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Membership

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ” **1 Corinthians 12:12**

MEMBERSHIP: This is defined as being a vital part of a special or particular group. The above scripture defines members as a body. To be a part of any membership one must be willing to participate in any requirements and expectations that help the group fulfill its vision and purpose. In every membership there is the need for people to become actively involved and also to maintain their participation. This is both **activation** and **participation**.

• **MEMBERSHIP IN THE BODY OF CHRIST:** This is *Salvation*. This membership requires both activation and participation to be a valid membership.

- **ACTIVATION – Romans 10:9-11, (believing and receiving)** You become active in the Body of Christ when you are BORN AGAIN.
- **PARTICIPATION – Ephesians 4:16, (willingness and involvement)** To maintain membership in the Body of Christ you must be willing to obey Jesus’ commands and be involved. Every part makes increase.

• **MEMBERSHIP IN THE LOCAL CHURCH:** The local church also follows the same principles of activation and participation and are a very important part of our life in the Body of Christ. Throughout the whole New Testament, we see that there were different groups of believers in many nations: Jerusalem, Antioch, Corinth, Ephesus, etc. READ: **Hebrews 10:25**.

- **ACTIVATION – 2 Timothy 3:10,** You must believe the basic doctrine and vision of your local church. You must also receive the leadership and teaching of that church and accept their oversight. **Ephesians 4:8, Hebrews 13:17**
- **PARTICIPATION – Ephesians 4:16,** every member should involve themselves in the body to supply and be a part of the ministry of the church. Members should be involved in financially supplying to the “storehouse” (local church) through their tithes and offerings **Malachi 3:10**.

Activating Your Online Membership

Below are the requirements for becoming an online member of Lord of Hosts Church.

1. After successfully filling out the [e-member form](#), read the membership booklet and be in support of the vision and beliefs of the church. A welcome packet and prayer cloth will be sent to new members as soon as possible.
2. Be received into membership at the next Membership Service by watching online and using your prayer cloth as a point of contact. We will make an announcement when one of the next membership Sundays will be held.

Maintaining Online Membership

Below are the requirements for maintaining an online membership at Lord of Hosts Church.

1. Attend regular and special services online in a consistent and supportive manner. When possible, we encourage online members to do their best to watch services while they are happening live

(as opposed to watching the archive later) as it increases our ability to be connected in faith and spirit. Consider letting the congregation and the online community know that you are there and “attending” online by commenting in the comments (when available) or even emailing the church and letting us know you have been consistently watching. Prayerfully, consider a physical visit to LOH if you can!

2. Tithe regularly and give offerings into the Lord’s work at Lord of Hosts Church.
3. Continually progress and develop your Christian walk by keeping a lifestyle that represents the Lord and this ministry in a positive manner.
4. Show support for the vision and the leadership by participating in special events online. These might include conferences, seminars, prayer meetings, and other events.
5. Be able to agree and identify with the basic tenets of faith of Lord of Hosts Church.

Harmony in Church Membership

Harmony and agreement are vital to every church. Below are some keys to church unity to help your church and the Body of Christ succeed.

1. If you attended a previous church, live in peace with that ministry according to ***Romans 12:18***.
2. Learn to cooperate with others' faults and imperfections according to ***Colossians 3:13***.
3. Remember the power of forgiveness in all situations according to ***Mark 11:25-26***.
4. Even when you do not agree, speak well of the church and your fellow Christians according to ***Ephesians 4:29***.
5. Show commitment to the church and the people according to ***Hebrews 10:25***.
6. **HARMONY ON SOCIAL MEDIA:** As an example of Christ’s love on social media, online members should always be positive and supportive in their online comments. Just because social media offers a place to comment, negativity, criticism, and doctrinal debates have no place during a church service, whether such comments are directed toward the church or other online viewers.

Lord of Hosts Church believes that just as it would be out of line for our members attending in person to stand up in the middle of a service and criticize, we also believe this type of behavior is out of line in the online comments. Our desire is for every online attendee to have a positive experience while joining the service. Comments deemed rude or offensive by our team of moderators could result in the comment being deleted or in some cases the user being banned from the page.

Resigning Online Membership

Should you at any time wish to remove your online membership at Lord of Hosts Church, please let us know.

1. If you visit the [Connect With Us](#) page on the E Church website, you can select to delete your membership. Please fill out the form and the request to delete your membership profile will be submitted and completed as soon as possible.
2. As necessary, stay in love and leave in the spirit of peace according to **Romans 12:18**.

Staying Connected Online

To receive the most from being an online member, it's important to be consistent with your online attendance by watching the live stream either live or from the archive. Lord of Hosts Church streams all its Sunday and midweek services in addition to conferences and special advertised nights of prayer. While the best experience is usually to try and join live, viewing the archive is also a sufficient way to stay connected. Just as with physical church attendance, consistency is key.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Service archives may only be available for a limited time and for various reasons not all services are able to be archived. LOH reserves the right not to archive or post a service when it deems it necessary.

