

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Turning Point Church

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/ST/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Bus. Phone _____

Mobile Phone _____ Email _____

Homepage _____

Sex (M/F) ___ Date of Birth ___/___/___

Single Married Widowed Divorced

My occupation is _____

Company _____

(Please answer the following as it applies to you.)

I have not been active in a church _____ (e.g. ever; for 2 years.)

I have been active in the following churches in the past:

<u>Dates Involved</u>	<u>Name of Church</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Member?</u>	<u>Position of Service</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

INFORMATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouse's Name _____ Date of Birth ___/___/___

Does your spouse attend TPC? ___Yes ___No

Children:

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Lives w/You?</u>	<u>Attends TPC?</u>
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____
_____	___/___/___	_____	_____

I have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior & Lord. Date (or years): _____

I have been baptized as a believer.

Date _____ Location _____

I agree with the TPC Statement of Faith. ___Yes ___No

I commit to honoring the TPC Membership Covenant. ___Yes ___No

I have completed the TPC Membership Class materials. ___Yes ___No

Interviewed by _____ Date _____

Approved for membership by _____ Date _____

Write a brief description of how you became a Christian.

If you were to die today do you believe you would go to heaven?

Yes No I think so Not sure

If God were to ask you, "Why should you be allowed into heaven?" what would you say?

Please read TPC's "Core Values" and then comment briefly on why you believe God wants you to be a member of TPC.

Please read "Eight Reasons to Join a Small Group" and then comment briefly your willingness to join a small group at TPC.

Do you have an interest in getting involved in an area of ministry?

Do you have any special gifts, talents, knowledge or expertise that you believe God may want you to use as a member of TPC?

Other comments or questions:

CORE BELIEFS – Statement of Faith

We receive the scriptures as the inspired Word of God and as the sole authority in matters of faith and practice. Its understanding of Christian truth is expressed by the following declaration of faith:

1. We believe that the Bible is God's Word, that it was written by men divinely inspired, and that it is the supreme, infallible authority in all matters of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5).

2. We believe in one true God who is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God (Genesis 1:1,26,27, 3:22; Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

3. We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power. We rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of man, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ (Genesis 1:1, 2:7; Exodus 3:14, 15:11ff.; Deuteronomy 6:4, 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 64:8; Matthew 6:9ff., 7:11; John 4:24, 5:26, 14:6-13; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6, 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17).

4. We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of God, conceived of the Holy Spirit, of virgin birth, sinless in His life, making atonement for the sins of the world by His death and shed blood on Calvary's cross. We believe in His bodily resurrection, His ascension and visible return to the world according to His promise (Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13).

5. We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from God to convince the world of sin, of

righteousness and of judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, instruct and comfort those who believe in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1).

6. We believe that all men by nature and by choice are sinners, but that God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. We believe, therefore, that those who accept Christ as Lord and Savior will rejoice in God's presence forever, and that those who refuse to accept Christ as Lord and Savior will be forever separated from God (Genesis 1:26,27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 59:1,2; Romans 3:22, 23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

7. We believe in the Church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head, and of which all regenerated people are members. We believe that a local church is a company of believers in Jesus Christ, who have been baptized upon credible confession of faith, and who associate for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that to these local churches we are committed for perpetual observances, the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and that God has laid upon these churches the task of proclaiming to a lost world the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior, and serving Him as Lord and Master. We believe that human betterment and social improvement are the inevitable by-products of such a gospel (Matthew 16:15-19, 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3).

8. We believe that angels are created beings. They are spiritual, personal and intelligent. The Bible speaks of holy angels and fallen angels. The holy angels glorify God, carry out His will as His messengers, and act as guardians of believers and children. The fallen angels are

headed by Lucifer (Satan), who is the chief enemy of God and seeks to destroy His plans. God allows him now, for a time, to function as the prince of this world and to harass believers and nonbelievers alike, yet he is still controlled by God. Satan blinds the minds of unbelievers to the gospel and accuses believers before God (2 Corinthians 4:3,4; Zechariah 3:1; Revelation 12:10; Job 1:12, 2:6; Ephesians 2:2, 6:12; Psalm 148:2; Revelation 5:11; Psalm 34:7; Matthew 18:10; Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4; Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; 2 Samuel 14:20; Ephesians 6:12; Mark 12:25; 2 Timothy 2:26; Luke 15:10).

