

New Member Orientation



**2023 Mouser Street
Dallas, TX 75203**

*Praying and Studying
Together*

Dr. Timothy J. Brown, Pastor/Teacher
Rev. Michael D. Sterrett, Facilitator
“I Am A Church Member” (Thom S. Rainer)

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“I Am A Church Member” By Thom S. Rainer

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Letter From The Pastor

Dear New Member,

Welcome to New El Bethel Baptist Church! We are so glad that you are now a member of our faith family. My prayer is that as a church, we will help you find your ultimate satisfaction in Jesus, and that as you find your fulfillment in Him that you will, in turn, find ways to serve the church and help others follow Jesus.

Please take time to carefully review this new member's packet. It contains important information about our beliefs, church history, discipleship process, ministries, and purpose. It will help you become fully connected into the life of our church as you acclimate to our strategy of gathering, growing, and going.

God bless you! I'm excited to see how God is going to work in your life. Please let me know if there's any way I can serve you.

Church (214) 946-3584
Pastor's Cell (469) 831-0317
Pastor's Email tbrown6567@gmail.com

In Christ,

Dr. Timothy Brown
Pastor

New El Bethel Baptist Church

Church History

New El Bethel Baptist Church was organized in 1927 when a few faithful members determined in their conviction set forth on their Christian journey with the Lord. The first meeting of the new congregation was held in the basement on Cliff and Ninth Street. This faithful band of members determined in their efforts developed a plan and put that plan into execution.

Rev. Dixon was called as the first pastor of the new church body. The New El Bethel members pressed forward until economic struggles began to affect their progress forcing them to vacate the basement and move to a hall on Anthony Street. Shortly after the move, Rev Dixon was relieved of his duties on earth and called home to be with God.

Rev. B. B. Neal was called as pastor. There were several additions to the church. Rev. B. B. Neal along with

his wife, Sister Elizabeth Neal remained as pastor and first lady of New El Bethel for eight years before Rev. Neal accepted a pastoral position in Sherman, Texas.

Rev. Kilgore was called to pastor for a short period of time before he was called from his earthly tabernacle to be at rest with the Lord. In 1938.

Rev. Haley James was called to Pastor for a short time for a larger congregation claimed his attention. The struggles were very hard for this small group of believer; but with great determination, made-up minds, and with God on their side they continued to press forward in the name of Jesus.

Rev. M.C. Graves came to Pastor this small band of members. Blessed things began to happen. The membership grew and there were many substantial gains. Rev. Graves and this band of believers were able to purchase an actual church building on Sparks Street. Four years later New El Bethel was able to burn their church note. Rev. Graves resigned as Pastor.

Rev. R. L. Johnson became Pastor. Very little is known about the church history during this period.

Rev. B. B. Neal returned as Pastor In 1948. Reverend and Sister B.B. Neal worked diligently for the ongoing of God's program and the New El Bethel Baptist Church. The membership began to grow by leaps and bounds, and the church revived spiritually. There were great times at the church. God's presence was felt in all meetings. Our Motto was, "Welcome Where the Spirit Meets the Soul." With God's watchful eye, Rev. Neal and this spiritually fed band of Christian followers began to plan for a new building. In the late fifties, property was purchased on Mouser Street for a new sanctuary. In 1960, the New El Bethel Baptist Church moved into its new edifice, located at 2023 Mouser Street. This was a glorious day in the Lord. The membership doubled at this time. Reverend & Sister Neal pastured for 21 years before God called him home from his labors in February 1969.