Ways to Watch

Church services can be viewed on one of the various online channels:

- On OVTV (One Voice TV), our streaming network. OVTV can be viewed by downloading the OVTV app or on its website at www.onevoicetv.net
- Our website: www.lohchurch.org/watch
- At Lord of Hosts Church or One Voice Ministries on Facebook
- On the Hank and Brenda Kunneman channel on YouTube
- On our Roku Channel
- On Amazon Fire

Biblical Examples of Consistency in Church Attendance

JESUS WENT TO A PLACE OF WORSHIP: Many people do not think about the fact that Jesus, who is the Lord of the Church, went to the church of His day. In fact, the Bible says it was HIS CUSTOM. **Luke 4:16**

THE EARLY CHURCH: There is a saying that has been around in the Body of Christ for many years and that is "Be there every time the church doors are open." The early church made attendance so much of a priority that they were in the temple every day. Talk about not missing a service! **Acts 2:46**

PAUL ENCOURAGED CHURCH ATTENDANCE: Paul encouraged the Hebrews to be in church. **Hebrews 10:25**

The Body of Christ Keeps You Strong

THE CORPORATE ANOINTING FACTOR: While interacting with other believers is not as efficient as the personal relationships that are built from attending church in person, one can still benefit from online interaction and find some impartation in that corporate environment. Positive social media interactions and chats are one way to receive from your fellow online and local members.

The Bible highly supports the corporate gathering of God's people. When believers gather together there is an anointing that comes in the corporate atmosphere that carries a unique kind of power. Look at the following scriptures: **Matthew 18:20, Acts 4:31.**

GODLY PEOPLE REFRESH YOU AND KEEP YOU STRONG: Have you ever heard the phrase "Birds of a feather flock together?" It is true that you become like the people that you hang around. Christian people keep you strong and help keep you from sin. They also refresh your spirit when you interact with them and share in an atmosphere of worship together. **Hebrews 3:13, Proverbs 27:17**

Tenants of Faith

At Lord of Hosts Church, We Believe. . .

1. ...in the Trinity of God and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Born of the virgin Mary, He came to earth in human form, was crucified, died, and was buried. He was resurrected on the third day and later ascended into Heaven, where He is seated at the right hand of God.

John 1:1-5, 10-14; Matthew 28:18-20

2. ...in the authority of Jesus' Name to which every knee shall bow and that the Name of Jesus brings victory over the power of evil. ***Philippians 2:10-11***

3. ...all mankind is guilty of sin, but the gift of forgiveness and salvation are free for those who call on Jesus for forgiveness of sin, thereby making Jesus Christ their personal Lord and Savior. ***Romans 3:24; John 3:3***

4. ...both heaven and hell are a reality. Hell is a place of eternal punishment and heaven is a place of eternal blessing. Spending eternity in Heaven is based on your decision to invite Jesus Christ into your life and make Him your Lord. ***1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 19:20***

5. ...in the reality and personality of Satan and his demons, who are the enemy of our God and His church. ***Isaiah 14:12-15; Matthew 4:1-11***

6. ...The Bible is the inspired Word of God and the truth by which we live. ***2 Timothy 3:16-17***

7. ...in water baptism by immersion in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Romans 6:1-4; Acts 8:35-38

8. ...in the Lord's Supper, commonly called Communion, for believers as was practiced by the early church. **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

9. ...that the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues is available for every believer today and that the gifts of the Spirit as seen in 1 Corinthians 12-14 manifest today. **Acts 1:4-5; Acts 2:38-39**

10. ...in divine healing and that healing of the whole person is available today which includes physical healing from sickness and disease. **Isaiah 53:5; 3 John 2**

11. ...in the Second coming of Jesus Christ both in His personal coming for His church and also to judge the world and reign in Supreme Majesty forever. **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

12. ...in the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman in a single exclusive union. **Matthew 19:4-5**

The New Birth

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. **John 3:3**

Why Must I Be Born Again?

The New Birth Can Be Summed Up in the Following Outline

1. GOD LIVES
2. MAN LIVES
3. MAN DIED
4. CHRIST DIED
5. CHRIST LIVES AGAIN!
6. MAN LIVES AGAIN!

You may be asking what these mean. Let's look at them so we can understand the New Birth and why it is required for us to become a Christian and go to heaven someday.

GOD LIVES.

God is eternal. He has no beginning and no end. He is holy and sinless, and because of that, He can define what is holy and sinless and what all life should be like. GOD LIVES. **Ecclesiastes 3:14**

MAN LIVES.

God created you in His likeness. **Genesis 1:26**

FACT: Did you know that "likeness" means an exact copy?

God made you like Him because He wants your friendship! God is a triune being. He is called the Trinity

of God, **1 John 5:7**. God is an Eternal Spirit (The Holy Spirit), He has a soul or mind (The Father) and He has a Body (Jesus Christ). You were created just like Him, meaning that you are also a triune being. You are a spirit that is eternal, you have a soul (mind, will, and emotions) and you live in a physical body on this earth. You were created like God so you could be in the presence of God for fellowship with God.

MAN LIVES.

QUESTION FOR THOUGHT:

Q. Why did God put the tree before Adam & Eve even though they weren't to touch it?

A. God wanted us to follow His ways of our own free will, not because we HAVE to, but because we WANT to!

MAN DIED.