9. We believe that every human being is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and autonomous and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that, therefore, church and state must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from the dictation or patronage of the other (Matthew 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19).

10. It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness, as well as a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ (Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30,37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17).

11. All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among

men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality (See TPC Policy 102). We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends, Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth (Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16,43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8).

12. We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (Psalm 139).

II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20,21; II Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5.

Turning Point Church Membership Covenant

“Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in agreement with Turning Point’s statements, strategy and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Turning Point church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

I. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH

...By acting in love toward other members
...By refusing to gossip
...By following the leaders

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.” Rom. 15:19 (Ph)

“Live in complete harmony with each other — each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.” Rom 15:5 (LB)

“Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts.” 1 Peter 1:22 (GN)

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs...” Eph. 4:29

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you.” Heb. 13:17

II. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH

...By praying for its growth
...By inviting the unchurched to attend
...By warmly welcoming those who visit

“To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly.” 1 Thess. 1:2

“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My House will be full.” Luke 14:23 (LB)

“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.” Rom. 15:7 (LB)

III. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH

...By discovering my gifts and talents
...By being equipped to serve by my pastors
...By developing a servant’s heart

“Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you...” 1 Peter 4:10 (Ph)

“God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up...” Eph. 4:11-12

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant...” Phil 2:3-4, 7

IV. I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH

...By attending faithfully
...By living a godly life
...By giving regularly

“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another.” Heb. 10:25

“But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Phil. 1:27 (Ph)

“Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering.” 1 Cor. 16:2

“A tenth of all you produce is the Lord’s, and it is holy.” Lev. 27:30

CORE VALUES

1. God Is Worthy of Worship

The primary reason we gather together is to worship God for who he is and to thank him for the many blessings he's given us. We praise him for creation, through which we see his beauty, goodness and wisdom. We honor him because he is all powerful and all knowing. We thank him for his amazing grace and love which was best demonstrated when he sent his Son to become a man and take the punishment for our sin, so that we could have eternal life. We gather to celebrate God in authentic worship.

2. Jesus Christ is Lord of All

Ultimate joy and purpose in life cannot be realized until a person has a relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." By accepting Jesus as Lord, a person receives forgiveness and eternal life. True joy comes through loving obedience to Jesus Christ.

3. The Bible is God's Word

God wants us to know him and his purpose for our lives, so he gave us his word to guide us. The Bible is completely reliable and without error. It is our supreme authority for knowing God and how to please him.

4. Prayer is Powerful and Effective

God hears the prayers of those who sincerely seek him. He doesn't give us everything we ask for, but he always answers wisely. We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

5. God's Love and Acceptance is for Everyone

God shows no favoritism. He loves and accepts everyone who comes to him. He has commissioned his church to spread the good news of his love to the world. We desire to share God's love through words and acts of kindness. We have a passion to reach out to the poor, hurting and needy. We strive to communicate in ways that are culturally relevant and easy to understand. No one church can reach everyone, but we ask God to guide us as we reach out to as many as God leads us to.

6. People Need Meaningful Relationships

God has designed us to need and enjoy relationships. We encourage every person in our church to be involved in a small group so they can develop personal relationships necessary for growth, support, fellowship and accountability.

7. Society Needs Strong Families

God, in his wisdom, designed the family as the foundation of society. Without strong families society deteriorates. Turning Point will be a place where children and teenagers love to come - a safe place where they can discover God and develop strong character. We will help parents be better parents. We will be a place where families are supported and encouraged.

8. We Need Each Other to Accomplish God's Will

God designed the church to be a body where all the parts function together. Everyone is gifted in some area. Every member is important and needed. We will encourage each person to discover and develop his or her gift and rejoice with them as they experience the satisfaction of doing what God designed them to do.

9. We Strive for Creative Excellence

The Bible encourages us to do our best. "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." We aim for excellence in all we do. We strive to be creative and innovative. We strive to make our facilities efficient and inviting. We use any technology that helps us accomplish God's will. We promote the creative arts in ways that glorify God.

10. The Local Church is a Key Part of the Community

Community involvement is our privilege and responsibility. We will invest time, energy and resources to improve our community. We desire to cooperate with individuals and organizations to make our community the best it can be.

