

WORKBOOK

Covenant Community

DEAREST PLACE ON EARTH



SUMMIT VIEW CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

We are excited that you've taken the time to discover more about the vision and mission here at Summit View Church. It is an honor and a privilege to "shepherd the flock of God among us." Thank you for taking seriously God's directive to carefully consider with whom you pursue faithfulness. We are grateful for the chance to encourage and be encouraged by you!

Being a part of the Covenant Community at Summit View, or any local body, should be synonymous with committing to becoming a devoted disciple. At Summit View, Covenant Partnership is more than attending a class or signing a Covenant Pledge. It is our desire to make sure that as we pursue faithfulness together, those we lock arms with understand our commitment both to Christ and each other. Belonging to the Covenant Community at Summit View Church means:

- Integrating your life into a community of others for the purpose of advancing God's Kingdom and doing God's work (Hebrews 10:24-25).
- Faithfully growing and serving God's Kingdom, taking your role in His Kingdom-work seriously (1 Peter 4:10).
- Submitting to the authority of God's Word, God's people, and to the godly, mature, imperfect leaders who will ultimately give an account for your soul (Hebrews 13:17).

Your church home is God's provision for you – a spiritual family who can support, love, care for, admonish, and encourage you as you walk with Christ. Belonging to a local church provides you with the community and accountability that is needed to grow and live out God's unique calling and design for your life.

A Covenant Community also gives you a place where you can discover your gifts and deploy your unique talents as you serve Christ on mission every day.

We are not a perfect church. We don't have perfect leaders. We don't have a perfect staff. We don't have a perfect congregation. But, in Christ, we are on a perfect mission. Our success will never be based on the size of our buildings, budget, or weekly attendance, but rather, on the depth of our love for one another and the consistency with which we yield to the Spirit.

Our vision is clear: to see a movement of disciple-making churches advancing God's Kingdom throughout the world.

Our mission is established: to equip and empower the body of Christ to lead and impact every sphere of life with Gospel-centered living.

**TOGETHER ADVANCING HIS KINGDOM,
THE ELDERS AND STAFF LEADERSHIP OF SUMMIT VIEW CHURCH**

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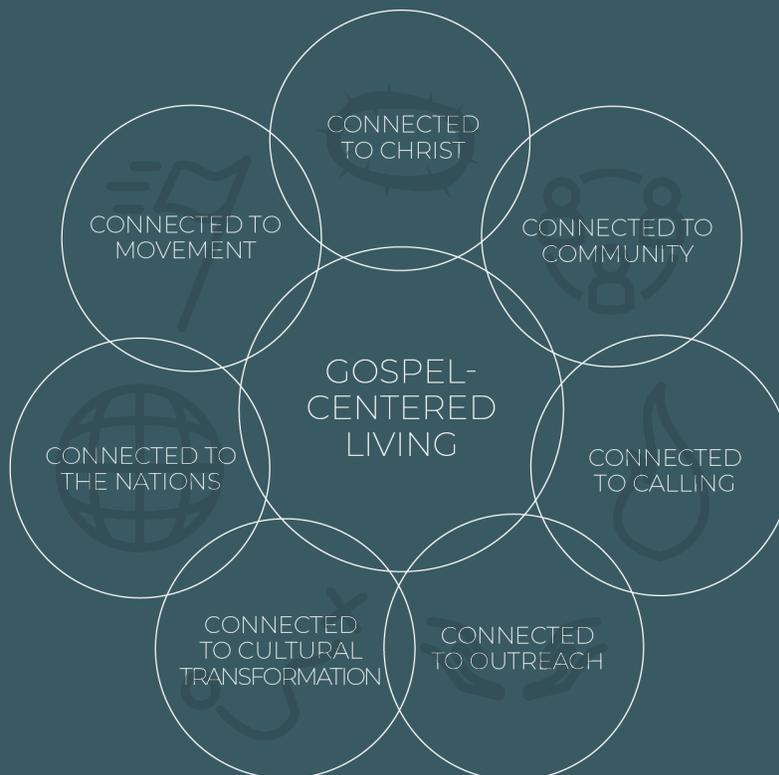
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Vision

TO SEE A MOVEMENT OF DISCIPLE-MAKING CHURCHES
ADVANCING GOD'S KINGDOM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

Mission

TO EQUIP AND EMPOWER THE BODY OF CHRIST TO LEAD
AND IMPACT EVERY SPHERE OF LIFE WITH GOSPEL-CENTERED LIVING



SESSION 1: THE CHURCH

“The Church is not an institution for perfect people, but a sanctuary for sinners saved by Grace, who, though they are saved, are still sinners and need all the help they can derive from the sympathy and guidance of their fellow Believers. The Church is the nursery for God’s weak children where they are nourished and grow strong. It is the fold for Christ’s sheep—the home for Christ’s family.”

– Charles Spurgeon

HISTORY OF SUMMIT VIEW CHURCH

At Summit View Church, we exist to see a movement of disciple-making churches advancing God’s Kingdom throughout the world.

Summit View Church was founded in October of 1993. Three families felt a burden to reach the people residing in East Clark County. They held their first service in the banquet room of a local hotel with thirty people in attendance. Little did these individuals know that this would be the start of decades of faithful gospel ministry that would reach far beyond their original vision. Since then, Summit View Church has proclaimed the good news of Jesus to thousands of individuals throughout Clark County and beyond.

All decisions and ministry efforts put forth by Summit View, whether current or previously achieved, have been motivated by the desire to reach the unreached with the Gospel message. Because of our commitment to disciple making and church planting, Summit View has pursued planting additional locations (or campuses) throughout our community. In January of 2011, a local church in the Salmon Creek area gifted us their property and building, allowing us to plant our Summit View Church Westside Campus. Desiring to reach the fast-growing neighborhoods of North County, in February of 2020 we launched our Summit View Church Battle Ground Campus.

Since our inception, we have seen God’s incredible faithfulness and blessing every step of the way. Building upon a foundation of decades of miraculously orchestrated opportunities to share Jesus with unengaged and unchurched people throughout our city, the country, and the world, we are excited to see where God will lead us next and what part you, as a Covenant Partner, will play in it.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

_____ is the study of the church.

The word most often used to describe the church provides insight into understanding God’s design and plan for the church:

- The _____ is the church, “the called-out ones.”

The Bible uses all types of metaphors to further answer the question “what is the church?”

- The People of God.¹
- The Family of God.²
- The Household of God.³
- The Temple of the Spirit.⁴
- The Pillar and foundation of truth.⁵
- Christ’s flock.⁶
- The Body of Christ.⁷
- Bride of Christ.⁸

Each metaphor tells us something beautiful, and wonderful about the church.

AT SUMMIT VIEW
CHURCH, WE EXIST TO
SEE A MOVEMENT OF
disciple-making churches
ADVANCING GOD’S
KINGDOM THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD.

¹ Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 2:16; 1 Pet. 2:9-10

² Matt. 12:49-50; 2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:14; 1 Jn. 3:14-18

³ 1 Tim. 3:15

⁴ 1 Cor. 6:19-20

⁵ 1 Tim. 3:15

⁶ Acts 20:27; 1 Pet. 2:25

⁷ 1 Cor. 12:12-17; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15-16; Col. 2:19

⁸ Eph. 5:32

SESSION 1: THE CHURCH

The Bible mentions the church 114 times in 111 verses in the New Testament. Among these references, the church is used primarily in one of four ways:

1. Representing the body of Christ worldwide, over which Christ functions as the head.⁹
2. Referencing God’s people in a given **region**.¹⁰
3. Mostly depicting a **local congregation** of Christians.¹¹
4. A group of the Lord’s people assembled for worship.¹²

Of the 114 times the word “church” is used in the New Testament, the overwhelming majority are used in reference to a local assembly, congregation, or gathering.

- The concept of the church is a _____ of people set apart by God.
- Committed to each other.
- _____ for the faith.

Fundamentally, the church of Jesus Christ is neither a building nor an organization. Rather, it is a special people, called out by God.

It is clear that the writers of the New Testament assumed all Christians would share in and contribute to the life of a local church through:

- _____ with it for worship.¹³
- Accepting its nurture, care, and discipline.¹⁴
- _____ in its work of witness and making disciples.¹⁵

“The church must be seen as the company of pilgrims on the way to the end of the world and the ends of the earth.”
- Lesslie Newbigin

With this understanding of the church, we want to be clear on three points:

- We do business, but we are a **people**, not a business.
- We are organized, but we are a **people**, not an organization.
- We connect with each other through numerous means, but we are a **people**, not a club.

⁹ Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22; 1 Tim. 3:15

¹⁰ Acts 9:31

¹¹ 1 Cor. 1:2; Rev. 1:11

¹² 1 Cor. 14:34-35

¹³ Heb. 10:25

¹⁴ Matt. 18:15-20; Gal. 6:1

¹⁵ Matt. 28, Acts 1

SESSION 1: THE CHURCH

OUR CURRENT CONTEXT

We live in a culture where outside opinion of the church has been shaped by external critics and social media, rather than what God says about it. Many people have become disillusioned by the visible, local, and universal church. People are into Jesus and spirituality today but not belonging to an organized local church.

Critics of the church argue that the local expression today does not reflect the *ekklesia* portrayed in Scripture. This disillusionment leads to many rejecting the church altogether, including its invitation to belong in an attempt to avoid being soiled by her brokenness and blemishes.

At Summit View, we believe that despite its blemishes, the local church is God's plan.

GOD'S MOST
BEAUTIFUL CREATION,
AS CHRIST'S VERY
OWN BRIDE, IS
the church WITH
ALL HER VARIOUS
MEMBERS,
COMMITTED TO LIVING
OUT THE *mission* AND
vision OF THE CHURCH
WITHIN ITS LOCAL
CONTEXT.

REASONS FOR RESISTANCE¹⁶

1. _____ – Many people do not find the local church compelling enough. They want the miracles of Acts and the movement of Pentecost every Sunday. It is this desire for the spectacular that leaves people lack-luster about getting involved and staying involved.

We believe we need a _____ of Christ followers completely committed to living out basic Christianity with their faith family.

2. _____ – When it comes to the regular day to day aspects of the Christian walk and life, many people think in terms of private experiences, mystical moments, or miraculous out-workings.