Rev. V. L. Warren a New El Bethel Associate Minister was called to Pastor in 1969. The membership continued to grow and the church continued to prosper. In 1975, our church was struck by fire. By serving a gracious God, all repairs were completed with enough funds to complete additional needed renovations in and around the church. October 3rd, 1976 God blessed us to have another note burning celebration paying in full the church mortgage note. The church purchased church transportation (Van) for members

who needed transportation to and from church. A portable building was purchased and set in place to serve as a Fellowship Hall and extended space. September 1995, property at 830 Bonnie View Road became available of which we purchased for future expansion. In 2002 our church became a 501 C 3 entity and was incorporated with the State of Texas. Bylaws were instituted and approved by the Internal Revenue Services. September 1995, property (818 Bonnie View Road) was purchased near our present site on Bonnie View Road while the Jeff Lot located in West Dallas deeded to the church as a gift of which we held for many years that posed no added value to the church was sold. February 1998, a groundbreaking ceremony was held preparing for the addition of a new educational wing / fellowship hall of which was completed August 9, 1998. June 2002, a young professional basketball player, Bro Jeryl Sasser, the grandson of one of our long time members Sister Ruby Campbell came forth and donated a sizable amount of money (\$75,000) to our church, of which we paid our wing note in full July, 2002. To God we give the glory and a special thanks to Bro. Jeryl Sasser. The year 2003 New El Bethel launched its first WEB site. On December 12, 2003, Rev. V. L. Warren went home to be with the Lord.

Rev. Fred Jackson, a native of New El Bethel was appointed by the Deacons and Trustees to take the rings of leadership of the church as interim Pastor December 2003; Pastor Jackson served New El Bethel for nine months. We thank and praise God for Reverend Jackson and his contributions to New El Bethel Baptist Church.

Dr. Timothy J. Brown, with a BA, Religion & Philosophy (Bishop College, 1986); Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) (Perkins School of Theology, SMU, 1988); M.Ed. (Stephen F. Austin State University, 1996); Doctor of Ministry (Evangelism) (Perkins School of Theology, SMU, 2000 reported as the new pastor of New El Bethel Baptist Church November 13, 2004. His first sermon as Pastor was entitled, "Pass the Salt," his text was Matthew 5:13 that blessed our hearts as it started a new era in New El Bethel's history. Pastor Brown, Sis. Brown and the boys are a tremendous blessing to the church as he came to New El Bethel with a commitment to the spiritual growth and edification of God's people. Through Dr. Timothy Brown's leadership and guidance and through the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Church family was blessed to achieve the following accomplishments:

- **2004** – The purchase of a new external sign. Launched a Children's Church Ministry, restructured the Youth Church by adding the Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) and Fine Arts Ministry. There were noticeable cosmetic changes throughout the church such as new carpet, cleaning of the pews etc. New Member Orientation Classes instituted. Our records reflect as many as 62 who join and rededicated their lives to Christ.
- **2005** – Many new ministries were added. Our organizational structure was redesigned to dynamically enhance God's presence in all of our worship services. In fact, many new inspiring ministries such as the Roof-Top, Prison, Married Couples, Widows, Singles, Greeters, The Journey, and Paul & Timothy was established to aid and revitalize God's people in their walk with God. A new Vision Statement / Mission Statement were instituted - A Powerful Church - A Preaching Church - A Praying Church - A Praising Church - A Paying Church - A Church of Purpose / We exist to," Exalt the Savior, Equip and Encourage the Saints."
- **2006** - "The Pentecost Experience" 8AM worship service was launched that relieved some of the crowdedness during the Mountain Top Experience 11AM. Our services have been a blessing to all. Transportation was purchased for the travel comfort of our members. The Membership continued to grow and church continued to prosper.
- **2007** – The enhancement of NEB Outreach Ministries-food basket to needed families, clothing donation to the needed. Supported the Katrina/Rita hurricane victims. Provided Toys for the Christmas drive in the city of Dallas. Submitted Scholarships to deserving students via our Scholarship Ministry. The adoption of South Haven Nursing Home with support to other seniors and underprivileged individuals in the community. Acceptance into the Dallas Baptist Association and Baptist General

Convention. (BGCT) The establishment of the Feed 5000 Ministry.

