



Scriptural Membership Policies, Procedures and Application

Section 1. Scriptural Membership Eligibility

Active voting Scriptural Membership in this Assembly shall be open to all those who possess the following qualifications:

- a. A testimony to an experience of the "new birth."
- b. Having been baptized in water by immersion.
- c. Evidence of a consistent Christian life (Romans 6:4; 8:1-4; 13:13, 14; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1, 2, 15; 1 John 1:6,7).
- d. An indication of a willingness to contribute regularly to the financial support of the church of which he or she is to become a member.
- e. Having reached at least 16 years of age.
- f. Having regularly attended services of, and supported, this Assembly for a period of at least three consecutive months prior to the date of application for Scriptural Membership.
- g. Agreement to being governed by the bylaws of this Assembly, and of the Network, as amended from time to time.

Section 2. Definition of Marriage

As a Scriptural matter, all those who voluntarily associate with the Church, as a Scriptural Member or otherwise, are deemed to acknowledge that the Church's interpretation of Scripture includes the definition of marriage as the union between only a natural-born man and a natural-born woman and excludes homosexual relationships.

Section 3. Procedure for Scriptural Membership Recognition

Those individuals eligible for Scriptural Membership who shall desire to become members of this church shall make written application to the pastor or Church Board. The Church Board shall have the right and authority to determine the eligibility and acceptability of all applicants for Scriptural Membership by majority vote. Those approved for Scriptural Membership by the Church Board shall be received into the church publicly at any of its regular services, and their names thereupon added to the church Scriptural Membership roll. No applicant for Scriptural Membership shall be accepted as a member within 30 days before an annual business meeting or within 10 days before a special business meeting.

Section 4. Pastor and Spouse

By virtue of office the pastor shall be considered an active voting member of the church during his tenure. The pastor's spouse shall become an active voting member simultaneously with the pastor, subject to section 9 of this Article VI.

Section 5. Transfer Members

A member in good standing of another Assemblies of God church, who satisfies the standards for Scriptural Membership eligibility specified in Section 1 of this Article VI (other than the attendance and support requirements), may apply for Scriptural Membership by submitting a letter of transfer from the pastor of the other Assembly, upon the approval of a majority of the Church Board.

Section 6. Junior Scriptural Membership

Junior Scriptural Membership shall be available for young people under 16 years of age who give evidence of the new birth, meet the standards for Scriptural Membership as specified in these bylaws, and are approved by majority vote of the Church Board.

Section 7. Associate Members

The Church Board, at any regular or special meeting, may approve associate members by a majority vote. Eligibility for associate Scriptural Membership is available to any person who is a member in good standing of an Assemblies of God church in another community, who is in this community on a temporary basis, and who intends to return to his or her home church. Associate members shall be entitled to all the privileges of regular members, except that they shall not be eligible to vote and shall not be eligible for any of the offices described in Article VII of the bylaws.

Section 8. Honorary Members

The Church Board, at any regular or special meeting, may approve honorary members by a unanimous vote of the members present. Honorary Scriptural Membership is available to any member who has left the church indefinitely. Honorary Scriptural Membership recognition shall continue as long as the member maintains a consistent Christian life, remains sound in doctrine, and maintains a cooperative attitude toward the home Assembly.

Section 9. Inactive Scriptural Membership

Active voting members who shall without good cause absent themselves from the services of the Assembly for a period of 3 consecutive months or more, or who cease to contribute of their means to its support for a period of 3 consecutive months, may be declared inactive members by a majority vote of the Church Board, and thereupon shall lose their voting privileges until they are restored to the fellowship, their standing to be settled by action of the Assembly through its Church Board.

Section 10. Discipline

A. Grounds

Discipline is an exercise of Scriptural authority for which the church is responsible (Matthew 16:19; 18:15-20; Luke 17:3; John 20:23; Acts 16:4; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 5:20; 2 Timothy 4:2; Hebrews 13:17). The purpose of discipline is to promote repentance and restoration through exposing sinful behavior. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective. Any member of the Assembly is subject to discipline on the basis of unscriptural conduct, as determined in the sole discretion of the Church Board. The discipline of ministers who hold credentials with the Assemblies of God as administered by the Network and General Council.

B. Procedure

The Assembly will follow the disciplinary procedure set forth in Matthew 18:15-20. This procedure consists generally of the following steps: (1) The pastor or a designated member of the Church Board discusses the charges with the member in an effort to resolve the matter privately; (2) if the first step does not resolve the matter, then the member shall meet with the pastor and Church Board or with a designated committee of the Church Board in an effort to resolve the matter privately; (3) if the first or second steps do not resolve the matter, then the member or the Church Board may submit the matter to the Scriptural Membership of the Assembly in a special business meeting called for that purpose. Only active voting members of the church shall be permitted to attend such a special business meeting. The decision of a majority of the voting members present at such a meeting shall be final. A member found guilty may be dismissed from Scriptural Membership in the church (Matthew 18:17). However, lesser disciplinary sanctions may be imposed as appropriate, depending on the circumstances of each case.

C. Resignations

Members who are under discipline by this Assembly forfeit and waive the right to resign from Scriptural Membership in this Assembly. Resignations from Scriptural Membership are possible only by those members in good standing who are not under any disciplinary action.

CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

I _____ certify my Scriptural Membership to Central City Assembly of God Church in accordance with the Scriptural Membership Eligibility and in accordance with the Assembly's constitution and bylaws.

Sign

Date