APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Date: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

MEMBERSHIP SAYS...

I belong here. And God says that believers belong together (Hebrews 10:23-25). I believe that god wants me here with the people of Harvest Bible Chapel Durham at this time in my walk with Christ, and I want to make a public declaration that I am committed to God's work through this church.

I affirm, believe and support the teaching of this church. And God says the believers had all things in common including devotion to the Apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42-47). I desire to associate with people of like mind and conviction and embrace the authority of God's word in my life and the life of the church.

I share the same ministry goals as Harvest. And God says that believers are to be committed to one another for the sake of spiritual impact (Ephesians 4:16). I believe that Jesus has work to do in the Durham Region and around the world, and I am willing to join with others who have the same vision to see that it gets done.

I accept responsibility for a group of fellow believers in the family of God. And that is God's plan as well (Galatians 6:1-2, 10). I want to be part of a caring network of people, sharing one another's joys and sorrows, and helping one another grow through worship, Bible study and fellowship.

I am accountable to mature brothers and sisters in Christ for my walk with God. And God warns against spiritual autonomy (Hebrews 13:17, Matthew 18:15-20). I want to receive the guidance, equipping, and assistance necessary to remain on target and I do not want to go it alone in standing for Jesus Christ.

I accept responsibility for how things are done here. And God says that is how it should be (1 Corinthians 12:20-27). Elders, deacons, and other church leaders are called from within and serve the congregation. I believe every member needs to contribute their unique gifting and passion to contribute to a healthy body.

- ○ I have completed Harvest 101
- ○ I was baptized by immersion on _____ (date)

DOCTRINE

The Scriptures

We believe the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments to be the full record of God's self-disclosure to mankind. Different men, while writing according to their own styles and personalities, were supernaturally moved along by the Holy Spirit to record God's very words, inerrant in the original writings. Therefore, those applying themselves to study its literal, historical-grammatical context can accurately understand God's Word. Scripture is fully trustworthy as our final and sufficient authority for all of life (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

The Triune God

We believe in the one living and true God, eternally (John 17:3) existing in perfect unity as three equally and fully divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19-20). Each member of the Godhead, while executing distinct but complementary roles in redemptive history, has precisely the same nature, attributes, and being, and is equally worthy of the same glory and honor and obedience (John 1:1-4; Acts 5:3-4).

God the Father

We believe God the Father created all things in six literal days for His glory according to His own will (Revelation 4:11), through His Son, Jesus Christ. He upholds all things by the Word of His power and grace, exercising sovereign headship over all creation, providence, and redemption (Colossians 1:17, Hebrews 1:3).

God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son, moved by love in accordance with the will of the Father, took on human flesh (John 1:1, 14, 18). Conceived through the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the virgin Mary. He, being fully God and fully man (John 14:8-9), lived a sinless life and sacrificially shed His blood and died on the cross in our place accomplishing redemption for all who place their faith in Him. He arose visibly and bodily from the dead three days later and ascended into heaven, where, at the Father's right hand, He is now Head of His Body the Church, the only Savior and Mediator between God and man, and will return to earth in power and glory to consummate His redemptive mission (1 Timothy 3:16).

God the Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ during this age. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He draws the unredeemed to repentance and faith, and at salvation imparts new spiritual life to the believer, bringing that person into union with Christ and the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit sanctifies, seals, fills, guides, instructs, comforts, equips, empowers, permanently indwells at salvation, and bestows spiritual gifts to the believer for Christ-like living and service (John 16:8; 13:15; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 1:22; 4:11-12; Romans 8:9-17; 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 12:4-5, 11-13, 19; Galatians 5:25; Hebrews 2:1-4; 2 Corinthians 12:12).

Mankind

We believe that God created mankind—male and female—in His own image and likeness, free of sin, to glorify Himself and enjoy His fellowship. Tempted by Satan, but in the sovereign plan of God, man freely chose to disobey God, bringing sin, death and condemnation to all mankind. All human beings, therefore, are totally depraved by nature and by choice. Alienated from God without defense or excuse, and subject to God's righteous wrath, all of mankind is in desperate need of the Savior (Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 3:10-19; Romans 1:18, 32).