- **2008** – New Ministries added such as Member-to-Member, Evangelism Team, Noonday Prayer, Corporate Prayer & Individual Prayer, Nursing home visits. All ministries are growing and pressing toward the mark of high calling of Jesus Christ.
- **2009** – Evangelism Team functioning. Connected members and friends through face book and You-Tube to allow Pastor’s sermons to be heard all over the world.
- **2010** – The purchase of property at 1106 Diceman Street (7.351 acres) for future development. Prison Ministry ministered to Men & Women at Lew Sterrett Jail. Continuous church growth with positive spiritual awareness through Bible Study. Development of Individual awareness by offering the congregation seminars on health, insurance, and personal financial issues. Received tax exemption on the Diceman Street property for 3 Year.
- **2011** – New El Bethel expended 155 sq ft of the 830 Bonnie View Road property the city of Dallas for the beautification of the area. Developed a Newsletter called New El Bethel Gazette. Developed a Catch-The-Vision fund (CTV) and started a separate bank account for capturing all funds to be paid on the Diceman Street property.
- **2012** – The replacement of the church external sign that was destroyed by a motorist. The update and ratification of the church bylaws awaiting Internal Revenue’s acceptance. Our membership has continued to grow and prosper throughout the years. As of December, 2012 Feed 5000+ has fed 26,363 clients.
- **2013** – New El Bethel Church in total collaboration and a finite trust in God had a glorious note burning celebration as early spring the Diceman Street property note was paid in full. We have continued to trust God and great things are happening for this faith based band of members.
- **2014** – New El Bethel is continuing to support our established Catch-The-Vision fund. December we put into action plans fostered by Pastor Brown to develop a prayer garden/trail on the Diceman Street property where members, friends, and neighbors can go to petition God in a pleasant environment with benches and signs with scriptures. We executed our idea and God blessed it. This Prayer Garden/Trail was submitted to Dallas Appraisal District and the City taxes were rescinded for three years as we wait for a mighty move from God to begin our building project.

New El Bethel, our history is rich. We want to thank Father God first for without God we can do nothing but with God all things are possible. We want to acknowledge our past, present and even our future members to come for inspiration and support for we all make one body and together we stand and divided we fall.

New El Bethel Baptist Church

Church Ministries

1. **Activities Ministry instrumental** in planning many of the major programs of the church.
2. **The Church School** will be the basic organizations for the Bible teaching program. Its tasks will be to teach the biblical revelation, reach persons for Christ and church membership, perform the functions of the church within its constituency, provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination. The Church School will be organized by departments and/or classes, as appropriate for all ages and will be under the direction of the Superintendent.
3. **The Women's Ministry** mission education, mission action, and mission support ministries of the church will be an integral part of all church programs. The focus will be to teach.
4. **The church Music Ministry**, under the direction of the Minister of Music/Music Director will be the music training and presentation ministry for the purpose of promoting worship in the church. Its tasks will be to provide appropriate music for a worship services and outreach ministry of the church and to provide appropriate training in music. Each choir may have an elected president and other officers working under the directions of the Minister of Music /Music Director.
5. **The Church Ushers, Greeters, and Nurses Guild Ministries**, the Ushers shall be volunteers. The ushers are to greet people as they enter and leave the church; seat people at the proper time provide bulletins and other materials at the time of seating. The ushers will be attentive to the needs of the congregation and the pastor.
6. **Youth Ministry** shall provide a Spiritual environment so our Youth can grow in the knowledge of the Lord, by means of Spiritual activities, teaching of the bible, and outside activities.
7. **Men's / Brotherhood**, There shall be a /Men's Ministry/Brotherhood with such organization as needed. This Brotherhood program shall be directed by a president and shall meet weekly. The tasks are to teach missions and engage in mission actions.
8. **Prayer Ministry**, The prayer ministry shall be organized and functional. Prayer meeting shall be held at designated times.
9. **Feed 5000+** organized to assist the Bereaved, Hungry and clothing for challenged associates.
10. **Security Team**, in place to effectively to provide protection of the People and church facilities.
11. **Widows and Married Couples Ministries** are support groups that provide livelihood and mentoring to its members with a focus on God's Word.