After Adam and Eve were created, God told them not to eat the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God told them if they did so, they would die. **Genesis 2:17**

EVERYONE NEEDS A SAVIOR: Every person that has ever been born into the earth needs a savior because of sin. READ: **Romans 3:23**

Man ate of the tree and died. But he didn't die physically that day because Adam and Eve still lived and later had children. What happened? They died spiritually, eventually resulting in physical death. *MAN DIED. Hebrews 9:27*

The Consequences of Adam's Sin

Separation From God: Adam was separated from God because of the spiritual death inside him.

Unrighteous man could not be in the presence of the righteous God. The two cannot mix.

Romans 3:10 & Romans 3:23

Sin and Death Are Passed Down: The spiritual death inside Adam was passed to all his descendants. **Romans 5:12**

Eternal Punishment: God is righteous and just. His justice requires a consequence for sin because all wrongdoing requires consequences and must be judged. **Romans 6:23**

CHRIST DIED.

God's **justice** required that man pay the consequence, but God's mercy didn't want man to suffer eternal punishment.

FACT: Hell was not created for mankind! It was created for the devil and his demons (see **Matthew 25:41**). People only go to hell because spiritual death and sin are still inside them. But Jesus made the way to escape the punishment of hell!

God needed someone who could provide a just reason for Him to issue a pardon for us. The problem was that no human being was without guilt and worthy of doing such a thing. Unable to find a sinless man, God, in the form of Jesus Christ decided to send Himself to be that man! Jesus died in your place and erased the sentence of death against you! GOD (JESUS) DIED! **Romans 5:6-8, Ephesians 2:1, Colossians 2:14**

CHRIST LIVES AGAIN!

However, Jesus didn't just die. He also rose again from the dead. Jesus, the innocent, died for the guilty but because He was innocent, He fully deserved to be resurrected again! It wouldn't have been just for God to leave an innocent man in the grave. JESUS/GOD LIVES AGAIN! **Romans 4:24-25, Psalm 16:10**

MAN LIVES AGAIN!

Man not only needed to be granted a merciful pardon, but he also needed to be brought back to life, in order to be near God again. When our sins went into the grave with Jesus, they were erased by His blood. But, when Jesus came up from the grave, our sins didn't resurrect with Him. They stayed in the grave! **Ephesians 2:4-6**

With our sins now gone and buried in the grave, God the Father sees us INNOCENT. We can be spiritually reborn or born-again and be joined back to Him! Jesus' resurrection gave you and me the promise that we can be joined to God forever in Heaven. MAN LIVES AGAIN!

THE NEW BIRTH: God's Free Gift for Salvation

*Based on what Jesus did for us, we didn't earn our way to Heaven, nor can we ever be good enough to do so. Salvation through the New Birth is God's FREE gift. **Ephesians 2:8-9** There are only two requirements for us to receive it:*

- 1. Believe in what Jesus did for you with FAITH.*
- 2. Make Jesus the total LORD and MASTER of your life by CONFESSION or asking Him to be so.*

Romans 10:9-10

These are the requirements to being BORN AGAIN!

Living Your New Life in Christ

When you receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, it will change your life. You have been reborn into the family of God and the old person you used to be is dead. **2 Corinthians 5:17, Colossians 3:1-9**

- *You Should Live Like a Christian.* Begin to do things differently. Make decisions that please the Lord and show that you really love Him.
- *You Should Grow Spiritually.* Read the Bible and pray regularly. When you do, you will begin to grow in the things of God.
- *You Should Connect to Other Christians.* As a believer, you should get involved in church and hang around solid Christians. They will help you succeed in your walk with God!

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the SPIRIT of God moved upon the face of the waters. **Genesis 1:2**

Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **THE THIRD PERSON OF THE TRINITY:** We can see that God is a triune being and the Holy Spirit is the third person of that trinity. READ: **1 John 5:7**

- **THE COMFORTER:** The Holy Spirit came to dwell with us after Jesus went to the Father. He was the next gift given to us after salvation. READ: **John 16:7, Acts 1:4**

FACT: God said He would not leave us alone! He gave us the Holy Spirit!

- **OUR TEACHER:** The Spirit of God teaches us all things. READ: **1 John 2:20**

What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

- **RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT:** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit simply means to receive the Holy Spirit. READ: **Acts 1:5, Acts 19:1-4**

- **RECEIVE POWER AND TRUTH:** When you receive the Holy Spirit you receive power, and He guides you in all truth. READ: **Acts 1:8, John 16:13-15**

- **RECEIVE A NEW PRAYER LANGUAGE:** When you receive the Holy Spirit you will be able to pray in line with the Spirit of God as He prays through you. READ: **Romans 8:26**

Is there any evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- **THE DAY OF PENTECOST:** We see that the Apostles and those that were in the upper room were filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost and there were divided languages that appeared over their heads as fire. Later we see that when they went out into the streets they were speaking in languages that they did not know, but some who heard them actually understood. READ: **Acts 2:1-4, Acts 2:6-13**

- **SPEAKING IN TONGUES:** So, the question that is most often asked is: “Does everyone that is baptized in the Spirit always speak in tongues?” The answer is YES! Let’s look at the examples below.

