIFE CHURCH

A Great **Commitment** to the
Great Commandments and the
Great Commission done with
Great Compassion will grow a
Great **Church**.

*(Jesus) "I will build my church,
and all the powers of hell will
not conquer it."*

– Matthew 16:18

Purpose Statement

THE LIFE CHURCH exists to give the people
of Northern VA
the best opportunity to become fully
developing followers of Jesus by
Inviting them to an intimate relationship with
God,
Connecting them in healthy relationships
with other Christians,

Purpose Statement

Guiding believers toward an authentic
commitment to God,
Involving believers in life-changing ministry
and mission
in our city and the world that they may
Honor God completely.

Mission

...to make and to mature believers

Purposes

- Inviting believers to an intimate relationship with God: **Evangelism**
- Connecting believers in healthy relationships with other Christians: **Fellowship**
- Guiding believers toward an authentic commitment to God: **Discipleship**

Purposes

- Involving believers in life-changing ministry and mission in our city and the world: **Ministry**
- That they may Honor God completely: **Worship**

- A **Balanced** church = A **Healthy** church.
- A **Healthy** church = A **Growing** church.

Core Values of THE LIFE CHURCH

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THE LIFE CHURCH'S Affiliation

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THE LIFE CHURCH
is a member
supported Church

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Break

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The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

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The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

I. The Life Church is a
fellowship.

“They continued steadily learning the teaching of the apostles, and joined in the fellowship...”

- Acts 2:42

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

- A top priority in a fellowship is **harmony**.
- A good structure promotes **unity** and downplays differences.
 - “Voting” tends to create conflict.
- One of the best ways we fellowship @ THE LIFE CHURCH is through **Life Groups**.

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

2. The Life Church is a **family**.

“You should be like one big happy family, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds.”

-1 Peter 3:8

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

So we operate on the basis of
relationships not rules.

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

3. The Life Church is a **body**.

We are a body - not a business!

We are an organism - not an organization!

Therefore, we function on the basis of
spiritual gifts not elected offices.

“We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.”

– Romans 12:5

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

- THE LIFE CHURCH is made up of **Life Groups**.
- THE LIFE CHURCH must grow **larger** and **smaller** at the same time.

“(They met) day after day, in the Temple courts and from house to house.”

– Acts 2:42

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

- THE LIFE CHURCH is a church of Life Groups, not a church with Life Groups.
- As a member of THE LIFE CHURCH, you need to be part of a Life Group.

The Structure of THE LIFE CHURCH

4. The Life Church is a **flock**.

Therefore it is cared for and led by
shepherds.

Two kinds of shepherds:

Elders/Pastors and Life Group Leaders

“[God] is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ,

*until we come to such unity in our
faith and knowledge of God's Son
that we will be mature and full
grown in the Lord, measuring up to
the full stature of Christ."*

- Ephesians 4:11-13

“Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.”

- Acts 14:23

Membership Expectations

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Membership Expectations

1. **Attendance** – “I will make The Life Church my home.”
2. **Giving** – “I will give in a God-honoring way – tithes & offerings: (systematically, proportionally, and out of obedience)”

5 Ways To Give @ THE LIFE CHURCH

1. Give at the Sunday Service
2. Online @ www.thelifechurch.org
3. Mail your gift to THE LIFE CHURCH
4. Automatic Bank Check
5. Automated Bank Debit

Membership Expectations

- 3. Ministry** – “I will serve the church on a regular basis where needed and where gifted.”
- 4. Spiritual Growth** – “I will work to grow in my relationship with God and others.”
- 5. Outreach** – “I will pray for and invite my unchurched friends to THE LIFE CHURCH.”

Membership Covenant

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Membership Covenant

- I. I will protect the unity of my church...
 - ...by acting in love toward other members
 - ...by refusing to gossip
 - ...by following the leaders

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.”

– Romans 14:19

*“Have a sincere love for other
believers; love one another
earnestly with all your heart.”*

– 1 Peter 1:22

*“Do not let unwholesome talk
come out of your mouths, but
only what is helpful for
building others up according
to their needs.”*

– Ephesians 4:29

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you.”

– Hebrews 13:17

Membership Covenant

2. I will share the **responsibility** of my church...
 - . . . by praying for its growth
 - . . . by inviting the unchurched to attend
 - . . . by warmly welcoming those who visit

“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.”

– Romans 15:7

*“To the church -- we always
thank God for you and pray
for you constantly.”*

– 1 Thessalonians 1:1-2

“The Master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes, and urge the people there to come so my house will be full.’”

– Luke 14:23

Membership Covenant

3. I will serve the ministry of my church...

... by discovering my gifts and talents

... by being equipped to serve by my
pastors

... by developing a servant's heart

“Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you.”

– 1 Peter 4:10

*“[God] gave . . . some to be
pastors and teachers, to
prepare God’s people for
works for works of service,
so that the body of Christ
may be built up.”*

– Ephesians 4:11–12

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who . . . [took on] the very nature of a servant.”

– Philippians 2:3-4, 7

Membership Covenant

4. I will support the **testimony** of my church...

... by attending faithfully

... by living a godly life

... by giving regularly

*“Let us not give up meeting
together...
but let us encourage one
another.”*

– Hebrews 10:25

*“Whatever happens, make sure
that your everyday life is
worthy of the gospel of Christ.”
– Philippians 1:27*

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“Each one of you, on the first day of the week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering.”

– 1 Corinthians 16:2

“A tenth of [all your] produce . . . is the Lord’s, and is holy.”

– Leviticus 27:30

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**Welcome to
the Family!**

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