12. **Culinary and Hospitality Ministries** provide planning for food for special occasion and during funeral of members or members' families.
13. **School of the Prophets**, learning process for NEB preachers, preparing them to become pastors and to provide pastoral support to the members as determined by the Pastor.
14. **Leadership Council**, consist of leaders of all the ministries in calibration with the Pastor, Deacons, Trustees, and Finance to make New El Bethel a mighty good place to go to heaven from.
15. **Roof Top-Prison Ministry**, focus is placed on people in and out of prison. As well as people with substance abuse issues. This ministry is available to support and educate through the divine intervention of the word of God.
16. **Career Development Ministry** maintains outreach our members and the neighborhood by fostering and distributing employment information, job fairs, GED information, etc.
17. **Member-to-Member**, main focus is member relations. Informing the membership of sickness and death among the fold as well as maintaining accuracy in member contact information.
18. **Scholarship Ministry** caters to the graduate by providing scholarships and support to students who are going off to college. Rewarding those students whom maintain the A/AB honor roll throughout the school year.
19. **Evangelism Team** concentrates on bringing those who lost in sin to the realization that God can and will save them.

NEB Nuggets

MISSION STATEMENT ~ 4E PURPOSE

We exist to:

EXALT the SAVIOR (*Worship*)

EQUIP & ENCOURAGE the SAINTS (*Discipleship & Fellowship*)

EVANGELIZE the SINNER (*Mission & Evangelism*)

VISION STATEMENT – ACTS 2 CHURCH

A **Powerful** Church

A **Preaching** Church

A **Praying** Church

A **Praising** Church

A **Paying** Church

A Church with **Purpose**

AN A.C.T.I.V.E. MEMBER

Available

Committed

Teachable

Involved

Vision

Evangelistic

Spiritual Gifts Inventory, Short Form

A method to help you discover your gifts. Check the items which best describe you.

1. _____ I prefer ministering by myself rather than in a group. G
2. _____ People often say I am impulsive and direct. A
3. _____ My financial resources are above average. A
4. _____ I like to counsel people on a short-term basis. D
5. _____ I am a task-oriented person. G
6. _____ I love directing other people's work. B
7. _____ It's natural for me to show kindness to people. E
8. _____ People learn easily from me. C
9. _____ I can be very persuasive. F
10. _____ More than 10 percent of my income goes for Christian causes. A
11. _____ People often follow my advice. D
12. _____ I normally use several books in lesson preparation. C
13. _____ I like to recruit and lead people. B
14. _____ One-on-one relationships are important to me. E
15. _____ I possess a variety of talents and abilities. G
16. _____ I want to measure everything by God's Word. F
17. _____ Material possessions don't mean much to me. A
18. _____ Discouraged people are encouraged by my words. D
19. _____ Being accurate and truthful are important to me. C
20. _____ I love the challenge of accomplishing an organization goal. G
21. _____ Other people's spiritual welfare genuinely concerns me. D
22. _____ I usually make quick decisions. F
23. _____ I look for ways to help the unfortunate and downtrodden. E
24. _____ Criticism doesn't bother me. C
25. _____ I often volunteer my time and talents to worthwhile causes. G
26. _____ I am usually self-confident. B
27. _____ I don't expect repayment for favors I do for others. E
28. _____ I enjoy being responsible for the success of the group. B
29. _____ When a question about truth comes up, I am normally right. F
30. _____ Deadlines challenge me, and I usually meet them on time. B
31. _____ People in pain are comforted by my presence. D

Total your checks: A _____, B _____, C _____, D _____, E _____, F _____, G _____

Recording a 3, 4, or 5 after a letter indicates a Spiritual Gift.