If Christ walks among His church the best place to experience Him in within His church.

“The best place to experience Jesus in a deep, fresh, life-changing way,
you don't need a perch in the desert; you need a pew in the church.”

Tony Merida – Love Your Church

3. Idealism – Idealism is the _____ of true community.

All of us walk into church with unspoken expectations and a mental picture of what it *should be*. These assumptions often hinder our ability to connect and belong the way God intended. People often idealize the early church from Acts 2 yet forget that, while the first century church had a beautiful honeymoon, it quickly devolved to include false teaching, schisms & factions, lies & deceit, and grotesque immorality. The first century church was *far* from perfect.

4. _____ – There has never been a time in history we have known so many people yet at the same time know so little about them. Our relational quantity is high, while the quality is severely lacking.

God never intended for life to be lived at arms distance but at arms embrace.

- We _____ each other.
- We are _____ for community.
- We need _____.

“It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God's Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing. . .the prisoner, the sick person, the Christians in exile see in the companionship of a fellow Christian a physical sign of gracious presence of the triune God. . .It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brethren.”¹⁷

¹⁶ This section was taken and adapted from Tony Merida *Love Your Church* Pg.31-35

¹⁷ Dietrich Bonhoeffer; *Life Together*. Pg. 18-19

SESSION 1: THE CHURCH

THE CHURCH AS THE SOLUTION

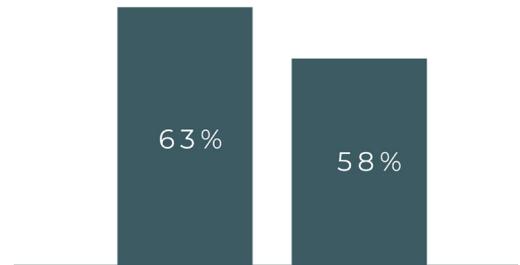
Left to our own devices, we would naturally gravitate towards some (or all) of these propensities that destroy what God intends for us to experience:¹⁸

- Individualism
- Secularization
- Loneliness
- Polarization
- Consumerism
- Depression

By committing to a local expression of God’s Church, we confront the idols of _____, push back against the tendency of polarization, combat the sway of secularization, step out of the trap of consumerism, and receive the blessing of _____. Belonging to a church means knowing and being known by others.

- _____ relationships brush up against the conditional view of relationships offered by our individualistic culture.
- Belonging to a church _____ us relationally and holds us accountable to a local community of Christ followers; this anchors us in the midst of an ever digital, detached, and transient society.
- Belonging to a local church opens the door to _____ relationships that can combat alienation and offers us a lifeline as we navigate the reality of this world and the rocky seasons of life.

% OF US POPULATION THAT PROFESSES TO FEEL ISOLATED OR LONELY²⁰



GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR LIFE TO BE LIVED AT ARMS *distance* BUT AT ARMS *embrace.*

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR COVENANT COMMUNITY

If you open your Bible to the New Testament, you will not find a chapter or verse using the term “Covenant Partner” or “Covenant Community”. You will not find an example of a family moving to Ephesus and going through a partnership class to join a local church.

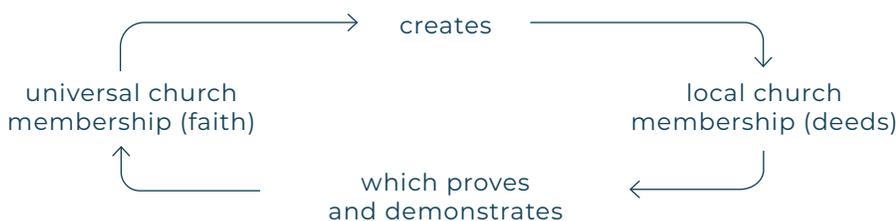
However, you will find that the church maintained a list of the names of all the people they were shepherding and caring for.

The early church knew who _____ to their assemblies and who did not.¹⁹

It isn’t enough to belong to the “_____” church.

You do not need to belong a church to be saved. However, you do need to belong to a church to be _____.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNIVERSAL AND LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



¹⁸ <https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/3-ways-church-membership-challenges-our-individualism/>

¹⁹ 1 Cor. 5:1; 2 Cor. 2:6;

²⁰ <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/01/23/798676465/most-americans-are-lonely-and-our-workplace-culture-may-not-be-helping>

SESSION 1: THE CHURCH

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

The local church enables the world to look upon the canvas of God's people and see an authentic painting of Christ's love and holiness, not a forgery. And the local church lays down a pathway with guardrails and resting stations for the long journey of the Christian life.

– Jonathan Leeman

We commit to our local church through _____ to a Covenant Community and _____ a Covenant Partner.

WHAT IS A COVENANT PARTNER?

“COVENANT”

The concept of covenant pervades the biblical text. Most simply, a “covenant” is a term used to describe a formal relationship. It is an agreement between two parties. It is a commitment wherein two parties agree upon observance of a set of obligations (unilaterally or mutually).¹

“PARTNER”

The language of partnership is all over the Bible. Simply put, a partner is a “part” of a group. A partner is “one” of “many.” A partner is a participant in a community. A partner is someone who follows someone or something alongside others who are mutually committed to that person or cause.²

WHY BECOME A COVENANT PARTNER?

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).³

1. The concept of committing and belonging to a local church is profoundly _____.
 - a. Loose affiliation, anonymity, individualism, consumerism, and freedom from association are idols of our culture, not biblical values.
 - b. Belonging to a church means **investing** your life in gospel-centered community of believers who joyfully **serve** one another and advance Jesus' mission **together**.
2. To **identify** with and **commit** to Christ's body locally.
 - a. The church is a local community of believers who **gather** for worship and **disperse** for witness. It is a local community centered around Jesus for the good of one another, where we live out our spiritual union with Christ and other believers visibly.
 - b. **Lone-ranger** Christianity is found nowhere in Scripture. .
3. To **assure** yourself.⁴

¹ Gen. 6:18; 8:21; 12:1-3; 15; Exod. 19:5-6; 34; 2 Sam. 7; 1 Chron. 17; Jer. 31:31; Matt. 26:28; 1 Cor. 11:25

² Rom. 12:1-8; 1 Cor. 12:12-27; 1 Pet. 4:8-11

³ Tony Merida; *Love your Church* pg 26

⁴ Purposes 3-7 are reasons given by Mark Dever in his book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church* in the chapter on “A Biblical Understanding of Church Membership.”

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

4. To **evangelize** the world and your local community.⁵
 - a. The local church gives the individual believer a context within which he or she can accomplish greater things for the Kingdom of God.
 - b. The local church also provides the individual believer with a greater global understanding of God's mission in the world.
5. To **expose** false gospels.
 - a. Being in community gives the individual believer a consistent accountability structure to help them discern heresy and wrong thinking.⁶
6. To **preach** a cosmic sermon.
 - a. When the church gathers, more is going on than meets the eye; every time we gather, we are make known the multi-faceted wisdom of God.⁷
 - b. God's grace and glory is displayed in a diverse people who have been called, redeemed, forgiven, made alive, and united in Christ.⁸
7. To **glorify** God.
 - a. God created the church, all and every person in it, to bring Him glory. As we connect to the church and function as a unified body, we set the example to the world that Jesus intended.

WHY DOES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP MATTER?

1. To keep the "one another" commands among a people to whom you have formally committed yourself.
2. To engage the process of _____ at Summit View Church.
 - a. Covenant partnership communicates to the leaders and other members that you are here to follow Jesus together with us on mission in this local community.
 - b. Covenant partnership enfolds you into our oversight and discipleship process.
3. To destroy the idols that loose _____ will not confront.
 - a. The idol of _____.
 - b. The idol of _____.
 - c. The idol of anonymity.
 - d. The idol of "free association."

⁵ Dever, 151. See also, 2 Cor. 13:5; Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Jn. 4:20

⁶ 1 Cor 13:6; Gal 1:8; Jude 3

⁷ Eph. 3:10

⁸ Rev. 7:9-17

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

WHAT DO COVENANT PARTNERS DO?

As Covenant Partners we...

1. Affirm salvation & baptism.
2. Agree on _____ doctrines.
3. Understand and joyfully sit under secondary doctrines.
4. Pursue close relationship with Jesus.
5. Value the corporate gatherings and are involved in biblical community.
6. _____ the resources and gifts God has given us.
7. _____ Christian unity.
8. Follow the Scripture's teaching on church discipline.
9. _____ to the authority of the Scriptures.
10. Joyfully submit to and _____ alongside Summit View Church leadership.

GOD HAS CALLED US TO STEWARD THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES HE HAS BLESSED US WITH. AS SUCH WE:

- GIVE TO THE LOCAL CHURCH FIRST.
- GIVE REGULARLY AND DELIBERATELY.⁹
- GIVE SACRIFICIALLY AND CHEERFULLY.¹⁰
- SEEK WISE COUNSEL.¹¹

WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO BECOME A COVENANT PARTNER?



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COVENANT PARTNERSHIP?

PARTICIPATION – BODY OF CHRIST¹²

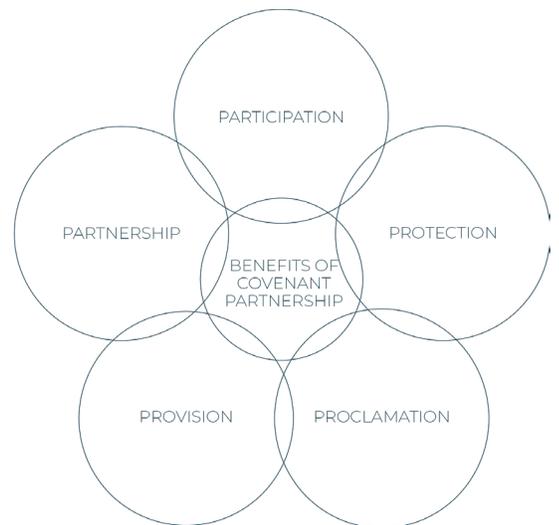
In both the Old and New Testament, God makes a clear demarcation between His people and those of the world. Additionally, the majority of letters found within the New Testament are addressed to a committed gathering of believers together, not individuals.

- Covenant Partners declare their _____ to Christ and one another.

