

Covenant Community

DEAREST PLACE ON EARTH

COVENANT COMMUNITY | SESSION TWO

THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

It's a privilege to belong to the new-covenant people of God: to be part of those who have been saved through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus, who possess the indwelling Holy Spirit, who are joined in a local gathering, who assemble to hear the word preached, who engage in corporate worship, who are led by qualified pastors/elders, and who enjoy the wonder of baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is an awesome thing to be part of those who commit to practicing the "one another's" of Scripture, and who scatter to fulfill the Great Commandment (love your neighbor) and the Great Commission (make disciples of all nations). – Tony Merida

GETTING STARTED

What is something you are committed to? What about it elicits your loyalty? How is it evident to others that you are committed to it?

QUESTION 1

In the spirit of transparency and vulnerability with those in your Group, how important would you say the church is to you? Considering your life rhythms, where do you feel it falls on your list of priorities?

Follow Up: According to Acts 20:28 and Ephesians 5:25, what does God's commitment to the church look like?

Follow Up: What does Hebrews 10:25 say about our commitment to the church in light of God's example?

QUESTION 2

Considering your own experiences, and the examples found in scripture, how would you define a covenant?

Examples for reference: Genesis 9:8-17 (Noah), Genesis 12:1-7, 15 (Abraham), Exodus 3:7-15 (Moses), Exodus 24:7-8 | Deuteronomy 26:17 | Joshua 9:15-16 | Nehemiah 9:38 (Israel), and Jeremiah 31 | Luke 22:20 | Hebrews 9:15, 12:24 | 2 Corinthians 3:6 (New Covenant through Jesus).

Follow Up: Considering God has been entering into covenants with his people all throughout history, why would it be important for His people to enter into covenants with one another? What comforts / confidence does this bring to our faith? (Hint: consider the commitment we make in living out the "One another's" of the New Testament)

QUESTION 3

Read Romans 12:1-8 and 1 Peter 4:8-11. What do each of these passages teach us about the importance of our participation in the local church body?

Follow Up: What would you say to someone who claims to be a follower of Jesus, yet doesn't seem to exhibit the same values and priorities in commitment to the local body as described in these verses?

QUESTION 4

On pg. 18 & 19 of the Covenant Community workbook, benefits of becoming a covenant partner are listed:

Spend some time reading through the following complimentary passages, then consider the questions below:

- Participation: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

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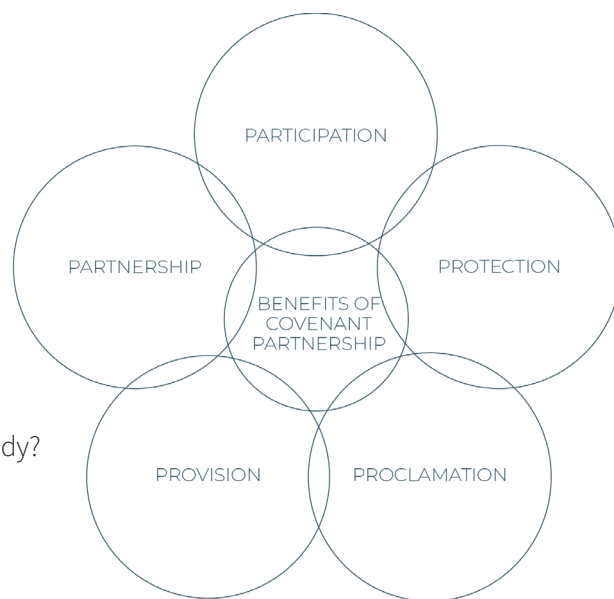
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- Partnership: 1 Peter 2:4-5
- Protection: Hebrews 13:7
- Provision: Acts 2:44-46
- Proclamation: Acts 4:4 & John 13:34-35

Questions:

1. Of the five benefits listed, which is the most compelling to you? Why?
2. How does it contribute to your spiritual growth?
3. Is there a benefit you find yourself avoiding or withdrawing from?
4. How do you think that avoidance impacts the rest of the church body?



APPLICATION & PRAYER

At Summit View, we believe that Covenant Partnership helps us better fulfill our vision and mission to make disciples, plant church, and see God's kingdom advance. Close your time together praying specifically for Summit View and your campus.

Reference 1 Peter 3:8 as you consider how specifically to pray:

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 1 Peter 3:8

Notes for leaders: Throughout the series, feel free to point people to the upcoming sessions as relevant questions arise (what we believe, church structure, etc.). Additionally, encourage them to attend one of the upcoming Q&A nights with our Elders & Teaching Team!

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Q & A
NIGHTS



SEPT. 25TH AT 6 PM | HOSTED AT OUR
BATTLE GROUND CAMPUS



OCT. 2ND AT 6 PM | HOSTED AT OUR
WESTSIDE CAMPUS



OCT. 9TH AT 6 PM | HOSTED AT OUR
HERITAGE PARK CAMPUS