EXPLANATION

For Short Spiritual Gifts Inventory

A. GIVING

You contribute material resources, and do God's work with liberality and cheerfulness. You contribute sacrificially, motivate others, and don't shun pressure or publicity. Romans 12:13 – "Share with God's people."

B. ADMINISTRATION

You lead and communicate in such a way that people work harmoniously to reach goals for God's purpose. You enjoy being a leader and can endure adverse reaction to get the job done. You enjoy seeing tasks complete; are able to set guidelines, schedules, and policies; and can delegate to get the work done. Romans 12:14 – "Bless those who persecute you."

C. TEACHING

You communicate the truth with obvious results. You believe your gift is foundational and work systematically and with accuracy. Romans 12:11 – "Keep spiritual fervor."

D. EXHORTATION

You minister by giving comfort, consolation, and encouragement so people feel helped and healed. Problems are only challenges, and you are drawn to those seeking spiritual growth. You can share personal failures to prompt others to talk. Learning and teaching practical information is your desire. Romans 12:12 – "Joyful, patient and faithful."

E. MERCY

You feel compassion for those who are suffering and perform deeds to reflect God's love. You are naturally drawn to hurting people, sensitive, giving, loving and desire healing. Romans 12:15-16 – "Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with mourners, live in harmony."

F. PROPHECY

The goal of those who have the gift of prophecy is to bring persons face to face with God. You discern, reveal motives and actions, have strong convictions and a need to express them. Impulsive, direct, and persuasive, you normally are a strong person. Romans 12:9 – "Love must be sincere, hate evil, cling to good."

G. SERVING

You identify and meet the needs of others using personal as well as other resources. You see needs and enjoy responding. You work best short-term and alone (do it now and quickly). You possess endurance and stamina and have a tendency to do too much. Romans 12:10 – "Be devoted, honor one another."

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Weekly Schedule of Events

Sunday Services

Morning Service 8:00 am

Worship Service (Mountain Top Experience) 11:00am

Sunday School—9:30am

Wednesday

Mid-day Bible Study

Bible Study—7:00pm

Men Choir

Choir Practice

ETC



Letter From The Facilitator

Dear New Member,

I want to take this opportunity to say welcome to the NEB New Member Orientation Class. We are so excited that you have made the commitment to follow Jesus Christ with us as we walk through our lesson together. Our goal is designed to make sure that all New Members are led according to the Holy Spirit. During these lessons we ask that you pray and ask the Lord your Spiritual Gifts so that you can transition into many of our awesome ministries here at NEB.

Our reading will come from the book, "I Am A Church Member" by Thom D. Rainer. The lesson will consist of a 3-week course beginning at 08:00 am on Sunday morning. The class will last about an hour.

As we dialogue together we are looking to see how we all can be a better member and to do our part as the Lord has mandated.

I'm so excited for you and I'll keep praying God's blessing upon you.

In Christ,

Rev. Michael D. Sterrett
New Member Facilitator

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

SERMON OUTLINE 1

I Will Be a Functioning Church Member

Text: 1 Cor. 12:12-31

I. Introduction: A tale of two church members

- a. Michael – persevering in the church, a different kind of church member
- b. Liam - disengaged at church, decides to leave
- c. Church member stats
 - i. Nine out of ten churches in America are declining or growing at a pace slower than that of their communities.
 - ii. Two-thirds of the Builder generation is Christians; Fifteen percent of Millennials are Christians.

II. Sermon text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

¹² For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also is Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ So the body is not one part but many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I’m not a hand, I don’t belong to the body,” in spite of this it still belongs to the body. ¹⁵ And if the ear should say, “Because I’m not an eye, I don’t belong to the body,” in spite of this it still belongs to the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But now God has placed each one of the parts in one body just as He wanted. ¹⁹ And if they were all the same part, where would the body be? ²⁰ Now there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹ So the eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” Or again, the head can’t say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² But even more, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are necessary. ²³ And those parts of the body that we think to be less honorable, we clothe these with greater honor, and our unpresentable parts have a better presentation. ²⁴ But our presentable parts have no need of clothing. Instead, God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the less honorable, ²⁵ so that there would be no division in the body, but that the members would have the same concern for each other. ²⁶ So if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it. ²⁸ And God has placed these in the church:

*first apostles, second prophets,
third teachers, next miracles,
then gifts of healing, helping,
managing, various kinds of languages.*

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets?