- We see firstly that the Apostles spoke with other tongues in **Acts 2:1-4**.
- We see the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. **Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:6**
- Paul received the Holy Spirit in **Acts 9:17**. Now at that time it didn’t say anything about him speaking in tongues, but we know he did because it says so in **1 Corinthians 14:18**.
- Finally, we see one example in **Acts 8:17-21** that doesn’t seem to specifically state that they spoke in tongues, however, Simon saw something that made him know they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Let’s look again at verse 21 of Acts 8. The word *matter* is translated in the Greek (H1697 δῶν) as utterance. So that was what Simon saw that day.

10 REASONS WHY WE SHOULD SPEAK IN TONGUES by Kenneth E. Hagin (Why Tongues? book):

1. Tongues are the initial sign of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:4)
2. It edifies you spiritually. (1 Corinthians 14:4)
3. It reminds us of the Spirit's indwelling presence. (John 14:16-17)
4. Tongues pray directly in line with God's perfect will. (Romans 8:27)
5. It builds up your faith. (Jude 20)
6. It keeps you free from world contamination. (1 Corinthians 14:27-28)
7. It enables you to pray for the unknown. (Romans 8:26)
8. Gives Spiritual Refreshing. (Isaiah 28:11-12)
9. Tongues for giving thanks. (1 Corinthians 14:15-17)
10. Brings your tongue under subjection. (James 3:8, 1 Corinthians 14:3)

Are there any other Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues."

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

THE REVELATORY GIFTS:

- WORD OF WISDOM – The supernatural revelation of the future plans and purposes of God.
- WORD OF KNOWLEDGE – The supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit, of certain facts in the mind of God, that exists presently or those that have been.
- DISCERNING OF SPIRITS – The supernatural ability to see or hear in the realm of the spirit. It also reveals the kind of spirit that is in operation behind a supernatural manifestation.

THE POWER GIFTS:

- GIFT OF FAITH – Special faith given supernaturally by God, as He wills. Those who operate in it can believe God in such a way that God honors their word as His own and miraculously brings to pass the desired result.
- GIFTS OF HEALINGS – They are manifested for the supernatural healing of sickness and disease without any natural source or means.
- WORKING OF MIRACLES – The ability to act (work) and cause a supernatural intervention by God in the ordinary course of nature. ***Exodus 8:16; 2 Kings 2:14; John 2:7-11***

THE VOCAL GIFTS:

- PROPHECY – A supernatural utterance in a **known** tongue that is used for edification, exhortation, and comfort.
- DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES – A supernatural utterance in an **unknown** tongue. This is different than praying in tongues like we see in ***1 Corinthians 14:18*** and ***Jude 20***.
- INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES – A supernatural showing forth of that which has been said in an **unknown** tongue.

Church Structure

... that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. **1 Timothy 3:13**

Everything needs a structure to function properly. Countries, states, and provinces need laws, governors, and leaders to maintain order. Businesses need officers, planning strategies, and policies to succeed. The family in the home also needs order and structure to maintain a healthy setting. In the same way, a local church needs all of these things in order to be successful. Some people erroneously believe that because Christians have the Holy Spirit they can just be “led” as they see fit. It is true that we *can* all hear from God and be led by His Spirit to make our decisions in life. However, the Bible also teaches that we all need church leaders, structure, and order to maintain a healthy Christian lifestyle. Local church involvement serves as a key primary factor for creating a spiritual structure for Christians. It is needed so that we can all work together to effectively spread the Gospel. We shouldn’t see the church setting as a “free-for-all” for which there are no rules or behavioral expectations. It is key for those involved to understand the structure and learn how to do their part to help build a healthy church.

What is Church Government?

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the GOVERNMENT shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his GOVERNMENT and peace there shall be no end.” Isaiah 9:6

•**GOD IS A GOD OF ORDER:** We see from the very dawn of creation that God not only designed everything to run in order, but He gave man dominion over what He made to manage it and take care of it properly. **Genesis 1:26, 2:15**

•**GOD ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT IN THE CHURCH:** God’s Kingdom is like any other kingdom in that it has a governmental structure. God is the one that set (to place) the government in the church so it can be effective. **1 Corinthians 12:28**

- *The word “governments” here means to steer or pilot. That means the government was placed by God in the church to steer or pilot it.*
- *Many churches ignore the part about government in this verse, but God put government in His church.*

•**THE NEED FOR GOVERNMENT IN THE CHURCH:** In any nation, kingdom, or community structure, government provides stability and direction. All throughout the Bible we see that God had someone that was in charge and responsible because otherwise everyone did what they wanted, and chaos was the result. **Deuteronomy 12:8, Judges 17:6, 21:25, Proverbs 12:15**

How is the New Testament Church Structured?

•**FIRST GOD ESTABLISHED THE LEADER:** The church is a theocracy and not a democracy. God established the bishop. Bishop (Episkopos) –*a superintendent; overseer; the general officer in charge of a church*. In more modern terminology, we might also refer to a bishop as a senior pastor who governs the ministry

and supervisors would be other pastors. To be a bishop or senior pastor you must be ordained into the ministry and have been appointed and given oversight of a church. **1 Timothy 3:1**

Lord of Hosts Church Senior Leadership: At Lord of Hosts, the established leader is the senior pastor, who has been appointed and ordained by other outside pastors and leaders in the Body of Christ that have commissioned him for this task. In keeping with Scriptural practices, the senior pastor is not voted in by the congregation, but rather appointed by the board.

