

THE PLEDGE TO TEACH

A Passion for Teaching: Session 1

Teachers must be committed to a higher standard!

A Philosophical Commitment

*Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required,
and from him to whom they entrusted much,
they will demand the more. -Luke 12:48*

1. A commitment to our church's DNA.

- Exalt the Savior
- Equip the Saints
- Encourage the Hurting
- Evangelize the Lost
- Enlarge the Kingdom

2. A commitment to the three tasks of Sunday School.

- Reach People
- Teach People
- Love People (i.e. Ministry)

3. A commitment to our Sunday morning structure.

- 10 minutes: Fellowship
- 5 minutes: Announcements
- 10 minutes: Outreach Emphasis
 - 1st & 3rd Sundays: Give prospect info. for Mail Telephone Visit (MTV)
 - 2nd Sunday: Have a class member share a testimony.
 - 4th Sunday: Discuss upcoming class events/projects to invite people, and write postcards to every member and every prospect.
- 20 minutes: Care Group Time
 - Take the roll
 - Assign absentees to members for contacts
 - Discuss ministry needs
 - Share prayer requests
- 30 minutes: Bible Study

4. A commitment to our Sunday School strategy.

- Develop new leaders
 - Have an apprentice teacher that you allow to teach once a month.
- Start new classes
 - Birth a new class out of your class every two years.

A Practical Commitment

1. A commitment to **outreach.**

- How can we accomplish the number one task of Sunday School if the number one leader of the class is not personally involved? How can you lead your class to do what you are not doing?

2. A commitment to teach the **Word of God.**

- We fully expect your class to have a 30 minute lesson every week.
- We fully expect you to teach the curriculum provided by the church unless other arrangements have been made in advance with the staff.
- We fully expect you to be well prepared.
- We fully expect you to believe in the inerrancy of Scripture.¹

3. A commitment to lead the class to **apply/obey** the Scripture. (James 4:17)

- The end result of Bible study is obedience, not knowledge!

4. A commitment to fill the three roles of the teacher.

- **Teacher**
- **Shepherd**
- **Leader**

5. A commitment to follow the **pastoral leadership** of the church.

A Personal Commitment

Commitment is not possible unless your personal comfort is jeopardized!

Review Documents: **Teacher Ministry Description**
 Truths We Hold Dear
 My Personal Testimony

¹ The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy (1978) can be found at johnmarkharris.net/notes

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A Philosophical Commitment

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and from him to whom they entrusted much,
they will demand the more. -Luke 12:48*

1. A commitment to our church's DNA.

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

2. A commitment to the three tasks of Sunday School.

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

3. A commitment to our Sunday morning structure.

- 10 minutes:_____.
- 5 minutes:_____.
- 10 minutes:_____.
- 1st & 3rd Sundays: Give prospect info. for Mail Telephone Visit (MTV)
- 2nd Sunday: Have a class member share a testimony.
- 4th Sunday: Discuss upcoming class events/projects to invite people, and write postcards to every member and every prospect.
- 20 minutes:_____.
- Take the roll
- Assign absentees to members for contacts
- Discuss ministry needs
- Share prayer requests
- 30 minutes:_____.

4. A commitment to our Sunday School strategy.

- Develop new _____.
- Have an apprentice teacher that you allow to teach once a month.
- Start new _____.
- Birth a new class out of your class every two years.

A Practical Commitment

6. A commitment to _____.

- How can we accomplish the number one task of Sunday School if the number one leader of the class is not personally involved? How can you lead your class to do what you are not doing?

7. A commitment to teach the _____.

- We fully expect your class to have a 30 minute lesson every week.
- We fully expect you to teach the curriculum provided by the church unless other arrangements have been made in advance with the staff.
- We fully expect you to be well prepared.
- We fully expect you to believe in the inerrancy of Scripture.²

8. A commitment to lead the class to _____ the Scripture. (James 4:17)

- The end result of Bible study is obedience, not knowledge!

9. A commitment to fill the three roles of the teacher.

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

10. A commitment to follow the _____ of the church.

A Personal Commitment

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MINISTRY DESCRIPTION

Teacher

Responsibilities

1. Be responsible to lead the class to effectively: “REACH, TEACH, and LOVE (i.e. minister to) People.”
2. Actively participate in inviting/recruiting people for your class.
3. Prepare and present the weekly 30 min. Bible study lesson.
4. Enlist the class Outreach Leaders, Care Group Leaders, and Secretary.
5. Enlist an Associate Teacher and allow them to teach at least once a month for the purpose of developing a new teacher (for a future class or to replace you).
6. Conduct monthly Class Planning Meetings with your Class Leadership Team.
7. Conduct the Sunday morning class time so that the three purposes of Adult Sunday School are promoted by having a platform and proper emphasis.

