



Membership at Grace

If you would like to become a member of Grace, the process happens like this:

A pastor and an elder will schedule an **interview** with you, and others in your family who are applying for membership. The purpose of this interview is:

- to hear how you became a Christian
- to ask about your understanding of the gospel
- to ask you about your previous church experience
- to discuss membership and what it means
- to tell you about Grace Christian Church
- to answer any questions you may have

After the interview, your application will be discussed by the elders, after which we will respond to tell you whether it has been accepted, or if we want to meet with you again to talk further.

Once your application is accepted, you will be publicly received at a Communion Service. You will be asked to take membership vows, and we will celebrate with you and welcome you by taking the Lord's Supper together.

Get in touch

If you would like to find out more about becoming a formal member of Grace Christian Church, or have further questions, please contact us using one of the channels below:

Application Forms:

These are available from the church office. Simply fill it out, hand it back to a pastor, elder, or ministry worker and we will get in touch with you as soon as possible.

Telephone:

(07) 5445 8933

Please leave a message if no-one is available to take your call, and we will respond as soon as possible.

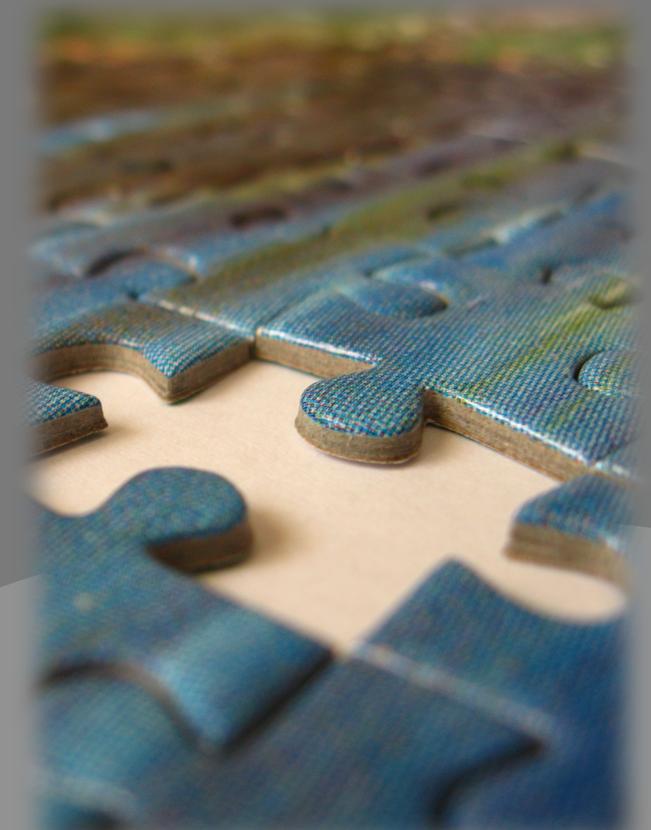
Email:

office@gracechurchbuderim.com.au

For more information:

www.gracechurchbuderim.com.au

Membership



What is church membership?

Church membership is about **Commitment** and **Care**.

Commitment

Becoming a church member means that you are willing to publicly commit yourself to this church family, its ministries and leadership. What you are saying is, "This is my church." Becoming a member means you commit to helping your brothers and sisters in their relationship with Jesus Christ by your active presence at church; you commit to supporting this church and its ministries; you commit to taking ownership of the ministries by being eligible to vote on decisions at our annual meetings, and you commit to submit yourself to the leadership of this church.

Care

On the other hand, membership is about care. The elders use the list of members to look after you, notice when you aren't around, give you a call to see how you're doing, or visit you when you are in need. As you commit to us, we commit to caring for you as a part of our church family, to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.



Membership in the Bible

People often ask where church membership is in the Bible. While we may not see Jesus or Paul commanding it explicitly, there are numerous passages which assume an understanding of who is recognised as part of the church and who is not, and how to serve each group differently (e.g. Romans 16v1-16, 1 Timothy 5v3-16).

Think about this verse from Hebrews:

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.”

(Hebrews 13:17 ESV)

This clearly shows an understanding of a two-way commitment of care and submission between church leaders and those who are part of the church family.

Church Membership FAQ's:

Q: Does church membership make me a Christian?

A: No, membership simply affirms that someone already has a relationship with Jesus Christ

Q: I don't believe in baptising babies. Can I still become a member?

A: Of course you can! The basic requirement of membership is simply a real relationship with God through Jesus.

Q: Are all members expected to give of their time and money to the church?

A: Not necessarily, but we would hope that a commitment expressed in membership would result in a practical commitment to support and to serve.

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