11. The World Needs More Churches

We will not focus our energy and resources on our church alone, but will work to multiply churches. Church planting is the most effective way to reach people for Christ. We desire to plant daughter churches nearby, as well as, help start churches in other parts of Washington, America and the world.

Eight Reasons to Join a Small Group

by Pastor Rick Warren (Saddleback Valley Community Church)

1. You will understand the Bible better in a small group.

If you've ever listened to a Bible teacher or preacher and wanted to stop that person and say, "But what about...?" or "I don't understand," then a small group is for you! Preaching and teaching is one way communication. You listen while the speaker speaks. It's fine for imparting knowledge but not as effective for personal application as a small group. In a small group setting, you can ask questions, participate in a discussion of the text, and hear others share insights and illustrations of the truth you are trying to grasp. The Bible must be applied to your own personal situations and that happens best in small groups.

Sometimes I've had people tell me after a service, "Pastor Rick, it would be helpful if I could sit down with some others and discuss the implications of your message today. You said so much, I need to digest it!" Many of our groups are using the Sunday morning message outline as a Bible discussion guide.

2. You will begin to really feel like part of God's family.

Most people who have been a part of a group say the greatest benefit is the close relationships and friendships that develop. They will frequently telephone each other during the week to share an urgent prayer request or an exciting answer. You'll discover that your needs and problems are not unique ~ we're all in the same boat. It helps to know that others are facing the same difficulties, or have lived through them and learned spiritual principles in the process. Over fifty times in the New Testament the phrase "one another" is used to describe our relationship to other believers. We are instructed to love one another, encourage one another, pray for one another, accept one another, bear one another's burdens, and build up one another. The only way you can obey these commands is in a small group! We really do need each other. God never meant for you to go it alone in the Christian life. If you're lonely, the answer to your problem is to join a group.

3. Prayer will become more meaningful to you.

Many people are hesitant to pray in front of others, especially in a large church. In a small group of 6 to 12, you will learn to participate in prayer by having a conversation together with God. No one is pressured to pray, but as you become comfortable, you'll be able to pray sentence prayers and join in. There are many promises in the Bible related to group prayer. In praying together with a few others, we are drawn together and we find answers to the needs in our lives.

4. You will be able to handle stress and pressure better.

Small groups provide excellent support in times of crisis, change, and stress. You'll have a sense of stability and security knowing there are people who really care for you and are committed to standing with you.

When someone loses a job, or a family member has an extended illness, or a mother needs a babysitter - these are practical needs that will be naturally taken care of through your small group. Your group will coordinate the sharing of hot meals to be brought in when your family is in need. Many people in our church could testify that they would not have made it through a difficult time if it hadn't been for the support of their group. In addition, we have a number of special support groups that deal with problems like alcoholism, financial difficulty, abuse, and other needs.

5. You will have a natural way to share Christ with friends, relatives, and work associates.

It may be that some of your friends who don't know the Lord wouldn't be caught dead in a church. They have a preconceived idea and just the thought makes them defensive. But those same people may be open to an invitation to a casual Bible discussion in a home or office setting. In a small group, your unbelieving friend can ask questions and express honest doubts without feeling "put on the spot". When your friend sees the love and warmth and honesty of your group, it will make him more receptive to the Good News.

6. You will develop leadership skills you never knew you had!

The Bible teaches that every believer is given certain talents or "gifts" to benefit others in the family of God. Unfortunately most Christians remain as Sunday morning spectators all their lives because large group meetings are primarily "sit and listen" situations. As you share and participate in a relaxed small group setting, you'll discover your confidence and self-esteem rising. This will help you at work, at church, and in every other relationship.

7. You will deepen your understanding of worship.

Many believers mistakenly believe that worship can only happen on Sunday morning in a large group with a sermon, a choir, and an offering plate! Worship happens anytime we focus on God. Sometimes that happens best in a smaller group in praying or singing together.

8. You will be a New Testament Christian!

The book of Acts is very clear about how God intends for His people to grow and have their needs met in the church. We will never be able to hire enough professional pastors to meet all the individual needs in our family. God never intended for it to be that way!

Consider these verses:

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Every day they continued to meet together... they broke bread in their homes and ate together... and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Acts 2:42, 44, 46-47

"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the Good News that Jesus is the Christ." Acts 5:42

"Greet also the church that meets at their house." Rom. 16:5