PARTNERSHIP – ENGAGED TOGETHER¹³

While each individual is referred to as a “temple” or “living stone,” Peter and Paul both express how beautifully God’s temple is built when the individual believers are gathered.

- Covenant Partners are a part of something _____ than themselves.



⁹ 1 Cor 16:2

¹⁰ Luke 9:23; 2 Cor 9:7

¹¹ Matt. 6:2; Prov. 15:22; 1 Tim. 6:10

¹² Ex. 8:22-23; 11:7; Lev. 13:46; Num. 5:3; Deut. 7:3; John 17:16-26; Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12

¹³ Rom. 16:1-16; 2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Pet. 2:5

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

PROTECTION – WATCHING OVER SOULS¹⁴

Participation in Covenant Community offers spiritual protection. Within the New Testament, there are frequent calls for the leaders to know the people, and the people to hear and know their leaders. Clearly defined Covenant Partnership helps protect the flock of God by holding leaders accountable. Additionally, it provides clarity as to who Partners are responsible for submitting and listening to.

- Covenant Partners _____ to affirm new Shepherding Elders before their installment into the office of Pastor-Elder.
- Not only does the _____ covenant to the church, but the church covenants to you.
- Every Partner will be paired with and known by a Pastor-Elder.

PROVISION – MEETING NEEDS¹⁵

When needs around us arise, as believers, we are often looked to as a place of care and compassion. While we do want to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community around us, Scripture makes it clear that our first priority must be to care first for the members of our own spiritual family. In a Covenant Community we commit to sharing resources and caring for each other as any have need.

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. Acts 2:44-46

- In the same way we care for our earthly families, God calls us to care for those in our spiritual family. Covenant Community provides a larger family to help meet one another's needs.
- In the same way, Summit View leadership recognizes the call to prioritize those under their care. As such, priority in pastoral care and practical support is given to those within our Covenant Community.

PROCLAMATION – ADVANCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL¹⁶

Partnership is important for the advancement of the gospel. The early church kept a numerical record of all those who had become believers and joined the church; church partnership puts the gospel witness on display for an unbelieving world.

- Covenant Partnership helps fuel the mission of the church.

¹⁴ Acts 20:8; Heb. 13:7; 1 Pet. 5:2

¹⁵ Acts 2:44-46; 6:2; 1 Tim 5:3-16

¹⁶ Matt. 5:13; John 13:34-35; Acts 4:4; Eph. 3:10; 1 Pet. 2:9-12

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SUMMIT VIEW'S COVENANT PROMISE

With the help of the Holy Spirit, the church leadership at Summit View Church covenants the following:

1. We commit ourselves to lovingly care for you and seek your growth in Christ.¹⁷
2. We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the Scriptures and that this teaching will span the whole counsel of God's Word.¹⁸
3. We covenant to help you in times of need as your needs are made known.¹⁹
4. We covenant that your elders and deacons will meet the qualifications expected of them in the Scriptures.²⁰
5. We covenant to pray for you regularly, particularly when you are sick.²¹
6. We covenant to exercise church discipline when necessary.²²
7. We covenant to seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit.²³
8. We covenant to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church partnership.²⁴

¹⁷ 1 Thess. 5:12; Heb. 13:17

¹⁸ Acts 20:27-28; Gal. 6:6; 1 Tim. 5:17-18

¹⁹ Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35; James 2:14-17

²⁰ 1 Tim. 3:1-13 & 5:17-22, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Pet. 5:1-4

²¹ James 5:14

²² Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1

²³ Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-5

²⁴ 1 Co. 11; Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH AS COVENANT COMMUNITY

MY COVENANT PROMISE

When joining Covenant Community at Summit View Church as a Covenant Partner, we will ask that you affirm and commit to the following:

With the guiding help of the Holy Spirit, I, the undersigned Covenant Partner, covenant the following:

1. I am a Christian who has been saved from my sins by the grace of Jesus Christ. I have been, or intend to be, baptized to give testimony of my identification with the body of Christ and obedience to the Scriptures.
2. I have read through and can affirm my agreement with the fundamentals of Christian doctrine as laid out in the What We Believe session.
3. I have read and understand the secondary beliefs held by Summit View Church as outlined in the Distinctives session. I commit to not be divisive on these issues.²⁵
4. I will endeavor to maintain a close relationship with the Lord through regular personal Bible reading, prayer, fellowship and practice of the other spiritual disciplines. I commit to using the spiritual gift(s) God has given me for the building up of the church, both at Summit View Church and universally.²⁶
5. My journey in Christ will be evident through my regular participation in the corporate worship services and through consistent involvement in a biblical community.²⁷
6. I will strive to properly manage the resources God has given me, including my time, body, gifts and talents, attitudes, finances and possessions. This includes regular giving to Summit View Church that is both sacrificial and cheerful.²⁸
7. I covenant to have friendly Christian relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ from other churches. However, I will not hold membership to another church, nor consistently serve, tithe, or function in a leadership position as a part of another church family.²⁹
8. I covenant to follow the biblical procedures of church discipline and submit myself to discipline if the need should ever arise.³⁰
9. I covenant to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues.³¹
10. I covenant to joyfully submit to and serve alongside Summit View Church's leadership and will be diligent to do my part to preserve unity and peace.³²
11. I commit to own my responsibility to notify Summit View Church leadership if, at any time, I can no longer commit to this covenant, and to reach out to leadership should I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Summit View Church.

ADDITIONAL READING RESOURCES

- Church Membership by Jonathan Leeman
- Nine Marks of a Healthy Church by Mark Dever
- Love Your Church by Tony Merida
- I am a Church Member by Thom Rainer

²⁵ Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7

²⁶ Rom. 12:1-8; 1 Cor. 12: 7-13; 1 Pet. 4:10-11

²⁷ Ps. 119:97, 105; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25

²⁸ Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 8; 9; Gal. 5:22- 26; Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18

²⁹ Heb. 13:17

³⁰ Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1-5.

³¹ Psalm 119: 2 Tim. 3:16-17

³² Heb. 13:7

SESSION 3: VISION & MISSION

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47

OUR VISION

To **see a movement** of disciple making churches advancing God's kingdom throughout the world.

- We believe anything birthed by man must be **maintained** by man. Anything birthed by the Spirit is **maintained** by the Spirit.
- Our desire is to **decrease** so that Christ may continue to **increase** in our lives.¹
- If all of Him means all of us surrendered, we desire for Him to take all of us and **conform** it & **mold** it to Himself.²
- A movement of God is always birthed through revival. The key to revival is **repentance** and **dependance**.

SUMMIT VIEW VISION

TO SEE A MOVEMENT
OF *disciple-making churches*
ADVANCING GOD'S
KINGDOM THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD.

We must truly and continually repent of our sin and live with complete dependence upon the Holy Spirit. It is to this end we desire to live, and it is to this end that we believe we will see a movement of God in our region within this lifetime.

GOD'S COMMITMENT TO DISCIPLE MAKING

To see a movement of **disciple making** churches advancing God's kingdom throughout the world.

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

The primary question that we will be asked in Heaven when we stand before our Lord is "Did you make disciples?"

- The word Christian only appears three times in the Bible.³
- The term disciple appears _____ times.
- Christ did not come to make _____ but to make _____.

God has always been interested in reproduction. From Genesis, His first command to Adam and Eve was to be fruitful and multiply.⁴ What God commanded man to do physically, Jesus commanded man to do spiritually.

WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

At the very core, a disciple is a learner, one who is growing and developing. In nearly every sphere of life, people learn from those who have already developed the skills they seek to master.

A disciple _____ the teachings of Jesus and _____ the way of Jesus.

¹ John 3:30

² 2 Corinthians 3:18

³ Acts 11:26; Acts 26:28; 1 Pet. 4:16

⁴ Gen. 1:28

SESSION 3: VISION & MISSION

DISCIPLESHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

Summit View Church is a community of disciple makers, not an audience of spectators. Like the early church, we...

- ...are committed to making disciples, who make disciples, who plant churches, who make disciples, who in turn make more disciples.
- ...strive to make disciples, not manipulate _____.
- ...believe making disciples is at the very core of the Church's purpose.
- ...believe all _____ are discipleship environments.

As such, we believe that we...

- ...have not completed our mission to make disciples until those we have discipled have also become _____.
- ...are all called to _____ the Word with others so that they might repent and be saved.
- ...are all called to show the Word to others through our obedience to it that they might also submit to it.
- ...are all called to _____ the Word to others so that they might grasp it and teach it to others.
- ...are all called to serve together that we might impact the world for the Kingdom.

ADVANCING GOD'S KINGDOM

To see a movement of disciple making churches **advancing God's kingdom** throughout the world.

- The spread of the **gospel**, of the **glory** of Christ, to all people, is rooted in disciple-making churches advancing the Kingdom of God.⁵

The mission of God is that "the gospel of the glory of Christ" _____ of the world and take root in gospel-centered, Christ-exalting churches.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

⁵ Following was adapted from https://radical.net/secret_church/secret-church-10-crucifixion-salvation-and-the-glory-of-god/

SESSION 3: VISION & MISSION

OUR MISSION

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:11-16

To **equip and empower** the body of Christ to lead and impact every sphere of life with Gospel-Centered Living.

HOW DO WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION AS A CHURCH?

We are an _____ church.⁶

- We equip **disciples** for **ministry** as God's Spirit empowers the church.
- All our staff is called to develop people.
- All our **body** is called to develop people.
- Nothing is more **sacred** or more **strategic** in His kingdom than the responsibility of equipping others to serve in ministry.
- God did not intend for His church to be a community of gifted pastors and staff members but to be a community of gifted **people**.

We are a _____-empowered Church.⁷

- We believe the Holy Spirit **empowers** the believer and gives gifts to the body of Christ to care for and serve each other and live out the gospel.⁸
- We desire to empower the body to live into God's purpose and **mission** for their lives.
- We believe in the **priesthood** of all believers.⁹
- We mobilize the body to **serve** and **lead** in the church and be on mission in the community and work place.

To **equip and empower** the body of Christ to **lead and impact** every sphere of life with Gospel-Centered Living.

We believe _____ is leading _____.

