

**NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
NEW MEMBER CLASS SESSION #6  
MEMBER EXPECTATIONS**

This session is based on Thomas Rainer's Book *I Am a Church Member*. We are providing 1 book per family. If your household does not have a book, please see Sis. Mahrini Woods.

At NLCC, we expect members to say and commit to the following.

**I. I Will Be a \_\_\_\_\_ Church Member (Chapter 1)**

- What do you expect from your church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Some people view church as a \_\_\_\_\_:  
Membership is more about \_\_\_\_\_ and being \_\_\_\_\_ rather than giving or serving.
  
- The bible speaks of membership in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Membership means we are all \_\_\_\_\_ but we work together. Everyone has a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - If one part of the body doesn't do its job, the whole body doesn't function well.
  
  - Membership means everything we say or do is based on the biblical foundation of Love. (*I Corinthians 13*)
  
- What does it mean to be a **functioning** member?
  - It *doesn't* mean being a \_\_\_\_\_ or just dropping off a check.
  
  - It *doesn't* mean focusing on **me, myself, and I.**
  
  - It does mean ... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
  - It means asking ourselves, "How can I best \_\_\_\_\_ my church?"

**Questions:**

1. How is a country club membership different than church membership?

<i>Country Club</i>	<i>Church</i>

2. Why is it important for members to know and use their spiritual gifts?

**II. I Will Be a \_\_\_\_\_ Church Member (Chapter 2)**

*Football analogy - Sometimes teams that are the “underdogs” end up winning championships when their team is united!*

\_\_\_\_\_ is vital to the health of the church.

- We should be unified in our \_\_\_\_\_ for one another. *John 13:34-35*

The way we treat each other speaks volumes to outsiders.

- \_\_\_\_\_ and other negative discourse from the tongue tears apart unity. *James 3:6, I Peter 3:10, Prov. 11:13, 16:28*

- Unity will not happen in the church if members have \_\_\_\_\_ hearts. *Matt. 6:14-15*

- \_\_\_\_\_ is the best agent available to maintain unity. *Col. 3:12-14; I Cor. 13:4-7, 13*

**Question:** What is the best path to take if someone brings gossip to you in the church?

### III. I Can Not Let My Church Be About \_\_\_\_\_ Preferences and Desires (Chapter 3)

The parts of the body must function for the greater good of the body.

- It's – not – about – \_\_\_\_\_!
- You are there to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Disciples had a me first attitude. Matt. 20:26-28
- Christ showed us an example of \_\_\_\_\_, Phillipians 2:5-11

*He didn't use equality with God for his own advantage.*

*He emptied himself by assuming the form of a slave.*

*He humbled himself.*

*He became obedient to the point of death.*

What if we take I Corinthians 13 and Phillipians 2 together?

**Question:** What are some of the personal preferences that might get in the way of unity at our church?

### IV. I Will \_\_\_\_\_ For my Church Leaders (Chapter 4)

- God's servants are always under spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
- Pray that God would give him \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ to preach.

Pray for the Pastor's \_\_\_\_\_. I Tim. 3:5

Pray for his \_\_\_\_\_. I Tim. 3:7

Pray for his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ health.

Pray at least \_\_\_\_\_ for the Pastor and his family.

**Question:** What is meant by "above reproach" in I Tim. 3:2? Is that even possible?

**V. I Will Lead My Family to Be \_\_\_\_\_ Church Members (Chapter 5)**

- No \_\_\_\_\_ is perfect.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ is perfect.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ is perfect.  
\_\_\_\_\_ am not perfect. *Matt. 7: 3-5*
- Church and Family - *Ephesians 5:22-26, Ephesians 6:1-4*  
\_\_\_\_\_ together as a family for the church.  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ together as a family.

**Question:** Why is unconditional love such a challenge?

**VI. Treasure Church Membership as a \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter 6)**

- Our entire \_\_\_\_\_ is different when we approach membership the biblical way.
- Salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_! *Ephesians 2:8-9*
- When we receive the gift of salvation, we become part of the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. *I Cor. 12:27-28*

This refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ church, but \_\_\_\_\_ church membership is important too. The majority of the New Testament books are letters written about and to local churches.

➤ What do you do if you truly appreciate the gift of salvation? We obey God and serve.

**Question:** Why do many members have a sense of entitlement?