

A Biblical Case for Church Membership

Scripture text – various

Definition

- To be a “member” of a church means having a formalized relationship with the church, one that is characterized by several _____ & _____ that others (i.e., non-members) do not have.
- Such a relationship isn’t just an option, but biblically _____.

Member Rights

1. To be _____ for by the church.
2. To _____ in major decisions.
3. To be _____ to serve in certain roles.
4. To receive _____ in the struggle with sin.

Member Responsibilities

1. To _____ (when physically able).
2. To _____ the church’s mission through the 3 T’s

5 Inferences

- The necessity of membership is proven by the fact that:
 1. The Christian church, from its inception, kept a _____ of members (Acts 6:1).
 2. Church leaders are answerable to God for a specific _____ (Acts 20:28).
 3. Believers are expected to place themselves under the authority of specific _____ (Hebrews 13:17).
 4. _____ from membership is the ultimate tool in the church’s toolbox (I Corinthians 5:12-13).
 5. The 40 “_____” commands of the NT require a referent (Mark 9:5 et al).

Application

- *For active members:* To have a _____ understanding of membership.
- *For active non-members:* To _____ a member.
- *For inactive members:* To _____.