

BELONG

WEEK 1

5 REASONS FOR MEMBERSHIP



CULTURAL Reason

*Membership protects us from
being spectators and consumers.*



PRACTICAL Reason

Membership defines the family.



“...to identify your life with the person of Christ is to **join your life with the people of Christ.** To surrender your life to his commands is to **commit your life to his church...**”



“...It is *biblically, spiritually,* and *practically* impossible to be a disciple of Christ (and much less *make disciples* of Christ) apart from **total devotion to a family of Christians...**”

David Platt

PERSONAL Reason

Membership produces spiritual growth for God's people.



“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly...” 1 Pt 4:8

“...love one another...” Jn 13:34

“...serve one another...” Gal 5:13

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...” Eph 4:32

“...submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.” Eph 5:21

“...encourage one another every day...” 1 Th 4:18

“...exhort one another...” Heb 3:13

“...stir up one another to love and good works...” Heb 10:24



“Community is an instrument of **worship**, a **weapon** against sin, and a **tool** for evangelism -- all for the exaltation of Jesus.”

Brad House



PASTORAL Reason

Membership allows the shepherds to know the sheep.



GOSPEL Reason

Membership is a reflection of the humble, willing & sacrificial commitment of Jesus to His people.



“One hundred religious persons knit into unity by careful organization do not constitute a church any more than 11 dead men constitute a football team. The first requisite is

LIFE always.”

AW Tozer



The GOSPEL

is

Our Basis for COMMUNITY



“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”



There is **one** body and **one** Spirit --
just as you were called to the **one**
hope that belongs to your call --
one Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism,
one God and Father of all, who is
over all and through all and in
all.” Ephesians 4:1-6