Are all teachers? Do all do miracles?

³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing?

Do all speak in other languages?

Do all interpret?

³¹ But desire the greater gifts. And I will show you an even better way.

III. Point 1 - Membership means we are all necessary parts of the whole

- a. Biblical membership versus culture's definition of membership
- b. Biblical definition of membership - 1 Cor. 12:27-28

IV. Point 2 - Membership means we are different but we still work together

- a. Each part of the Body has to do its own work
- b. The Body suffers when we fail to do our part - 1 Cor. 12:26

V. Point 3 - Membership means everything we say and do is based on biblical foundation of love

- a. Biblical definition of love - 1 Cor. 13
- b. We do not love because people are loveable
- c. Love is the foundation of church membership

VI. Point 4 - Church membership is functioning membership

- a. Country club membership (pay your dues) versus biblical church membership (give abundantly and serve without hesitation)
- b. Biblical membership is a functioning membership - 1 Cor. 12:12-26

VII. Conclusion: Take the first pledge

"I am a church member. I like the metaphor of membership. It's not a membership as in a civic organization or a country club. It's the kind of membership given to us in 1 Cor. 12: 'Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it' (1 Cor. 12:27). Because I am a member of the body of Christ, I must be a functioning member, whether I am an 'eye,' an 'ear,' or a 'hand.' As a functioning member I will give. I will serve. I will minister. I will evangelize. I will study. I will seek to be a blessing to others. I will remember that 'if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it' (1 Cor. 12:26).

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

SERMON OUTLINE 2

I Will Be a Unifying Church Member

Text: Eph. 4:1-3

VIII. Introduction: That thing called unity

- a. Team sports - what happens if a football team does not have unity?
- b. Team sports - what happens if a football team does have unity?
- c. Church membership functions like a team

IX. Sermon text: Eph. 4:1-3

Therefore I, the prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk worthy of the calling you have received, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, accepting one another in love, ³ diligently keeping the unity of the Spirit with the peace that binds us.

X. Point 1 - Known by your love for one another

- a. People will know you by your love - John 13:25
- b. People will also know if you lack love

XI. Point 2 - Gossip and other negative talk

- a. An issue of righteousness - Romans 1:29-31
- b. The tongue can destroy - James 3:6
- c. Don't be a source of gossip
- d. Gently rebuke gossipers
- e. The tongue can be a source of life - 1 Pet. 3:10

XII. Point 3 - Forgiveness and unity

- a. It all begins with forgiveness - Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Unity will not happen if we don't forgive - Col. 3:12-13

XIII. Conclusion: Take the second pledge

"I am a church member. I will seek to be a source of unity in my church. I know there are no perfect pastors, staff, or other church members. But neither am I. I will not be a source of gossip or dissension. One of the greatest contributions I can make is to do all I can in God's power to help keep the church in unity for the sake of the gospel.

