



## PRINCIPLE PRECEPTS OF NEW TESTAMENT FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES

New Testament Fellowship holds to these principle precepts:

1. We endeavor faithfully and radically to follow Jesus in the present day, seeking to fulfill the Great Commission and to provide an authentic, Biblical, credible witness to all those to whom He leads us.
2. We hold to the highest view of, and respect for, the Holy Scriptures. We believe that the Bible is the inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God and that it leads to obedience to Jesus. We hold that its interpretation and application must be consistent with the words, Spirit, and intent of Christ.
3. We affirm the full deity and the full humanity of Jesus Christ. We believe that God sent His Only Son, Jesus, to die on the Cross for our sins so that we would not have to be eternally separated from Him. We reject the teaching there is salvation outside of Christ. We declare the message of the Gospel plainly and openly, by word and by deed, believing that every person must confess Jesus as Lord in order to receive God's free gift of Eternal Life. We endeavor, as we receive the keys to the Kingdom of God, to give Him full and complete access to every "room" in each of our spiritual "houses," not just one room for a brief visit from time-to-time.
4. We understand the family to be the keystone in God's plan for spiritual growth and emotional stability. We affirm the Biblical ideal of monogamous, heterosexual marriage – one man for one woman – until death does the parting. We reject any notion of "same-sex marriage." We understand the Bible as teaching that premarital, extramarital, and homosexual activity, as well as lusting of any kind is sin, and is not the will of God for the believer. We also believe that God deals graciously with the truly repentant heart.
5. We strongly encourage women, as well as men, to use the gifts God has given to them to edify the Body and bless the Church.
6. We affirm the importance of love in all human relationships. We believe that this calls for the rejection of all forms of violence – including abortion and child and spouse abuse. We strongly discourage participation in armed conflict, and we oppose any kind of personal retaliation between individuals.
7. We advocate passionate spirituality, encouraging all to fall more in love with Jesus and less with the world with each coming day.
8. We affirm the Ministry Gifts God gives for the building up of the Kingdom of God, and we believe that these Gifts are operative until the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
9. We support local as well as world evangelism – both through our going as well as our giving.
10. We believe that the baptism of believers with water is a pledge of their covenant with God. It identifies them with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a



sign of their cleansing and freedom from sin, and their commitment to follow Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

11. We believe that through the Lord's Supper, the Church renews its covenant with God and with each other, and participates in the life and death of Jesus Christ until He comes.
12. We place our hope in the reign of God and its fulfillment in the day when Jesus Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead; the unsaved to be sent into everlasting punishment of hellfire and the saved into eternal bliss with Christ. We await God's final victory, the end of this present age of struggle, the resurrection of the dead, and a new heaven and a new earth.

### **CORE VALUES OF NEW TESTAMENT FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES**

1. To be a spiritual home where people are encouraged and expected to hear from God and to follow Him daily in holiness of life.
2. To be in covenant relationships where faithfulness to the covenant is given a very high value.
3. To be committed to prayer and intercession for the salvation of the lost and the transformation of all those who come to Christ.
4. To be zealous and intentional in church planting and mission.
5. To be apostolic in nature – raising up, training, and mentoring leaders, and as spiritual parents, to leave a legacy for the next generation.
6. To be committed to an evangelical perspective that seeks Spirit-filled empowerment for living and for building Biblical faithful, Spirit-filled, Christ-centered networks and congregations.