The church is also overseen by a ministerial corporate board of trustees comprised of experienced, ordained, full-time functioning ministers outside of Lord of Hosts Church. These communicate regularly with the senior pastor and the pastoral team of Lord of Hosts and are involved in major decisions and other aspects of oversight.

Senior Pastor: Pastor Hank Kunneman

Co-Senior Pastor: Pastor Brenda Kunneman

•**SECONDLY, GOD ESTABLISHED THE ELDERS:** In the Old Testament, God established the priesthood who assisted the leader (i.e. Moses, Joshua, etc.). New Testament elders serve as associates to the leader. Elders (Presbuteros) –seniors who rule, senators; one who walks in a five-fold office. **Ephesians 4:11**

- According to the New Testament, the elders are chosen ordained, and appointed by the bishop, senior pastor, and other governing pastors. We find no examples of elders being elected by the people. **Titus 1:5**
- From biblical examples, we see that elders function in the “fivefold” or full-time ministry. They were apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers who instructed, taught, and matured the saints.
- A “fivefold calling” (call to ministry) does not automatically mean you are an elder any more than having a degree in accounting makes you an employee of any firm. To become an elder, you must have had hands laid on you by your overseer (Apostle/Bishop/Pastor).

Lord of Hosts Church Elders: The elders of Lord of Hosts Church are not voted in or elected by the congregation. They are full-time, ordained pastors who provide spiritual insight and oversight to the congregation. They have been appointed and ordained by the senior pastor with the involvement of the governing board.

Executive & Worship Pastor: Pastor Christy Hair

Media Director, Worship Pastor: Pastor Shane Hair

Administration, Pastoral Care: Pastor Doug Daniels

Graphic Design, Youth Pastor: Pastor Mike Magrans

Pastoral Care: Pastor Keith Hair

Online Community, Pastoral Care: Pastor Matt Kunneman

•**THIRDLY, GOD ESTABLISHED THE DEACONS:** In the New Testament, the deacons were the helpers that watch over the daily tasks. In the Old Testament armies, these would have been the “helpers of the war.” (**1 Chronicles 12:1**) Deacons (Diakonia) –waits on the menial duties or work and functional part.

READ: **1 Timothy 3:8-13**

- *Deacons are appointed to supervise over the helps ministry or functional side of the church. These would actually be department heads. We see that the elders and leaders had the people look for qualified people and then the elders set them into place. There is again no indication that a vote took place. **Acts 6:1-5***
- *Deacons do not have to be five-fold ministry gifts, even though they could ultimately be called to one. The Bible doesn't specify that deacons are ordained as we see indicated with elders and bishops.*

*Lord of Hosts Church Deacons: The deacons of Lord of Hosts Church have been appointed by the senior pastors and elders as they have exemplified such qualifications before the people. (**1Timothy 3:8-13**). The deacons commonly serve as department heads and other aspects of leadership.*

•**FOURTHLY, GOD ESTABLISHED THE CONGREGATION:** Everyone falls into the category of the congregation or saints. Congregation – *the flock of God*. Every member of the congregation should be consistent and involved in helping the ministry thrive and grow. Remember every member of the Body of Christ should supply something. **Ephesians 4:16, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

Women and Ministry.

•**CAN WOMEN SERVE AS FULL-TIME PASTORS/ELDERS AND/OR AS DEACONS IN MINISTRY?** Many churches and certain denominations have expressed the view that women cannot serve in a full-time ministerial position or hold a deacon's office in the church. Yet, there are many examples in both the Old and New Testaments about women serving in a ministry leadership capacity. While women serving in a ministerial leadership capacity isn't as common in the Bible as with men, we can clearly see that God not only allowed women to lead but endorsed them and even called them to full-time ministry.

- *In the Old Testament, we have the obvious example of Deborah, who was a judge and prophetess in Israel who led the people. **Judges 4:4, Judges 5:7***
- *We find a husband-and-wife team, Aquila and Priscilla, serving as Bible teachers and full-time ministry leaders, acknowledged 7 times in Scripture by Paul. **Acts 18:24-28***
- *Anna was a prophetess who never departed the temple and spoke of Christ's birth in the temple. It would appear she was preaching and prophesying! **Luke 2:36-39***
- *The example of Junia, a highly regarded apostle who was complimented by Paul. Most historical accounts and studies reveal that Junia was in fact a female and the Scriptures record her as "outstanding among the apostles." [NIV] **Romans 16:7***
- *Phoebe was a "servant" of the church, which was the word "diakonia" or deacon. We see where Paul recommended her and asked the church to assist her in her leadership endeavors. **Romans 16:1-2***
- *We also find other women mentioned in Paul's commendations in **Romans 16: 1-15**. While the Bible doesn't record their offices and positions specifically, it makes sense that Paul noted this small group among the masses of Christians simply because they served in a leadership capacity. **Romans 16:1-15***