The question we must ask is: *who are we leading and where are we leading them?*

SUMMIT VIEW MISSION

TO *equip* AND *empower*
THE BODY OF CHRIST
TO LEAD AND IMPACT
EVERY SPHERE OF
LIFE WITH GOSPEL-
CENTERED LIVING.

⁶Eph. 4:11-16
⁷2 Tim. 2:2

⁸Romans 12; 1 Cor. 12; 14; Eph. 4; 1 Pet. 4
⁹1 Pet. 2:4-5

SESSION 3: VISION & MISSION

We believe every believer is sovereignly placed by God where they are to make an _____ for the Kingdom of God.¹⁰

*To equip and empower the body of Christ to lead and impact **every sphere of life** with Gospel-Centered Living.*

We believe there is no _____ and _____ divide; every sphere of life should reflect Christ and His Kingdom.

- Families
- Friends
- Communities
- Workplaces
- Civic Arenas
- Schools
- Recreation Areas

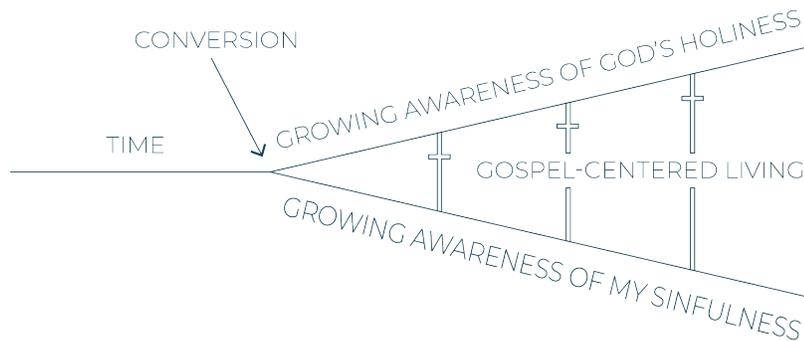
“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine!’”

– Abraham Kuyper

*To equip and empower the body of Christ to lead and impact every sphere of life with **Gospel-Centered Living**.*

We believe the gospel is not only for salvation but for _____.¹¹

- We exist to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.¹²
- The Gospel is our foundation.
- We have been chosen by the **Father**,¹³ secured by the **Son**,¹⁴ sealed and are continually sustained by the **Spirit**.¹⁵
- The Gospel is our **motivation**;¹⁶ our faith is producing work.¹⁷
- The Gospel is our **ambition**; we want this gospel to be known all over the globe,¹⁸ and we eagerly await our Savior’s return for His people.¹⁹



ADDITIONAL READING RESOURCES

What is a Disciple – *Tabletalk Magazine* (article from June of 2019)

Book: *The Disciple* – John Stott

Book – *Follow Me* – David Platt

Summit View Church – *Marks of A Movement Series*

Summit View Church – *Empowered Series*

Secret Church 10: *Crucifixion, Salvation, and the Glory of God* (article from radical.net)

¹⁰ Jer. 29:7; Acts 17:26

¹¹ Eph. 2:8-10

¹² Westminster Catechism – Question 1: What is the Chief End of Man?

¹³ Eph. 1:4; 1 Pet. 1:2

¹⁴ John 6:37

¹⁵ 2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13-14

¹⁶ Gal. 2:15-21

¹⁷ James 2:26

¹⁸ Matt. 24:14

¹⁹ Phil. 3:20

SESSION 3: VISION & MISSION

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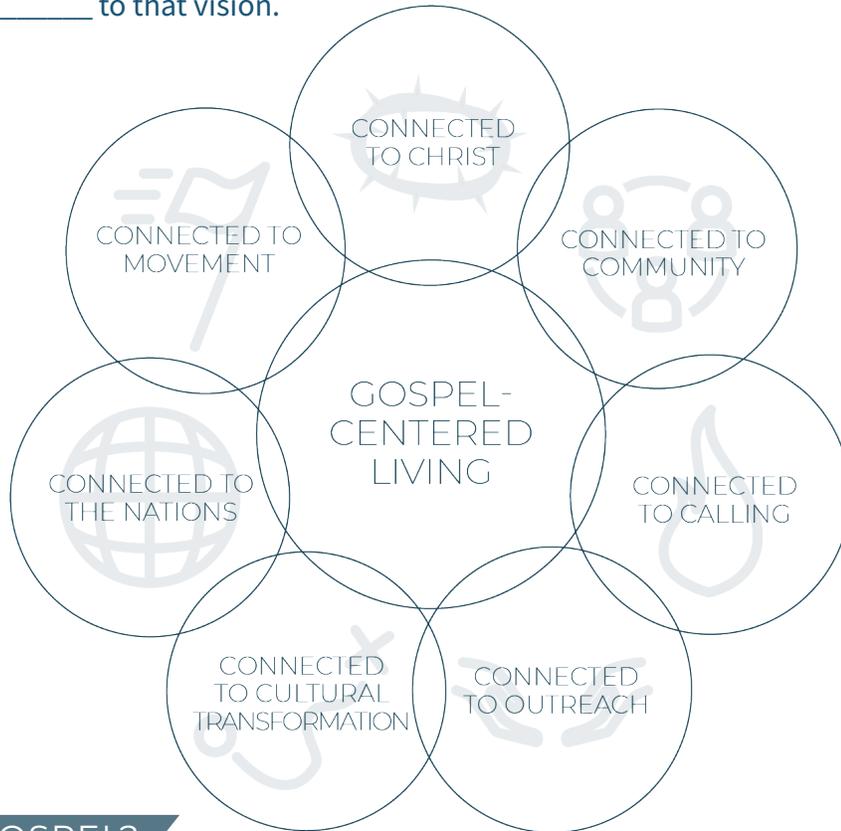


SESSION 4: GOSPEL
CENTERED STRATEGIES

SESSION 4: GOSPEL-CENTERED STRATEGIES

We prioritize the things that we value. At Summit View, we desire our people to value the Gospel above all else. We believe that a life centered around the Gospel not only has the power to change us but also the power to change the world around us. We call this Gospel-Centered living.

To establish a Gospel-Centered life, capable of impacting our cities and the world, all areas of our lives must be _____ to that vision.



WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The Gospel is at the center of the entire Bible and Christ is at the center of the Gospel. Every story of the Bible points to one story—the story of Jesus Christ.

CREATION

The one and only holy God created us in His image for the purpose of relationship with Him; He created everything.¹

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

FALL

Adam and Eve sinned, or rebelled against God, and, through them, sin entered the world. It has since been passed down to all of mankind, and as a result, we have all sinned, cutting ourselves off from God.²

We are not good by nature. By nature, we are _____. We are born into sin.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned Romans 5:12

REDEMPTION

In His great love, God did what we could not. He stepped down to Earth, becoming 100% man, while remaining 100% God in the person of Jesus. He lived a perfect life, before dying on the cross in our place, conquering death, and rising again to life. Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for our sins and presented the completed work to His heavenly Father, satisfying the Father's wrath against all who turn to Christ.³

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

¹Gen. 1:1-2:3; Ps. 146:5; Acts 14:15; 17:24

³Rom. 6:23; Col. 1:13-14, Titus 2:14

²Gen. 3; Rom. 3:23; 5:12-19

SESSION 4: GOSPEL-CENTERED STRATEGIES

CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42

We are connected to each other in community through living life together in Life Groups, extravagant generosity, self-sacrificing service, ministering and being ministered to, and contributing to the development of the next generation. Gospel-Centered community is the heartbeat of a Gospel-Centered life.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY

- The Gospel creates a redeemed _____.
- We believe that consistent involvement in community is imperative for the health of _____.⁷
- There is no greater means of discipleship (the formation of Christian character) than _____ in the life of the church—the Christian community.
- Jesus calls us to be _____ participants, not passive spectators in both our own discipleship journey, as well as the development of others.
- God is capable of blessing us any way He pleases, yet His _____ method is through the local church. When we separate ourselves from community, we remove ourselves from God's outpouring of _____ and provisions.

The Gospel does not merely grow our existing relationships, but rather creates a countercultural community, in which we publicly display the transformative work of the Gospel.⁸

CONNECTED TO CALLING

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

CONNECTED TO CALLING

1 Corinthians 12 tells us that there is one body, but many members, and every member of the body is given gifts for the benefit of the body. You are a vital part of the body of Christ; for a healthy body to exist, you are _____.

The church is designed to equip and empower us, the body of Christ, to impact our circles of influence, wherever we do life, with Gospel-Centered living. We connect to our calling—what God created us to do—by identifying our spiritual gifts, pursuing spiritual growth, serving within the church, and growing as leaders.

Ephesians 4:11-16 provides us with a framework for a thriving church body and His design for our connection to calling:

- God provides _____ for the church.⁹
- Leaders then equip the body.¹⁰
- The body is then _____ up.¹¹
- Christ is glorified by the results.¹²

We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. I labor for this, striving with His strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1:28-29

⁷ Genesis 2:18; Proverbs 18:1; Ecclesiastes 4:12 | There are over 100 verses in the NT that speak directly to how we are to treat, serve, and care for one another.

⁸ John 13:35

⁹ Eph. 4:11

¹⁰ Eph. 4:12a

¹¹ Eph. 4:12-15

¹² Eph. 4:16

SESSION 4: GOSPEL-CENTERED STRATEGIES

CONNECTED TO OUTREACH

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

CONNECTED TO OUTREACH

We are connected to outreach when we care for the welfare of our city. We do this through ministries of justice & compassion to the poor and marginalized, and through civic involvement in the city and county in which we reside. In seeking the welfare of our city, we find our own; this is Gospel-Centered outreach.

THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF CHURCH:¹³

- 1. A Church _____ the City - views the city with apathy
- 2. A Church _____ the City - views the city with animosity
- 3. A Church _____ the City - desires to imitate their city
- 4. A Church _____ the City - loves the city.

Summit View is a church for the city. We do not romanticize it yet, neither do we hate it. We do not adopt attitudes and practices that contradict the Gospel to avoid conflict, yet neither do we condemn and withdraw from those around us. But rather we love the city; we have a vision for what it could be and are here to seek its well-being.