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

SERMON OUTLINE 3

I Will Not Let My Church Be about My Preferences and Desires

Text: Mark 9:35

- I. **Introduction: Demanding children**
 - a. Children can be selfish, demanding
 - b. Adults can be selfish, demanding
 - c. Church members can behave the same way

- II. **Sermon text: Mark 9:35**

Sitting down, He called the Twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

- III. **Point 1 - The servant motif**
 - a. The word "servant" occurs fifty-seven times in the New Testament (serve fifty-eight times)
 - b. Jesus said we must be a servant to all – Mark 9:35
 - c. Paul said we must be servants as well – Eph. 3:7

- IV. **Point 2 - A survey that said a lot**
 - a. Survey of dominant characteristics of churches that were inwardly focused
 - b. Worship wars
 - c. Prolonged minutia meetings
 - d. Facility focus
 - e. Program driven
 - f. Inwardly focused budget
 - g. Inordinate demands for pastoral care
 - h. Attitudes of entitlement
 - i. Greater concern about change than the gospel
 - j. Anger and hostility
 - k. Evangelistic apathy

- V. **Point 3 - The mind of Christ**
 - a. The attitude we should embody (Jesus Christ) – Phil. 2:5-11
 - b. What did Jesus do?
 - i. He "did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage."
 - ii. "He emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave."
 - iii. "He Humbled Himself."
 - iv. He became "obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross."

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

VI. Conclusion: Take the third pledge

"I am a church member. I will not let my church be about my preferences and desires. That is self-serving. I am a member in this church to serve others and to serve Christ. My Savior went to a cross for me. I can deal with any inconveniences and matters that aren't my preference or style."

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

SERMON OUTLINE 4

I Will Pray for My Church Leaders

Text: 1 Tim. 3:2-5

I. Introduction: The Busy Pastor

- a. A word picture of a busy pastor's life
- b. Do you pray for your pastor?

II. Sermon text: 1 Tim. 3:2-5

² An overseer, therefore, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, self-controlled, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an able teacher, ³ not addicted to wine, not a bully but gentle, not quarrelsome, not greedy— ⁴ one who manages his own household competently, having his children under control with all dignity. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of God's church?)

III. Point 1 - Pray for the pastor and other church leaders

- a. All church leaders need prayer
- b. How can a pastor be qualified for ministry without prayer - 1 Tim. 3:2-4

IV. Point 2 - Pray for him and his family

- a. The family is the frontline of your pastor's ministry.
- b. How can he manage his household without prayer - 1 Tim. 3:5

V. Point 3 - Pray for his protection

- a. Above reproach: reproach means "to find fault."
- b. An impossible expectation for any man
- c. Made possible through the power of prayer - 1 Tim. 3:7

VI. Point 4 - Pray for his physical and mental health

- a. The first thing every pastor will neglect
 - i. Physical health - why is this important?
 - ii. Mental health - why is this important?
- b. God loves both the mind and the body

VII. Conclusion: Take the fourth pledge

"I am a church member. I will pray for my pastor every day. I understand that the pastor's work is never ending. His days are filled with numerous demands that bring emotional highs and lows. He must deal with critics. He must be a good husband and father. Because my pastor cannot do all all things in his own power, I will pray for his strength and wisdom daily."

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER

SERMON OUTLINE 5

I Will Lead My Family to Be Healthy Church Members

Text: Eph. 5:22-33, 6:1-4

I. Introduction: Church and family

- a. Scripture teaches that church membership is like a family
- b. In a health church, like a healthy family, we are to love and sacrifice unconditionally

II. Sermon text: Eph. 5:22-33, 6:1-4

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord, ²³ for the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. ²⁷ He did this to present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hates his own flesh but provides and cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, ³⁰ since we are members of His body.

³¹ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.

³² This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ To sum up, each one of you is to love his wife as himself, and the wife is to respect her husband.

⁶ Children, obey your parents as you would the Lord, because this is right. ² Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise, ³ so that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life in the land. ⁴ Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

III. Point 1 - Praying together as a family for the church

- a. Pray for the leadership of the church in a number of ways
 - i. For spiritual protection
 - ii. For protection from moral failure
 - iii. For the preaching of the Word
 - iv. For their families
 - v. For encouragement

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- vi. For physical strength
- vii. For courage
- viii. For discernment
- ix. For wisdom in their leadership
- b. As a church member - I must teach my families to pray together for the church

