

Church Covenant

We, the members of Marion Bible Fellowship, do hereby covenant with each other before God to:

Be a family committed to each other: to love, accept, and forgive each other until death or God's call causes us to part.

Live for Jesus Christ and take His commands seriously.

Help one another grow toward Christian maturity by bearing one another's burdens, encouraging one another, exhorting one another, praying for one another, confessing our sins to one another, speaking the truth in love to one another, admonishing one another, submitting to one another, serving one another, patiently bearing with one another, being hospitable to one another, greeting one another, living in peace with one another, regarding one another as more important than ourselves, caring for one another, exercising our spiritual gifts to serve one another, being kind and tenderhearted to one another, being devoted to one another, accepting one another, forgiving one another, loving one another.

Pray for one another, teach one another, correct one another, or rebuke one another, if necessary, in a spirit of gentleness and humility should we stray from our Lord's commands, because the thing we desire most in life is to serve Christ. We voluntarily submit ourselves to one another and to the discipline of the church. Such discipline will always be for the loving purpose of restoration—restoration to fellowship with God and with the covenant community—and it will always be done in accordance with Christ's command found in Matthew 18:15-22. We therefore strive to bring honor to Christ by maintaining a good testimony with our lives and in His church.

We enter into this covenant because we have the common purpose of growing, knowing Jesus Christ, and obeying God's commandments, and because we know we need one another's help to do this. As believers and disciples of Jesus Christ, we have entered into a covenant relationship with the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—with the God who revealed Himself in Jesus. Since the blessing and promise of the covenant have been freely extended and given to us, out of wonder, love, thanksgiving, and reverence, we hereby accept and take up the covenant responsibilities that go with such privilege. This is our reasonable service and we should do nothing less. God help us all. We rely on His grace and hold fast to His promise that there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.