Salvation

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as the substitutionary atonement in our place, and that salvation is found in none other than Jesus Christ. Before Creation, God chose those who would be saved and granted this unearned grace solely based on His sovereign good pleasure. Jesus Christ's death on the cross was the sole and complete payment for sins, fully satisfying God's righteous wrath, for each person that turns from sin in repentance and places their faith in Christ alone by grace alone. At salvation each person is made a new creation by the Holy Spirit, declared righteous before God, and secured as an adopted child of God forever. Genuine faith continues in obedience and love for Jesus Christ with a life eager to glorify God and persevere to the end (Romans 8:37-39; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 12:13).

The Church

We believe that upon placing one's faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, the believer is made part of the Body of Christ, the one universal Church, of which Jesus Christ is the Head. The Scriptures command believers to gather locally in order to devote themselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, fellowship, the ordinances of baptism and communion, service to the local body through the development and use of talents and spiritual gifts, and outreach to the world to make disciples (Ephesians 1:22-23; Acts 2:42-46; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Matthew 28:18-20). Wherever God's people meet regularly in obedience to this command, there is the local expression of the Church under the watchful care of a plurality of elders. A church's members are to work together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ (Ephesians 4:16).

Baptism and Communion

We believe that Christian baptism is a public declaration of the believer's salvation in Christ, identifying with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection symbolized by immersion in water. The Lord's Supper is the united commemoration by believers of Christ's death until He comes and should be preceded by a careful self-examination (Acts 2:41; Romans 6:3-6; 1 Corinthians 11:20-29).

Missions

We believe it is the aim, duty, and privilege of every believer and local church fellowship to glorify God by responding as active participants in the Great Commission call of Jesus Christ to go and make disciples of all nations. We believe the primary focus and priority of this call is centered on efforts that establish, strengthen, and reproduce biblically-based churches, which will then plant churches that plant churches for future generations and God's glory.

Things to Come

We believe in and expectantly await the glorious, visible, personal, premillennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blessed hope of His return has vital bearing on the personal life, service, and mission of the believer (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). We believe in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost. The lost will be raised to judgment and experience eternal wrath in hell. The saved will be raised to eternal joy in the new heaven and new earth in the manifested presence of God (Acts 1:3, 9; Hebrews 7:25-26).

- ○ I have read the doctrinal statement of Harvest Bible Chapel
- ○ I am in agreement with the doctrinal statement of Harvest Bible Chapel
- ○ I have these questions and/or concerns…

_____

_____

_____

_____

UNDERSTANDING CHRIST AND CHRISTIANITY

Please share in your own words…
(If you have previously completed and submitted this form, you do not need to complete it again)

Who is Jesus Christ?

What is a Christian?

Why do you need Jesus Christ?

What are Christians saved from?

MY TESTIMONY

Please share with us how you received Christ
(If you have previously completed and submitted this form, you do not need to complete it again)

Before I surrendered my life to Christ, I lived and thought this way…

This is HOW, WHEN, and WHY I surrendered my life to Christ as my Lord and Saviour…

Now, with Christ in my life, as I trust Him, I live and think this way…

Membership Commitment

The effectiveness of our joining together will be determined by the level of the commitment I make. In a society where so few make commitments and fewer still keep them, Harvest Bible Chapel is seeking people who are determined to know the joy Christ intended for His body, the Church. To this end we are asking candidates for membership to make the following commitments:

- I have, by faith, become a follower of Jesus Christ and I have been baptized as a visible way of demonstrating that commitment.
- Because a disciple worships Christ, I will seek to attend and fully participate in the weekly worship service of HBCD.
- Because a disciple walks with Christ, I will seek to maintain consistent disciplines of Bible study, prayer, and personal witness. I will walk in fellowship with others at HBCD by participating in the small group ministry. To maintain our unity in fellowship, I will neither criticize nor listen to criticism concerning any member(s) of this body, and will, when personally offended, speak directly and lovingly with those involved.
- Because a disciple works for Christ, I will seek a place to serve within Harvest that corresponds to my spiritual gifts and passions. I will financially support the work of HBCD by faithfully giving back to the Lord a biblical portion of my increase.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Steps To Becoming A Member

1. **Membership Packet**
   Complete all parts of the application and use the information provided to write your testimony. Hand in your completed application and a copy of your testimony at the Get Connected table on Sunday morning or at the Church office during the week.

2. **Membership Interview**
   Once your application and testimony have been received, you will be contacted to schedule an interview with one of the leaders of the church.

3. **Membership Recognition Sunday**
   After your name has appeared in the bulletin for the congregation's review, you will be contacted regarding the details of the next membership recognition Sunday.