IV. Point 2 – Worshipping together as a family

- a. Worship together in the church
- b. As a church member – I must encourage and lead my entire family to worship together in the church.
- c. Family as a mission field – 1 Cor. 7:14

V. Point 3 – Falling deeply in love with the Bride of Christ

- a. As a church member – I am not to merely like my church.
- b. As a church member – I am not merely to serve the church.
- c. As a church member – I am to fall deeply in love with my church. (Rom. 5:8)

VI. Conclusion: Take the fifth pledge

“I am a church member. I will lead my family to be good members of this church as well. We will pray together for our church. We will worship together in our church. We will serve together in our church. And we will ask Christ to help us fall deeper in love with this church because He gave His life for her.”

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SERMON OUTLINE 6

I Will Treasure Church Membership as a Gift

Text: Various Texts

I. Introduction: Two scenarios

- a. Scenario 1: A child must clean his room
- b. Scenario 2: A gift awaits the child
- c. Country club membership versus biblical church membership

II. Point 1 - The biblical perspective of the gift of church membership

- a. The gift of salvation
 - i. Rom. 3:23
 - ii. Rom. 6:23
 - iii. 2 Cor. 5:21
 - iv. Acts 3:19
 - v. Eph. 2:8-9
- b. The gift of the church - 1 Cor. 12:27-28
 - i. A gift to be treasured
 - ii. A gift to be anticipated
 - iii. A gift to be enjoyed

III. Point 2 - Universal church or local church?

- a. The universal church
 - i. All believers, everywhere
 - ii. Not mutually exclusive (from the local church)
- b. The local church
 - i. Some believers, somewhere
 - ii. Is exclusive (by definition, some people geographically could never attend your church)
- c. It is invalid to claim membership to the universal church alone

IV. Point 3 - Understand the gift

- a. Church membership is a gift
- b. Receive the gift with true appreciation
- c. A picture of ingratitude - Matt. 20:26-28

V. Conclusion: Take the sixth pledge

"I am a church member. This membership is a gift. When I received the free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, I became a part of the body of Christ. I soon thereafter identified with a local body and was baptized. And now I am humbled and honored to serve and to love others in our church. I pray that I will never take my membership for granted, but see it as a gift and an opportunity to serve others and to be a part of something much greater than any one person or member.



Orientation Test

The purpose of this assessment is to measure what you know from your study. You can use any part of the Orientation Packet to assist you with this assessment. Please copy or scan your test to me for a grade at tbrown6567@gmail.com Thanks.

Directions: Read each statement, and place a check by the correct answer.

1. New El Bethel was established in...
 - 1899
 - 1926
 - 1927
 - 2012
2. The pastor of NEB in 1948 was...
 - Dr. Tim Brown
 - Rev. B.B. Neal
 - Rev. Fred Jackson
 - Rev. V.L. Warren
3. The pastor of NEB in 1969 was...
 - Dr. Tim Brown
 - Rev. B.B. Neal
 - Rev. Fred Jackson
 - Rev. V.L. Warren
4. The pastor of NEB in 2004 was/still is...
 - Dr. Tim Brown
 - Rev. B.B. Neal
 - Rev. Fred Jackson
 - Rev. V.L. Warren

5. A person is saved by...

- Baptism
- Joining church
- Accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Savior
- Singing in the choir

Directions: As a member of NEB, you have responsibilities that we have mirrored from Thom Rainer's book, **I Am A Church Member**. Fill in the blanks below.

1. I will be a _____ church member.
2. I will not let my church be about _____ and _____.
3. I will be a _____ church member.
4. I will _____ for my church _____.
5. I will _____ my _____ to be _____ church members.
6. I will _____ church membership as a _____.

Directions: Answer the following questions.

1. What is the Mission Statement of NEB? Please write it.
2. What is the Vision Statement of NEB? Please write it.
3. What does the acronym A.C.T.I.V.E. stand for? Please write it.
4. What is your spiritual gift? (Name only one.)