But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Jeremiah 29:7

CONNECTED TO CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

The implications of the Gospel do not apply exclusively to our private lives or within Christian relationships; it also affects our public life, particularly how we pursue our vocations in the world and do our daily work. We are connected to

_____ when we put our
_____ transformation on _____ in our
_____ lives:

“The priesthood of all believers’ did not make everyone into church workers; rather, it turned every kind of work into a sacred calling.”

– Gene Veith, *God at Work*

¹³Tim Keller Center Church

SESSION 4: GOSPEL-CENTERED STRATEGIES

- The Gospel gives every believer a new **worldview**, with new inner **motives**, and supernatural power to live differently as a result; this influences how we view and engage our vocation and daily tasks.
- When Christians apply **Biblical** values to their work, it changes and renews the culture around them.
- While Summit View as an entity does not directly seek to influence culture, we do believe in **equipping** and **empowering** the individuals who call Summit View home to be **agents of change**.
- By **integrating** our faith with our work, we strive to follow God’s call to seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which we belong.
- As Christ followers, we are committed to the city to which we belong and the **flourishing** of its people.

“If more [people] embodied the Gospel in how they live and work, it would advance the common good. It will catalyze growth in philanthropy, mercy, justice, racial reconciliation, more humane workplaces, arts that promote hope, and less crime and institutional corruption.”

– Tim Keller

CONNECTED TO THE NATIONS

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10

Once we are connected to Christ, our community, and our calling, we are empowered to connect to the mission of God in this world. We connect with the nations when we share the Gospel with those around the world who have never heard it before. We are called to be the church where there is no church and to see people from all tribes, nations, and tongues encounter the life changing realization that the Gospel changes everything.

Q: What is the mission of God’s people?

A: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever more.

Q: How is this done?

A: By spreading the Gospel to all peoples.

It is the primary purpose and responsibility of the church to glorify God through the joyful advancement of His Kingdom. When we make disciples, who plant churches, who in turn make new disciples, we facilitate the spread of the Gospel and thus glorify God.

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Romans 10:14-15

According to Paul in his letter to the Romans:

- The only way to be saved is to _____ on Christ’s name.
- The only way to call on Christ’s name is to _____ the Gospel.
- The only way to believe the Gospel is to _____ the Gospel.
- The only way to hear the Gospel is to be _____ the Gospel.
- Those who die without hearing the Gospel are _____ excuse. ¹⁴

¹⁴ Rom. 1:20



SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

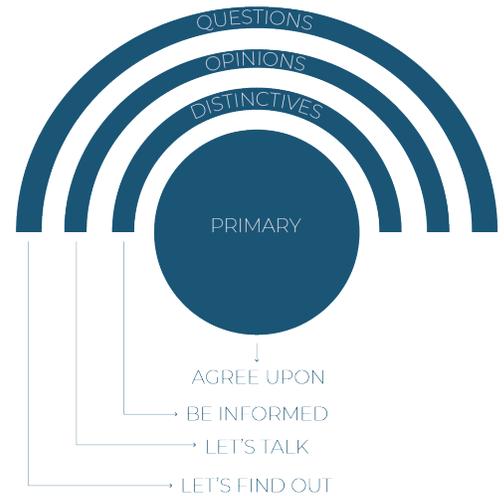
SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

Here at Summit View, we believe that God exists and has revealed Himself to mankind. He makes Himself known to us in many ways, but most readily through the provision of the Bible.

The following statements are a summary of the truths we believe to be essential to a complete understanding of the Gospel. We often refer to these truths as “**Primary**” or “**First Level**” issues; those central and most essential to the Christian faith. Disagreement with or denial of these truths ultimately equates a denial of Christianity itself.

To protect church unity, it is essential we are in alignment with our primary doctrines. Therefore:

- We believe _____ than this but not _____ than this.
- Full comprehension of these doctrines is not required as a Covenant Partner. Agreement means that one does not _____ nor _____ these beliefs.
- Each of these statements has a long history in church orthodoxy.
- Our beliefs inform and impact our behavior; therefore, we speak with **precision** about theology and doctrine.



GOD THE FATHER

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”
Deuteronomy 6:4

God as Father (the first Person of the Trinity) reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, and all-wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all mankind.¹

- We believe in a triune God who exists in three equally divine persons: _____, _____, and _____. God is eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty, completely wise, just, and good.
- We believe in a sovereign God who is the **creator** of all things visible and invisible, who **sustains** and **rules** over all creation.

GOD THE SON

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high
Hebrews 1:3

Jesus Christ (the second Person of the Trinity) eternally exists as equal to the Father in all the attributes of Deity. He is the firstborn over all creation. All things were created by Him, through Him, and for Him. He was virgin born as God incarnate, yet fully human. He was crucified, died, and physically resurrected. He ascended to the Father, is seated at His right hand, and has dominion over all heaven and earth. He will return in the flesh to receive His church unto Himself.²

¹ Gen. 1:1; 2:7; Exod. 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Lev. 22:2; Deut. 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chron. 29:10; Ps. 19:1-3; Isa. 43:3,15; 64:8; Jer. 10:10; 17:13; Matt. 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Rom. 8:14-15; 1 Cor. 8:6; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 4:6; Col. 1:15; 1 Tim. 1:17; Heb. 11:6; 12:9; 1 Pet. 1:17; 1 Jn. 5:7

² Matt. 1:25; 27:35; John 1:1-3; 10:30; 14:11; 20:27; Acts 2:33; Eph. 1:20; Phil. 2:6-7; Col. 1:15-16; 2:9; 1 Thess. 4:16-17; Heb. 1:3

SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

- We believe that God’s Word became **flesh** in Jesus Christ, fully _____ and fully _____. Born of the Virgin Mary, sinless in life, crucified under Pontius Pilate, and resurrected from the dead by the power of God.
- We believe Jesus is the only **mediator** between God and mankind.
 - **Salvation** and redemption are only found in Him.
 - All who **believe** in Him are justified from their sin before God.
- We believe after Jesus _____ from the dead He ascended into heaven and His Spirit descended on the day of Pentecost, birthing the church.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

John 14:26

The Holy Spirit (the third Person of the Trinity) is a divine person, co-equal with the Father and the Son. He indwells all believers, placing them into the Body of Christ (the Church), and seals them for the day of redemption. It is His power that enables believers to live a life of obedience and holiness. He gives spiritual gifts to each believer. These gifts are not bound by time or tradition and are essential for effective ministry. The Holy Spirit convicts mankind of sin, of the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and the fact that Satan has been judged.³

- We believe in the Holy Spirit as a _____ person, co-equal with the Father and Son. He _____ all believers and equips, empowers, and sanctifies them.

THE BIBLE

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

2 Timothy 3:16

The Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error. It is the final authority in all matters regarding faith and practice for both the individual believer and the church. The Word of God is alive and active and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.⁴

- We believe that God has inspired the **66 books** of the Old and New Testaments as the record and means of His saving work in the world.
- We believe the Bible is the Word of God and is the sole **authority** for faith and practice.

³John 14:17; 16:8-11; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor. 6:19; 12:4-13; Eph. 4:11-12; Col. 2:6-8; 1 Pet. 4:10
⁴Ps. 19:7; 119:105; John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 4:12; 2 Pet. 1:21

SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

MANKIND

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27

Man and woman were created in the image of God. Through the temptation of Satan, Adam transgressed the command of God, and mankind fell from original holiness and righteousness. Sin entered the world because of Adam's sin. Sin is moral impurity; it is the instinct of rebellion inside every person. Sin is our inability to reach God's standard. Sin is not just a matter of behavior; sin is a matter of our nature. We sin because we are sinners. Because of Adam's sin, mankind incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. All men and women are born with a sinful nature and are incapable of pleasing God by their own efforts. Mankind has an eternal soul and will spend eternity either in the presence of God in heaven or separated from God in hell.⁵

- We believe God created mankind in His _____. Males and females are equal image bearers.
- We believe mankind has fallen from the perfect state in which God created them. All human beings are sinners by **nature** and **choice**.

SALVATION

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:24

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole person and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense, salvation includes **regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification**. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.⁶

- We believe that _____ is the divine work of a sovereign God.
- We believe God _____ through His Word, and we **invite** people to respond.
- We believe salvation is by **grace** through **faith**.
- We believe that salvation was God's eternal plan from the very beginning. God willed to graciously save a multitude of guilty sinners from every tribe, language, people, and nation, and to this end foreknew them and chose them.
- We believe that the Gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ, centered on His death and resurrection.

Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ as the only solution, and commitment of the entire person to Him as Lord and Savior.

- We preach and pray for the Spirit's work of **regeneration**.

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer into a relationship of peace and favor with God.

- We believe it is through _____ alone one can be justified before God.

⁵ Gen. 1:26, 27; 3; Matt. 25:46; Rom. 3:23; 5:12; 6:23

⁶ Gen. 3:15; Exod. 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matt. 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 10:9, 28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Rom. 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18, 29-39; 10:9-10, 13; 13:11-14; 1 Cor. 1:18, 30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Cor. 5:17-20; Gal. 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Eph. 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Phil. 2:12-13; Col. 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thess. 5:23-24; 2 Tim. 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8, 14; James 2:14-26; 1 Pet. 1:2-23; 1 Jn. 1:6-2:11; Rev. 3:20; 21:1-22:5

SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in the heart of the believer. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate believer's life.

- We embrace the Spirit's _____ work of sanctification in our lives.

Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

- We live in light of Jesus' _____.

THE CHURCH

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
1 Corinthians 12:27

The universal church, of which Christ is the head, is comprised of all true believers. The local church is a community of believers whose geographical location and common passion unite them in the cause of Christ. Each member has spiritual gifts that must be discovered and expressed for the common purpose of edifying, equipping, healing, serving, and training in righteousness so that the Gospel is delivered effectively to a lost world.⁷

- We believe the _____ church is manifested in _____ churches, of which Christ is the only head.
- Each local church is the church, the **household** of God, the **assembly** of the living God, and the **pillar** and **foundation** of the truth.

BAPTISM

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to their faith in the final resurrection of the dead.⁸

- We believe **baptism** is ordained by Jesus Himself and should be regularly observed by the church.