Weekly Class Time Structure

<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
1 st	Fellowship	10 min.
2 nd	Announcements	5 min.
3 rd	Outreach Emphasis	10 min.
4 th	Care Group Time	20 min.
5 th	Bible Study Lesson	30 min.

8. Be responsible to be at monthly Sunday School Teacher/Leadership Meetings.
9. Keep the Bible central as the source of truth for all teaching and discussion.
10. Lead the class in support of the Sr. Pastor, Staff, and Church Programs/Emphases.
11. Lead the class to start a new class at least every two years.

TRUTHS WE HOLD DEAR

*Not many should become teachers, my brothers,
knowing that we will receive a stricter judgment. –James 3:1 HCSB*

Name _____

Position _____

It is our desire to have those presenting the Word of God to be in agreement with the church's position on essential beliefs. The following represents those beliefs. Please circle the number that best represents your conviction for each doctrinal statement.

- 1.- Strongly Agree 2. – Mostly Agree 3. – Somewhat Agree
4.- Somewhat Disagree 5. – Mostly Disagree 6. – Strongly Disagree

1. **About God**—God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

1 2 3 4 5 6

2. **About the Father**—He is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, and all-wise. He reigns with providential care over the universe and the flow of human history goes according to His purposes and plan.

1 2 3 4 5 6

3. **About Jesus**—Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus has eternally existed and became man at His incarnation. He lived a sinless human life and offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He bodily arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

1 2 3 4 5 6

4. **About the Holy Spirit**—He is the third person of the Trinity. He guides people into all truth, exalts Christ, convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment, cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, bestows spiritual gifts by which believers serve God and seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the lives of believers is the assurance of God to bring us into the fullness of the stature of Christ.

1 2 3 4 5 6

5. **About the Scriptures**—All 66 books of the Bible are God’s Word to us. Human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote it. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian belief and living. Because God inspires it, it has salvation as its end and is truth without any mixture of error, that is, inerrant.

1 2 3 4 5 6

6. **About Human Beings**—People are made in God’s image and are the supreme object of His creation. All of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. Sin separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

1 2 3 4 5 6

7. **About Salvation**—Salvation is God’s free gift to us, but we must accept it. Self-improvement or good works can never make up for our sin. Only by trusting Jesus Christ as God’s offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin’s penalty. When we turn away from our self-ruled life and towards Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins when one receives Jesus Christ into their life by faith.

1 2 3 4 5 6

8. **About Eternal Security**—Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot “lose ” your salvation. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

1 2 3 4 5 6

9. **About Eternity**—Every person will be either eternally separated from God by sin or live with Him forever through forgiveness, that is, salvation. To be eternally separate from God is Hell. To be in union with Him forever is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are both real and permanent states.

1 2 3 4 5 6

10. **About Baptism**—We believe that baptism, when properly done, is: (1) by being completely immersed under water and (2) after salvation. All baptisms in the New Testament, including Jesus’, were by immersion. Baptism has no saving power but is the first act of obedience symbolizing the believer’s: (1) faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, (2) death to sin and resurrection to new life in Christ, and (3) belief that he too will be resurrect from the dead like Jesus.

1 2 3 4 5 6

11. **About the Lord's Supper**—The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby believers remember the death of the Lord Jesus and anticipate His return. The bread and juice are symbolic of His body and blood.

1 2 3 4 5 6

12. **About Tithing**—We believe in giving the tithe—ten percent of our gross income—as the biblical baseline for giving. The tithe is given as an undesignated offering to the “storehouse” for the ministry of a local church. According to the Scriptures, we are to give cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

1 2 3 4 5 6

13. **About Evangelism**—It is the duty of every born again follower of Jesus Christ and of every church to seek to make disciples of all people everywhere. It is the command of Christ for every believer to seek constantly to win the lost by personal effort and by all methods in harmony with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

1 2 3 4 5 6

14. **About the Church**—A New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers who are in covenant together through their common faith and fellowship with Jesus. They should regularly observe the two ordinances: (1) baptism and (2) the Lord's Supper. The church should exercise their God-given gifts and extend the Gospel to the ends of the earth. The church is an autonomous body operating with Jesus as the head. All members are equally responsible as they serve along with the officers: the pastors and deacons.

1 2 3 4 5 6

15. **About Christian Unity**—To live in harmony with other believers is clearly the teaching of the New Testament. It is the responsibility of each believer to endeavor to live in fellowship with each member of the congregation. It is further the responsibility of each member to bring all gossiping and backbiting to an end, and to submit to the spiritual authority given to the church's leaders. Every member is called to promote unity and to seek actively to end divisiveness.

1 2 3 4 5 6

16. **About Church Doctrine**—The official doctrinal statement of the church is “The Baptist Faith and Message 2000”. Consequently, every Bible teacher is asked to not teach contrary to these or any other stated beliefs of the church.

1 2 3 4 5 6