•**DOES THE BIBLE SAY WOMEN SHOULDN'T PREACH?** Many have used certain Scriptures out of context to disqualify women from preaching and public speaking in the church. Yet, we noted above that God

obviously endorsed women, so the idea that women cannot speak in the church setting wouldn't seem to make sense. Let's review some common misconceptions and see what the Bible truly means:

1 Timothy 2:11 – “Let the women learn in silence with all subjection” When Paul said women should “learn in silence” consider that the emphasis was on learning and the proper manner for doing so. We find many other biblical accounts where women were not “silent” in the church assembly. It seems apparent by Paul's comment that some of the women were feeling a new sense of liberty in Christ taking it to the wrong extreme and interrupting, asking questions, or offering comment during assemblies. This is likely why Paul addressed it. He simply said, learning should be without interruption and with submission to the one in charge. It shouldn't be assumed that this means women cannot ever speak in the church when properly given the place or opportunity to do so because he also mentions women praying and prophesying in the church (**1 Corinthians 11:5**).

1 Timothy 2:12 – “But I suffer not a woman to teach” To use this verse or the prior one to say women can never teach men anything wouldn't be accurate since we have records that Priscilla played a key role in teaching Apollos the Scriptures. In fact, in 5 of 7 biblical accounts referencing Aquila and Priscilla, Paul mentions her name first indicating she had a forefront role. We also have Anna the prophetess teaching and prophesying to everyone in the temple. Again, recall where Paul mentions women's ability to pray and prophesy in the church setting. (**1 Corinthians 11:5**) So the question wouldn't seem to be “if” women can speak in the assembly but rather “how” they go about it. The verse in 1 Timothy 2:12 would be more accurately seen as Paul's admonition that women shouldn't usurp the man's authority inappropriately meaning they shouldn't rudely interrupt or overcome the man's position in an unmannerly or even unladylike, self-promoting fashion.

What are the qualifications of leaders and five-fold ministers?

•**SET APART:** Elders and bishops must be set in their office. To be separated means to be sent. The Bible has very clear instructions on the principles for true ordained ministers. READ: **Romans 1:1**

- First, we see Paul was a servant. Everyone must start out serving.
- Secondly, we see that Paul was called by God.
- Thirdly, we see that he was separated. The Greek word for separated means to set apart, ordained.

•**UNDER AUTHORITY:** Qualified leaders are also ones that are under authority.

•**CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY:** A qualified leader lives a life of good character and conduct.

READ: **1 Timothy 3**

•**WISDOM AND THE HOLY GHOST:** This was expected of the deacons (Acts 6) so it would also then be expected of Elders and Bishops.

How should Leaders and Authorities relate to the people?

•**THE PURPOSE OF LEADERS AND AUTHORITY:** The purpose of leadership is to equip the saints. Leaders should be apt to teach and give instruction throughout their preaching and admonishing. They will give indirect instruction by being a living example. READ: **Ephesians 4:12, 1 Timothy 3:2**

•**CARE FOR THE FLOCK OF GOD:** A leader has the responsibility to care for the body that they oversee.

READ: **1 Peter 5:2-3**

- *The leader will pray for the people both publicly and privately. We see Paul praying for the Ephesians in Ephesians 1.*
- *Show meekness. Moses was the meekest man on earth. Meekness means seeing the grace potential in someone else.*
- *A leader will help to meet the needs of the people. While the leader's main job is to be in the Word and prayer in order to bring meat to the flock, he can appoint deacons that can meet the needs of the people. He can also develop avenues in the church to meet specific needs.*

•**DISCIPLINE AND CORRECTION:** In the New Testament we see there are several methods of correction and sometimes the correction was gentle and at other times it was firm. **2 Timothy 2:24-26, 2 Corinthians 13:10-13**

- *Preaching Correction (corporate and individual) – Paul used his letters to correct the entire church even when only some were actually guilty (1 and 2 Corinthians). Peter also gave corporate correction to the individuals who crucified Jesus in Acts 3. Paul corrected those living in willful sin. **1 Corinthians 5:6***
- *The Bible gives biblical steps for dealing with those who must be removed from a church in the event of severe wrongdoing, gross error, or a clear refusal to live the Christian lifestyle. **Matthew 18:15-17***
- *Rejection and separation – There are times when the leader will teach you to turn away or separate yourself from wolves (Acts 20:29) or carnal people that divide the church of God and endorse sinful behavior. **2 Timothy 3:5***

•**WHAT LEADERS SHOULD NOT DO:** Leaders should not manipulate the people. Finally, a leader should not follow the lead of the people. **2 Corinthians 13: 7-8, 1 Peter 5:3, Philippians 4:9**

How should the people relate to Authorities and Leaders?