⁷ Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:4-10, 27, 28; Eph. 4:11,12; 5:23; Col. 1:18; Heb. 10:24, 25; Rev. 2,3

⁸ Matt. 3:13-17; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 3:23; Acts 2:41; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12

SESSION 5: WHAT WE BELIEVE

- We **celebrate** and illustrate God's work in salvation through baptism.
- We practice believer baptism, baptizing those who _____ faith in Christ.

LORD'S SUPPER

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Luke 22:19

The Lord's Supper, or communion, is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.⁹

- We believe the _____ is ordained by Jesus Himself and should be regularly observed by the church.
- We remind ourselves of God's **salvation** regularly through communion.

THE ENEMY

Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

Satan and his fallen angels are created beings whose goal is to destroy the relationship between mankind and God. He attempts this through deception, lies, accusations, and temptations. He masquerades as an angel of light, yet is the deceiver of mankind and there is no truth in him. Although Satan was defeated at the cross and his final destiny will be the lake of fire, he continues to be the ruler of this world and the archenemy of God and mankind.¹⁰

- We believe Satan masquerades as an angel of light and is the _____ of mankind.
- We believe Satan and his fallen angels will be fully and finally **judged** and **defeated** by Christ.

THE LAST THINGS

"Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."

Revelation 21:3

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all mankind in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.¹¹

- We believe in the _____, glorious, and **bodily** return of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- He will return with His holy angels to **exercise** His role as final _____, and His kingdom will be consummated.

⁹ Matt. 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:16, 21; 11:23-29

¹⁰ Gen. 3; Ezek. 28:13; Matt. 13:39; 25:41; Luke 4:13; John 8:44; 14:30; 2 Cor. 11:14; Col. 1:16; Heb. 2:14; 1 Jn. 3:8; Rev. 12:9-10; 20:10

¹¹ Isa. 2:4; 11:9; Matt. 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27, 30, 36, 44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40, 48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Rom. 14:10; 1 Cor. 4:5; 15:24-28, 35-58; 2 Cor. 5:10; Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:14-18; 5:1; 2 Thess. 1:7; 2; 1 Tim. 6:14; 2 Tim. 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Pet. 3:7; 1 Jn. 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Rev. 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13

SESSION 6: DISTINCTIVES

Summit View Church stands with the larger, universal body of Christ in affirming the core tenants of orthodox Christianity, as covered in Session Four: What We Believe. Along with our confession of belief, we hold to five additional distinctive doctrines that give shape to our everyday life within the church.

- The following distinctives are **not** essential doctrines for Covenant Partnership, but are areas the elders of Summit View Church have provided clarity and a Biblical perspective as to what and how we as believers are called to practice these truths.
- We are not asking you to _____ these beliefs as a requirement for Covenant Partnership, but we do want you to be aware of where we _____ on these secondary issues and committed to _____ belong to a community that adheres to these beliefs.

CONTINUATIONIST

Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

Acts 2:33

THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT

The Spirit transforms hearts by the miracle of regeneration and indwells all believers in abundant, new covenant measure. The Spirit also desires to fill God's people continually with increased power for Christian life and witness. To be filled with the Spirit is to be more fully under His influence, more aware of His presence, and more effective in His service. All Christians, therefore, must continually seek to be filled with the Spirit by living and praying in such a way that invites the Spirit's work among us, actively longing for God to accomplish His gracious purposes in us and through us. The filling of the Spirit brings to God's people a deeper knowledge of Christ, an increased desire for holiness, a stronger commitment to unity and love, a greater fruitfulness in ministry, and a deeper gratitude for our salvation.¹

- We believe that when Christ ascended, He **poured** out the Holy Spirit on the church, ushering in a greater experience of God's **presence** and **power** among His people.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Christ loves the church, His body, and provides for its health and growth through the Holy Spirit. In addition to giving new life, the Spirit sovereignly bestows gifts on every believer. Spiritual gifts are those abilities and expressions of God's power given by His grace for the glory of Christ and the building up of the church. The variety of these gifts—some permanent and some occasional, some more natural, and some more remarkable—reflects the diversity of the members of Christ's body and demonstrates our need for one another. The gifts are not to be exercised with apprehension, pride, or disorder, but with faith, love, and order, and always in submission to the authority of Scripture as the final revelation of God. We believe all the gifts are active today, with the exception of those among the apostles who were commissioned as eyewitnesses of Christ and made recipients of normative revelation; the full range of spiritual gifts remain at work in the church and are given for the good of the church and its witness to the world. We are therefore to earnestly desire and practice them until Christ returns.²

- We believe Christ **loves** the church, His body, and **provides** for its health and growth through the Holy Spirit.
- We believe the Spirit sovereignly bestows gifts on _____ believer. Spiritual gifts are those abilities and expressions of God's power given by His grace for the glory of Christ and the _____ up of the church.

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

Salvation belongs to the LORD
Psalm 3:8

¹ Ezek. 36:26-27; John 3:3; 15:26; 16:13-15; Acts 1:8; 2:17-18, 33, 38-39, 42-47; 3:19; 4:8, 31-33; 6:3; 7:55; 10:45; 13:9; 19:6; Rom. 5:5; 8:13, 15-16, 23; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 3:16-19; 5:18-20; Col. 1:11-14; Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:3

² John 14:26; 15:27; 16:4-15; Acts 1:20-26; Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 1:7; 12:4-11, 21-26, 28-31; 13:1-3, 8-12; 14:1, 12, 29, 33, 37; Gal. 1:11-20; Eph. 4:7-8, 11-16; 5:25-27; 1 Thess. 5:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:16; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Rev. 21:14; 22:18-19

SESSION 6: DISTINCTIVES

God's control is always efficacious; nothing can prevent Him from accomplishing His purpose. It is also universal; that is, it covers all the events of nature and history. This includes the natural world, human history, and individual human life. God even governs the free decisions of human beings, including our attitudes toward others. As sovereign Lord, He also ordains that some will come to faith and salvation. Salvation is God's work from beginning to end, doing for us what we could never dream of doing for ourselves. We should always remember that God's saving grace in Christ is part of His control over creation as the Lord.³

- We believe that **salvation** is the sovereign work of God.
- We believe salvation is a work of the _____.
- We believe God **chose** us in Christ, not on the basis of anything we can do, but sheerly on His good pleasure and will.

COMPLEMENTARIANISM

We believe that men and women are absolutely equal in essence, dignity, and value, and are complementary by divine design. Gender does not merely represent a social construct but, instead, represents a reality present in every human from birth. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable, but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways. Men and women, equally made in the image of God, enjoy equal access to God by faith in Christ Jesus and are both called to move beyond passive self-indulgence to significant private and public engagement in family, church, and civic life. We are committed to the spiritual and moral equality of male and female while recognizing men as responsible servant-leaders in both home and church.⁴

MARRIAGE

We believe that marriage was ordained by God at creation as the sacred union of one biological man and one biological woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. Christian marriage is a representation of Christ's relationship to His church. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife, looking to Christ's example of love for the church; He gave himself for her. Husbands are called to sacrificially love, nurture, and protect their wives as they love their own bodies, not lording their position over their wife, but using it for her benefit and care. A wife is called submit herself graciously to the servant-leadership of her husband, following the church's example of submitting to Christ. Women, who are made in the image of God, as are men, and are thus equal to one another, are called to respect and serve, also laying down their rights and privileges to the glory of God. We believe God's love for us is most beautifully displayed to the world when a husband and wife both lay their desires, rights, and privilege aside for one another.⁵

³ 1 Sam. 2:6-7; Ezra 6:22; Ps. 65:9-11; 115:3; 135:6-7; Prov. 16:9; Isa. 14:24-27; 43:13; 55:11; Lam. 3:7; Dan. 1:9; 4:34-35; Acts 17:26; Rom. 8:28; 11:33; Eph. 1:11; 2:4-10; James 4:13-16; Rev. 3:7

⁴ Gen. 1:26-28; Gal. 3:28

⁵ Gen. 1:26-28; 2:21-24; Matt. 19:1-10; 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:21-33; Heb. 13:4

SESSION 6: DISTINCTIVES

- Marriage is ultimately a _____ of the Gospel.
- The husband is to **lovingly** lead like Christ leads the church, sacrificially leading her through joyful service.
- The wife is to **graciously** submit to her husband as the church submits to Christ.

FAMILY

We believe that children are a blessing from the Lord and are created in His image; thus, all human life is sacred and worthy of protection from the moment of conception. God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of people related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Both husbands and wives are responsible to God for spiritual nurturing and vitality in the home, but God has given to the man primary responsibility to lead his wife and family in accordance with the servant-leadership and sacrificial love characterized by Jesus Christ. This principle of male headship should not be confused with, nor give any hint of, domineering control. Rather, it is to be the loving, tender and nurturing care of a godly man who is himself under the kind and gentle authority of Jesus Christ. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.⁶

- Parents have a remarkable role to create, nurture, and shape their **children**, both physically and _____.
- Parents are a **blessing** to their children. Children are a **blessing** to their parents. God continues to pour out His love through humans whom He has placed into our families.

THE CHURCH

Men and women are both the recipients of spiritual gifts designed to empower them for ministry in the local church and beyond. Therefore, men and women are encouraged, equipped, and empowered to use their gifting in ministry, in service to the body of Christ, and through teaching in ways that are consistent with the Word of God. The Elders/Pastors – whose office is reserved for qualified & called men – have been granted authority⁷ under the headship of Jesus Christ to provide oversight and to teach/preach the Word of God in corporate assembly for the building up of the body.

- Men and Women have _____ important roles within the church. The church cannot become all that God intends without **both** using their voice, leadership, and gifts.
- The role of Elder/Pastor, responsible for teaching and exercising authority in the church, is reserved for _____ and _____ men.

GENDER AND SEXUALITY

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God
he created him; male and female he created them
Genesis 1:27

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex through either self-identification or by medical procedure does not redefine God's design of being born male or female. God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, self-gratification, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God.⁸

- God created humanity, _____ and _____, in His image for one another. Our biological sex was God's **choice**.
- Just like everything else God has given us, we are to _____ our sexuality in alignment with God's **design**.

