



Godmanchester Baptist Church Covenant

APPROVED AT CHURCH MEETING
21 NOVEMBER 2011

Today I covenant with the other members of this church. My commitment means that:

1. **I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour and I will serve him in his church and in his world**
2. **I will hold to the historic truths of the Christian faith:**
 - The one true God who lives eternally in three persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
 - The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.
 - The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God—fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.
 - The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.
 - The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ—born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.
 - The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.
 - The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father, and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.
 - The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.
 - The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.
 - The Church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers—given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God, proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love, and offering the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.
3. **I will share responsibility for our church by:**
 - Protecting the unity of our church
 - Acting in humility and love towards other members of our church
 - Respecting and supporting our leaders
 - Praying for my fellow members, the leaders, and for the work and witness of the church
 - Attending and contributing to church meetings, and
 - Willingly sharing my time, energy, resources and money in the ministries of the church
4. **I will do my best to regularly and faithfully belong and contribute to a worshipping congregation**
5. **I will do my best to regularly and faithfully belong and contribute to a small group**

6. I will seek to serve Jesus Christ by:

- Cultivating a servant heart
- Developing my gifts and abilities, and
- Willingly using what God has given me for the benefit and encouragement of others,

7. I will do my best to grow in my faith and make disciples by:

- Accepting others as Christ has accepted me
- Speaking with kindness, honesty and wisdom and refusing to gossip
- Sharing my faith in Jesus Christ by word and action, and
- Willingly living my life in my community in a way that is consistent with being a Christian

The Scriptures that form the basis of this promise are:

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:2-3

“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.” Hebrews 13:17

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” Ephesians 4:29

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.” Romans 15:7

“We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:2

“We constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.” 2 Thessalonians 1:11

“You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.” 1 Thessalonians 4:12

“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, ... I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel.” Philippians 1:27

“We have different gifts, according to the grace given us” Romans 12:6

“There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good” 1 Corinthians 12:5-7

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” 1 Peter 4:10

“In your relationships with one another, have the same mind-set as Christ Jesus... he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant.” Philippians 2:5, 7

“Let us not giving up meeting together ... but let us encourage one another.” Hebrews 10:25

“In your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.” 1 Peter 3:15-16

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8