•**RECEIVE THE GIFT:** God gave your leader to you as a gift, and they should be received as a gift. How you receive the gift that God gave you is essentially how you receive the Lord, who gave leaders to you. **Ephesians 4:8, 11; Romans 13:2**

- *You respect and honor the gift by your attitude and service. **Romans 13:7***
- *You gladly receive the Word that they preach, as the Berean Christians did who first received the words with gladness then followed with study. **Acts 2:41, 1 Thessalonians 2:13***
- *You realize that a good leader will sometimes have to say things that seem direct or even corrective, but it is meant to bring truth and to help steer the church toward biblical living. You should appreciate and receive those times of admonishment because you have seen your leader's proven character and know they are out for your good. **John 6:28, Ecclesiastes 10:4***
- *Put the gift to use. **Galatians 3:1-3***

•**RECOGNIZE THE GIFT:** Many people over the years have determined to see the human side of their leaders over and above the anointing that God has placed on them. God takes it very seriously when we do not or refuse to recognize the authority that has been given to them by God. **Romans 13:1-7**

•**FOLLOW YOUR PASTOR AND HIS DIRECTIVES:** The Bible clearly teaches us to obey those that have

authority over us and we know that they are talking about our spiritual governors because they must give account for our soul. You should put into practice what you have learned from them.

Hebrews 13:7, Philippians 4:9

- It is your responsibility to learn and put into practice what the pastor teaches you in a service.

Hebrews 6:12, Hebrews 5:12

- Many people fail to receive and recognize the anointing when the only way they want to receive from the pastor is by personal meetings or mentoring. They fail to see that if everyone put that demand on the pastor's time that he would not have adequate time to spend before the Lord like the Apostles in Acts 6. It would ultimately affect the entire ministry.

•**SUPPORT YOUR PASTOR:** You support your pastor by being FAITHFUL in your church involvement. You can additionally support the pastor through financial giving. **Romans 13:7, Acts 6**

•**PRAY FOR YOUR PASTOR:** It is everyone's responsibility to pray, not just the intercessors:

- *Pray for the Word to have free course and that they are delivered from unreasonable men.*

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

- *Pray that they lead a peaceful life. 1 Timothy 2:2*
- *Pray that they are restored to you. Hebrews 13:18-19*

Financial Support

Because online members are not able to physically volunteer or serve in one of the church's departments on campus, one of the primary ways they can be involved and supportive of the ministry is through financial support. Online members are encouraged to financially support the ministry and its many programs that are changing lives in Omaha and around the world. These programs might include special projects, the media ministry, conferences/events, and the building program. Each gift regardless of which fund is supported, helps increase the church's overall excellence of ministry, which in turn directly impacts what we are able to provide to our online community.

Online members can support the ministry in one of three ways:

1. Download the Lord of Hosts Church app in your app store and set up your giving account securely with Pushpay.
2. Text to give at **77977** and type **lordofhosts**. Data rates may apply.
3. Mailing support to:
Lord of Hosts Church
PO Box 391157
Omaha, NE 68139

Understanding Biblical Giving.

IMPORTANCE OF GIVING: The reason giving of your finances is so important is because it is an issue of

your heart. Jesus taught plainly that our heart and money are inseparable. We put our money where our heart is! **Matthew 6:21**

GIVING IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP TO GOD: David, in his desire to worship God, wanted to give Him something. True giving will at times be a sacrifice because that is when your true self toward God is revealed. **2 Samuel 24:24-25**

ATTITUDE IN GIVING IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE GIFT: God loves our gifts when we give with a cheerful heart and we give Him the best that we have. We see that when the best was offered, then it was accepted by God. **2 Corinthians 9:7, Genesis 4:1-6**

What is the Tithe?

DEFINITION AND ORIGIN OF THE TITHE: Tithe is a Hebrew word that simply means 10%. It was first used when Abraham gave tithes to King Melchizedek (King of Righteousness) who was the priest of the Most High God. **Genesis 14:20**

THE FIRST FRUIT OF ALL OF YOUR INCREASE: Tithing is given from the money that you make. Many people wonder if you should tithe on the gross or the net of your income. Biblically we see that we should tithe off the first fruits, which would be the gross. In other words, we tithe before the government takes their cut, or taxes because our gross income would represent “all our increase.” **Exodus 23:19, Deuteronomy 14:22, 2 Chronicles 31:5, Proverbs 3:9**

WHY DOES GOD ASK FOR MY MONEY?

Money itself is not evil as some may think. The Bible says however that the love of money is the root of ALL evil. Rich or poor, some people are controlled by a need for money. Instead, God asks us to give money into the work of His Kingdom because it places Him in control of our money and hinders us from being controlled by it and using it for selfish motives or evil intent.

- *You only have what God gave you; He gives you 90% to use. **Psalms 24:1***
- *God wants us to reserve a portion for Him out of honor. This is the very test Adam and Eve failed in the Garden. **Malachi 1:6-8***
- *When you do not tithe and give, the heavens over you are closed. Stinginess causes you to lose money. **Haggai 1:6-11***
- *Because we should first make provision for the House of God. **Malachi 3:10-12***

Four Reasons to Tithe

IT ALREADY BELONGS TO THE LORD: You have to know that it is not yours, to begin with, it is God's. Remember Psalm 24:1. If it was yours then you wouldn't be robbing God by not giving it. **Malachi 3:8-9**

IT IS HOLY TO THE LORD: If it is holy to God the question is, is it holy to you? For every dollar that you get, 10 cents is holy money; it is holy or set apart for the Lord. **Leviticus 27:30**

IT IS MEAT IN GOD'S HOUSE: As we read before, the purpose of tithing is to provide substance for God's house. Your tithes and offerings fund the work of the ministry and the preaching of the gospel. It is sad that some pastors don't have time to spend before God because they are busy working outside jobs to

feed and clothe their families only because some people refuse to tithe. **Malachi 3:10, 1 Corinthians 9:14**

IT TEACHES YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD: When you give to the Lord it helps keep your heart and your life reverent before Him. **Deuteronomy 14:22-23. Matthew 6:21**

Is Tithing New or Old Testament?