⁶Deut. 6:6-9; Ps. 127, 128; 139:13-16; Prov. 22:6
⁷Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-8

⁸Gen. 1:26-27; Ps. 139:13-16; Matt. 15:18-20; Rom 1:26-28; 1 Cor. 6:9, 18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4

SESSION 6: DISTINCTIVES

MISSIONAL ECCLESIOLOGY

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory
of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ, and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ, to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of a person's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the Gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to constantly seek to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.⁹

- *Missional* simply means adopting a missionary lifestyle.
All have been sent by God.
- *Ecclesiology* means the study and nature of the church. A *missional ecclesiology* means the nature of the church is _____ in the missional nature of God.
- We are both **recipients** of the mission of God and _____ in the mission of God.

ADDITIONAL READING RESOURCES

- Practicing the Power: Welcoming the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in Your Life by Sam Storms
- Proof: Finding Freedom through the Intoxicating Joy of Irresistible Grace by Daniel Montgomery
- God's Design for Man and Woman by Andreas and Margaret Elizabeth Köstenberger
- The Meaning of Marriage by Tim Keller
- This Momentary Marriage by John Piper
- Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp
- Parenting by Paul David Tripp
- What God Has to Say About Our Bodies by Sam Allberry
- Gospel Driven Church by Jared Wilson

⁹ Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:5-6; Isa. 6:1-8; Matt. 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Rom. 10:13-15; Eph. 3:1-11; 1 Thess. 1:8; 2 Tim. 4:5; Heb. 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Pet. 2:4-10; Rev. 22:17

SESSION 7: LEADERSHIP & STRUCTURE

Here at Summit View Church:

- We are led by a team of Pastor-_____ who shepherd God's people.
- We mobilize a group of men and women to serve as _____.
- We empower a specialized group of paid staff to direct, support and facilitate.
- We equip and empower the body through partnership in _____ Community.
- We adhere to a _____ model.
- We are committed to _____ fidelity.

PASTOR-ELDER

The office of eldership is given in Scripture to nurture and protect the church body. Elders are to shepherd the flock entrusted to them through faithful ministry of the Word, prayer, and leading by godly example. The terms *elder*, *overseer*, *bishop*, and *pastor*, are used interchangeably in the Bible to reference the same appointment.

Pastor-Elders are: servant leaders who:

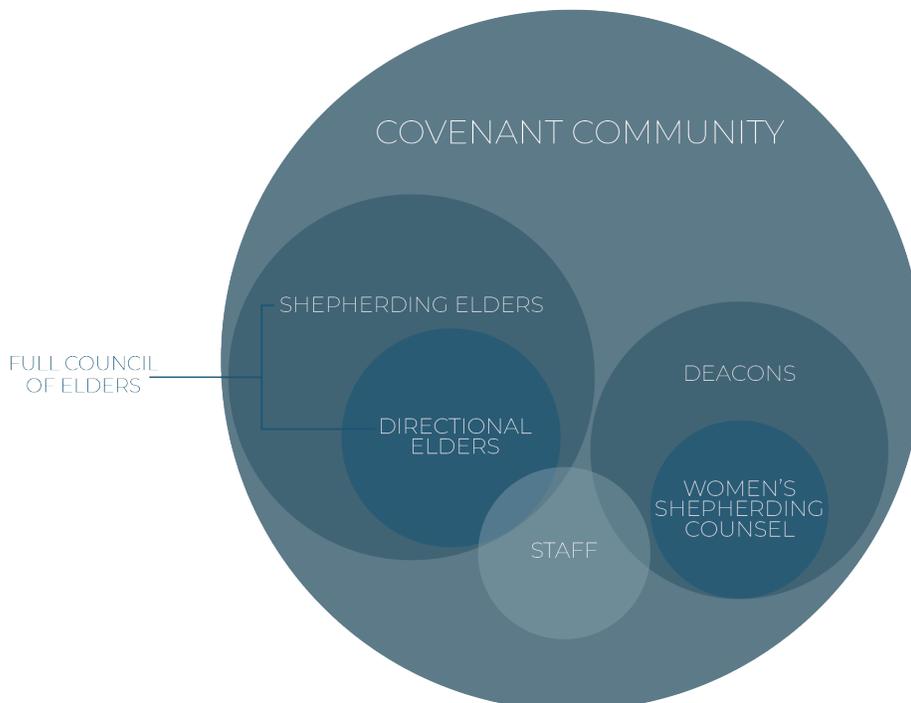
- Pray for the church¹
- Lead the church by example²
- Teach the body the Word of God³
- Set direction and manage the church⁴
- Protect the church⁵
- Discipline the body⁶

SUMMIT VIEW ELDER MODEL

Shepherding Elder (SE): shepherding elders care for the _____ congregation. They prioritize pastoral care, teaching and doctrine, discipleship, and fostering church unity. Every elder is a shepherding elder.

Directional Elder (DE): a subgroup of lay and staff shepherding elders responsible for setting the **vision** and **direction** of Summit View Church as a whole. This subgroup also provides **oversight** and **accountability** for the lead pastor.

Full Council of Elders (FCE): all elders from all locations of Summit View Church. FCE provides oversight on issues such as budget, theological development, governance, and future church planting locations.



¹Matt. 10:1-4; Acts 6:4; Eph. 4:11-12; James 5:13-15

²1 Tim. 3:2; 1 Pet. 5:3-4

³1 Tim. 3:2; 2 Tim. 3:17; Titus 1:9

⁴1 Tim. 3:4-5

⁵Acts 20:29, 31; Gal. 6:1; Titus 1:9

⁶Matt. 18:15-17

SESSION 7: LEADERSHIP & STRUCTURE

ELDER APPOINTMENT PROCESS

1. Application

Application for Eldership at Summit View Church is open to any **called** and **qualified** man⁷ who aspires to the office.

2. View & Train (at least 3 months)

Candidates begin a training process that includes SVC's Philosophy of Ministry, **theology**, shepherding skills, **church leadership**, and other relevant topics.

Voice & Train (at least 3 months)

Candidates continue their training and begin participating in elder meetings; they are encouraged to contribute to ideation at this stage but are not permitted to **vote** on decisions.

3. Presented to the Church

Upon completion of training, candidates are brought before the local _____ for a 30-day watch, during which the body is encouraged to express affirmation or concerns.

4. Ordained & Commissioned

At the conclusion of the process, the new Elder is publicly ordained and commissioned, at the approval of the Full Council of Summit View Elders and at least 70% of the local congregation.

DEACONS

While the elders of the church are given the role of oversight and leadership, **deacons** are tasked with supporting ministry roles under the elders' direction. These ministry roles can vary widely from campus to campus, but ultimately all contribute to freeing up our elders for prayer, shepherding, teaching, and vision-setting leadership. In effect, deacons are uniquely dedicated servants in the church who specifically assist our elders so that the work of the church can expand and grow.

All Deacons are:

- Qualified _____ and _____ who are servants leading in various ministries.⁸
- **Affiliated** with a local church campus and **appointed** by that campus' Shepherding Elders.
- Execute **tangible** and **practical** tasks to help carry out the vision and mission of Summit View Church.

WOMEN'S SHEPHERDING COUNCIL (WSC)

A subgroup of female deacons that provides feedback, counsel, insight, and recommendations to the _____ elders regarding key decisions and comprehensive _____ for the women of Summit View Church.

⁷ 1 Tim. 3; Titus 1

⁸ 1 Tim. 3:8-13

SESSION 7: LEADERSHIP & STRUCTURE

STAFF

Qualified & called men and women who are paid part-time or full-time to provide leadership and care to the Summit View Family through various ministries and settings.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM (ELT)

Staff who provide the primary day-to-day oversight and leadership for all of SVC ministries and operations.

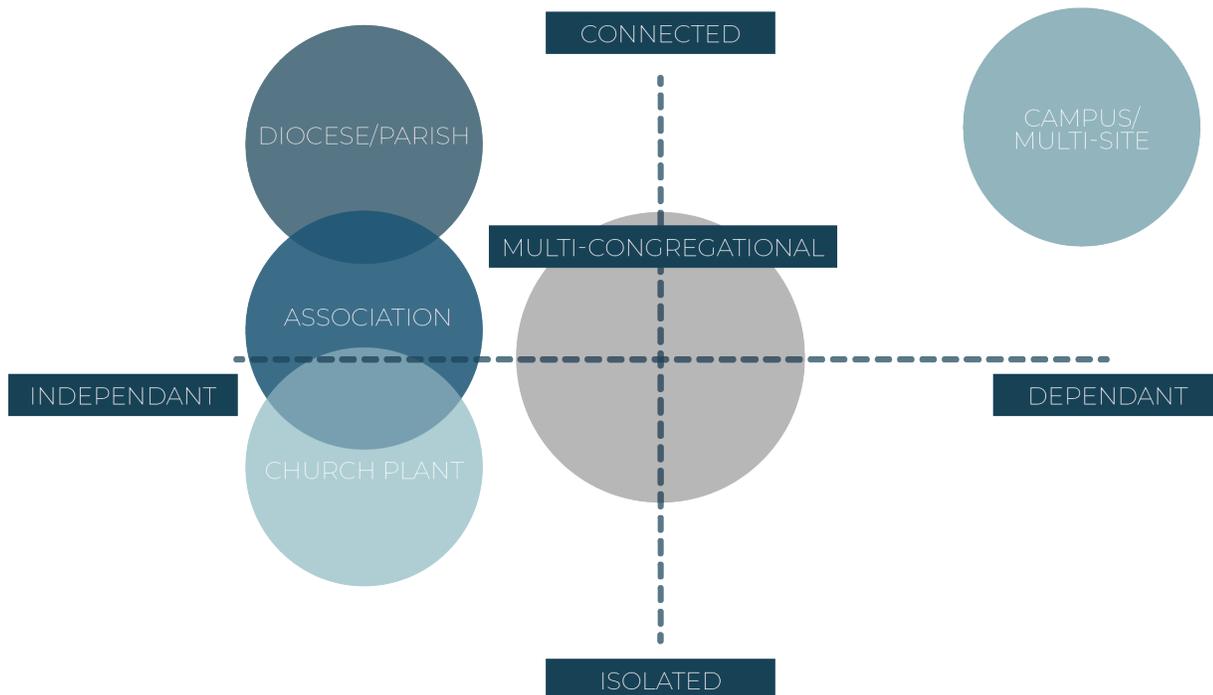
MULTI-CONGREGATIONAL MODEL

WHAT

A multi-congregational church is one that holds services in _____ geographic locations.