TITHING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT: You may have heard before that tithing is “Old Testament” or it is under the law and we are free from the law. The examples below are examples of Old Testament tithing before and during the law.

- *Adam and Eve were commanded to reserve a portion in the garden and obviously later taught their sons Cain and Able to bring the first of their increase to the Lord. **Genesis 2:16-17, Genesis 4:4-5***
- *Abraham tithed to the King of Salem, the priest of God, before the law. **Genesis 14:18-20***
- *God commanded the tithes in the law of Moses. **Deuteronomy 14:22-23, Leviticus 27:30, Malachi 3:8-11***

TITHING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT: Tithing is just as much a part of the New Testament as it was the Old. It was a principle that was in effect before the law and remained even after Jesus came.

- *Jesus taught people to tithe. **Matthew 23:23-24, Mark 12:17***
- *Jesus is still the one who receives the tithes even after the fulfillment of the law. **Hebrews 7:8-9, 15-17***

Where do I Tithe?

IN THE STOREHOUSE: The storehouse is the house of God, which is your local church. It is the place where you regularly receive spiritual “meat” or the feeding of the Word of God. When all the people tithe as they should it helps the local church to flourish and develop ongoing quality ministry to feed the people. By tithing, everyone is supplying a part that helps the ministry succeed. *You don’t designate your tithe toward special church projects because it supplies the general, ongoing ministry of the church. **Malachi 3:10-11***

IN THE PLACE WHERE GOD PLACES HIS NAME: Another reason we tithe to our local church is because we believe in the work there and see it as the place “where God has placed His Name.” In other words, we know God’s presence is prevalent and we express our gratefulness and appreciation through the tithe. **Deuteronomy 26:2, Proverbs 21:26**

What if I don’t have enough to Tithe?

THE TITHE IS FIRST: The Bible teaches that our tithe comes first. Placing your tithe as the priority in front of bills, needs, wants and other spending opens the door for God to move on your behalf in all aspects of life. That is because we are putting God and His Kingdom first (**Matthew 6:33**) and He will make sure blessing is added to your life. **Exodus 23:19, John 14:1**

MAKE ROOM FOR THE TITHE: If you have gone most of your life without tithing, one of the most

rewarding changes you can make is to reorganize your finances to include the tithe. It is no different than how we make changes in other areas of our character in order to make a place for God where He was previously excluded.

Is an offering the same as a Tithe?

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: In *Malachi 3:8-10* we see that they had robbed the Lord in tithes AND offerings. They are two different things. Tithe means 10% while an offering is a heartfelt gift beyond the tithe. The tithe is the Lord's money. However, an offering is an additional gift to the Lord that we give as we feel led, directed, or inspired to give it.

OFFERING IS A SEED THAT WE SOW: The Bible teaches that offerings are like seeds. When we give an offering (sowing), we can receive blessings in return (reaping). In addition to that, we understand from Scripture that whatever you give in life, whether it be financial offerings, giving of time, or showing kindness, we can expect to receive that in return. It is the principle of sowing and reaping. Finances are an integral part of that in the Bible. *We give offerings to special projects in the church or other ministries and/or needs outside the local church. We can also give offerings to the poor and those in need. You can designate your offerings to go toward different projects, people, or needs that you feel inspired to help with.* **2 Corinthians 9:6, Luke 6:38, Proverbs 19:17, Ecclesiastes 11:1, Galatians 6:7**

WE WORK TO GIVE: This is a new concept for many when we have always been told that we work to make a living. When we come into the Kingdom of God, we come into *something higher*, and we work for His Kingdom. However, the more that you give God, the more blessed you will be in your life. ***Ephesians 4:28, Luke 6:38***

Financial Accountability Policy

Lord of Hosts Church believes in implementing the highest level of integrity concerning the management of God's money and the resources of the ministry. In that effort, the ministry staff has implemented the highest possible quality controls. Additionally, each year the financials of the ministry are reviewed by an outside accounting firm and also approved and voted upon by an outside board.

Counseling Policy

Due to the unique requirements associated with counseling and individual pastoral guidance, Lord of Hosts Church is only able to offer counseling and pastoral appointments to local members of the church who attend LOH in person.

Prayer Requests

Should you have a need for prayer, please call the One Voice Ministries prayer line at **855-777-7907**. Prayer requests may also be submitted by email on the church website.

[Connect With Us Here](#)

Phone Calls and Emails

The pastoral staff, including Pastors Hank and Brenda, are not able to take calls upon request. Our office staff will always do their best to respond to emails pertaining to office needs such as questions about books and resources, accounting needs, or online technical questions. In most cases, our staff is not able to engage in lengthy email dialogue pertinent to personal needs and doctrinal questions.

Thank you for understanding.