WHY

1. To _____ ministry within specific areas.
2. To remain a faithfully _____ church within its local context.
3. To steward _____ resources, _____ resources, and **physical** spaces.
4. To increase **ownership** and prevent stagnation through sending.
5. To make better **decisions** in a plurality of leaders.



HOW

While the gathering times and locations may differ, we have the following in common:

1. We are bound together through the same _____ and _____.
2. We share a common _____ through an aligned vision, mission, values, and strategies.⁹
3. We operate from the same foundation of the Gospel, with the same theological _____.¹⁰

⁹As covered in session 1, 2, and 3.

¹⁰As covered in session 4 and 5.

SESSION 7: LEADERSHIP & STRUCTURE

Foundational Ministries are ministries where we have the most _____ across all congregations. In general, oversight and support are given by Central staffing and execution is done at the local level.

They are **essential** elements for every campus in order to launch.

Central Foundational

- Teaching
- Worship
- Communications

Campus Foundational

- Life Groups
- SVC Kids

Core Ministries are the ministries done in a _____ way and have primary oversight by the local campus staff in _____ with others in the organization.¹²

- Student Ministry
- Community Outreach & Global Missions
- Adult Ministry (Men or Women)
- Marriage Ministry
- Young Adults Ministry
- Recovery & Care Ministries

Unique Ministries are ministries that exist for a _____ or for a particular _____, based off unique need. They are fully led and supported at the local level.

OUR FINANCIAL FIDELITY

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus Philippians 4:19

The Bible discusses money and finances often; 15% of Jesus' recorded words dealt with this topic.¹³ We believe that everything, including our finances, is the Lord's, and we are merely stewards of the resources that God has given to us to manage.

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it
Psalm 24:1 (NIV)

We recognize the trust that our people have placed in us to manage their tithes and offerings; our Covenant Partners expect us to honor God in our methods and choice. As such, we have a legal and ethical responsibility to manage our resources well. The spending of our finances must align with our vision, our mission, and our strategies for doing ministry.¹⁴

PRACTICALITY AND PARADIGMS

- Our Elders **approve** all annual budgets.
- Resources are stewarded intentionally through purchasing centrally and/or in partnership **between campuses whenever possible**.
- All Summit View ministries adhere to the same _____ and _____ for submitting budgets, spending resources, and receiving allocation.

HANDLING OUR RESOURCES ABOVE REPROACH

- **Transparency** – SVC giving is listed in our News & Views weekly update email. Copies of the budget and financial statements are available upon request for Covenant Partners.
- **Monitoring Methods** – We use an outside accounting agency to manage our accounts payable, payroll, and financial reporting.

¹²Campuses are encouraged to start Core and Unique Ministries as they have displayed a proficiency in the Central & Campus Foundational ministries. No more than one to be launched within a given ministry season to conserve resources, energy, and leadership capital.

¹³Proverbs 19:17; 30:8-9; Matthew 6:11, 22-24; 13:18-23; 19:23-24; Luke 12:13-15, 32-34; 16:10-11; 16:26; Mark 10:24b-25; 12:41-44; Acts 4:36-37; Colossians 4:15; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Timothy 5:8; 6:9-10

¹⁴Summit View Church's fiscal year operates from September 1 to August 31. We have been appointed as a 501(c)(3) religious organization, and as such can receive tax deductible donations.

GET INVOLVED

LIFE GROUPS

Each of our Life Groups consist of a diverse group of people with the freedom to gather at a variety of locations, times, and formats—all providing the opportunity to study Scripture, reflect on the weekend message, connect with community, and grow. Most Life Groups consist of 10-12 members, gather weekly or bi-weekly, and utilize the current sermon series Discipleship Guide or an independent Bible study. Join or start a Life Group at your campus today!

Sign up today at
SUMMITVIEW.NET/GROUPS



SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP *EQUIP + EMPOWER*

To Equip is an explicit command from Scripture, training the saints for the work of the ministry. Therefore, we realize that sometimes more intentional time is needed to address certain areas of life. Through our School of Discipleship, we offer a wide range of topics designed to develop people in all stages of life to grow in character, discipline, and knowledge of current or cultural issues.

The purpose of these classes is not merely knowledge-transfer or a Christian version of a self-help course, but it is our desire through these classes to see God continually transform His people into who He's called them to be.

We offer classes three times throughout the year: Winter (Jan-Mar), Spring (Apr-June), and Fall (Sept-Nov).

Sign up today at
SUMMITVIEW.NET/SCHOOL

GET YOUR FAMILY INVOLVED



Our SV Kids team creates a fun and safe environment for kids to experience the love of God from the family of God. You can check in your kids (infants-5th grade) in the lobby. See our website for all campus SV Kids class availability.

TRIBE

Middle schoolers will experience musical worship, fun games, and Biblical teaching designed to help them discover the truth of God's word.

7 PM Tuesday nights (Westside Campus) and
Wednesday nights (Heritage Park Campus)

REFUGE HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

At Refuge, High schoolers connect with others, have fun, and follow Jesus together. 7 PM Wednesday nights at our Westside & Heritage Park Campuses.

ANCHOR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young adults (18-29) who seek to follow Jesus together. We believe that God calls us into a relationship with Him and into relationships with each other.

7 PM Tuesday Nights at our Heritage Park Campus

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

WHETHER IT'S ABOUT SALVATION, OR WHAT WE DO ON SUNDAY MORNINGS, A SPECIFIC PROGRAM OR A PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY, WE'RE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.

FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS EMAIL INFO@SUMMITVIEW.NET

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT COVENANT COMMUNITY, PLEASE VISIT SUMMITVIEW.NET/COVENANTCOMMUNITY

COVENANT COMMUNITY ANSWER KEY

SESSION #1

Pg. 8 Ecclesiology; ekklesia **Pg. 9** community; Contending; Gathering; Sharing **Pg. 10** Sensationalism; renewal; Mysticism; enemy; Individualism; need; designed; accountability **Pg. 11** individualism; community; Covenant; roots; loving; belonged; “universal”; obedient **Pg. 12** drawn a line

SESSION #2

Pg. 16 belonging, becoming; biblical **Pg. 17** discipleship; affiliation; consumerism; individualism **Pg. 18** primary; Steward; Maintain; Submit; serve; commitment; larger **Pg. 19** vote; partner

SESSION #3

Pg. 24 269; Christians, disciples; learns; practices **Pg. 30** marketplace **Pg. 31** decisions; ministries; disciple-makers; share; teach; spread to all peoples **Pg. 32** equipping; Spirit; everyone, someone **Pg. 31** impact; sacred, secular; Christian living

SESSION #4

Pg. 32 connected; sinners **Pg. 33** active; living; powerful; sinners; Savior; salvation, holy; reorientation; soul **Pg. 34** community; our souls; involvement; active; primary, blessing; essential; leaders; built **Pg. 35** in; against; of; for; cultural transformation, inward, display, public **Pg. 36** call; believe; hear; told; without **Pg. 37** churches, ministries, institutions, companies, initiatives

SESSION #5

Pg. 40 more, less; reject, teach; Father, Son, Holy Spirit **Pg. 41** God, man; rose; divine, indwells **Pg. 42** image; salvation; saves; Christ **Pg. 43** ongoing; return; universal, local **Pg. 44** confess; Lord’s supper; deceiver; personal; judge

SESSION #6

Pg. 48 affirm, stand, joyfully; every, building **Pg. 49** Trinity **Pg. 50** reflection; spiritually; equally; qualified, called; male, female; steward **Pg. 51** rooted; participants

SESSION #7

Pg. 54 elders; deacons; Covenant; multi-congregational; financial; local campus **Pg. 55** congregation; men, women; shepherding, care **Pg. 56** multiple; contextualize; Biblical; financial, staffing; confession, covenant; culture; beliefs **Pg. 57** budget; Planting; reproducing, dying; location; individual, teaching; campus **Pg. 58** collaboration; contextualized, collaboration; season, location; protocols, guidelines

MY COVENANT PROMISE

When joining Covenant Community at Summit View Church as a Covenant Partner, we will ask that you affirm and commit to the following:

With the guiding help of the Holy Spirit, I, the undersigned Covenant Partner, covenant the following:

1. I am a Christian who has been saved from my sins by the grace of Jesus Christ. I have been, or intend to be, baptized to give testimony of my identification with the body of Christ and obedience to the Scriptures.
2. I have read through and can affirm my agreement with the fundamentals of Christian doctrine as laid out in the What We Believe session.
3. I have read and understand the secondary beliefs held by Summit View Church as outlined in the Distinctives session. I commit to not be divisive on these issues.¹
4. I will endeavor to maintain a close relationship with the Lord through regular personal Bible reading, prayer, fellowship and practice of the other spiritual disciplines. I commit to using the spiritual gift(s) God has given me for the building up of the church, both at Summit View Church and universally.²
5. My journey in Christ will be evident through my regular participation in the corporate worship services and through consistent involvement in a biblical community.³
6. I will strive to properly manage the resources God has given me, including my time, body, gifts and talents, attitudes, finances and possessions. This includes regular giving to Summit View Church that is both sacrificial and cheerful.⁴
7. I covenant to have friendly Christian relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ from other churches. However, I will not hold membership to another church, nor consistently serve, tithe, or function in a leadership position as a part of another church family.⁵
8. I covenant to follow the biblical procedures of church discipline and submit myself to discipline if the need should ever arise.⁶
9. I covenant to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues.⁷
10. I covenant to joyfully submit to and serve alongside Summit View Church's leadership and will be diligent to do my part to preserve unity and peace.⁸
11. I commit to own my responsibility to notify Summit View Church leadership if, at any time, I can no longer commit to this covenant, and to reach out to leadership should I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Summit View Church.

¹Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7

²Rom. 12:1-8; 1 Cor. 12: 7-13; 1 Pet. 4:10-11

³Ps. 119:97, 105; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25

⁴Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 8: 9; Gal. 5:22- 26;

Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18

⁵Heb. 13:17

⁶Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1-5.

⁷Psalms 119: 2 Tim. 3:16-17

⁸Heb. 13:7

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SUMMIT VIEW CHURCH
summitview.net