

# Membership Commitment Statement

- I have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and boast in Him, not myself (Eph 2:4-10)
- I have been baptized in water at some point in my life, signifying my conversion and new life in God.
- I take responsibility as a disciple of Jesus to continue to nurture my own close, obedient, loving friendship with the Lord. (John 15:1-17)
- I have attended the Vineyard Membership Class.
- My life evidences a genuine experience of regeneration - the new birth (John 1:12-13) and a commitment to holiness, wholeness and our church family (Romans 6:4). Specifically, I affirm the sacredness of sexuality and marriage. In marriage, I will be completely faithful to my spouse (Heb. 13:4). I believe Scripture teaches that sex is a blessing to be rightly experienced only within heterosexual marriage. Therefore I will avoid sex outside of marriage, pornography, living as husband and wife when not married and/or homosexuality (Matt. 15:19, Rom. 13:13, 1 Cor. 6:9-20).
- I will follow the wisdom of the Lord by refraining from intoxication with alcohol and/or drugs (Rom. 13:13, Gal. 5:19-21). Should I stumble in any of these areas, I will get up again with the help of the Holy Spirit and my church family.
- I have read and am in agreement with Lafayette Vineyard's Statement of Core Values and What We Believe Statement.
- I will support my church by attending faithfully.
- I affirm that the tithe is God's standard of giving and I will work together with God to seek to fully fulfill that requirement.
- I will give of my time to be actively involved in some sort of ministry.
- If offended, I would not abandon this commitment but would speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:25) and work through conflict with gentleness, grace and forgiveness. (Eph. 4:1-3).
- I will be thankful (Col. 3:15) and live humbly and honorably in all my relationships. (Eph. 4:1-6)
- I will protect the unity of my church by acting in love toward other members, refusing to gossip, and by following leadership. (Rom 14:19, Eph 4:29)
- I will share in the responsibility of my church by praying for its growth and health and by inviting the unchurched to attend. (I Thess 1:1-2)
- I will be accountable to keep these commitments and welcome correction in my life and doctrine if need be. (Hebrews 13:17)
- If the Lord transitions me to a different church, I will leave well by keeping a pure heart toward the Vineyard and will inform a staff pastor of my move. Email is acceptable.

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# Statement of Core Values

01

## Authenticity and Simplicity

We desire to be authentic with each other and with God, not hiding behind a veneer of religious words or deeds. We are not interested in putting on a show or a slick presentation but instead are focused on seeking and experiencing the presence of God and His love that is demonstrated through Jesus Christ.

02

## Accessibility and Obedience

We want to make it as easy as possible for people to understand who we are and why we do what we do. Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and we hunger for and welcome every visitation of the Spirit of God. We believe our culture needs and hungers for miracles and the tangible evidence of God's power, presence, and love.

03

## Integrity and Honor

We are committed to a lifestyle of holiness. We want to operate in a culture of honor—treating everyone with respect, encouragement, and support. We are committed to work hard at fostering loving relationships, for we believe that relationships are at the heart of the kingdom of God.

04

## Healing and Compassion

We want to create and sustain an atmosphere of healing; diligently pursuing specific healing ministries both for the physical body and for life's hurts in order to demonstrate God's love and His restorative power. We desire to compassionately minister among the marginalized, the lost, the poor and the outcast of society.

05

## Intimacy and Community

We believe that as we move closer to God, He moves closer to us. Daily worship of our Heavenly Father is something that He deserves and through it, He brings deep change within us. We pursue intimacy with God, never seeking God's hand over God's face. We value God's power, but want to always place power in the context of God's love. We want oneness with God's heart; to love what He loves and hate what He hates. Signs and wonders and miracles will spring from that place of intimacy and will be safe and loving in their exercise. We are committed to becoming a healing community engaged in the work of reconciliation wherever sin and evil have controlling influence. Our heart is to build a community of love that will endure—people committed to each other, ministering together in Christ's name and becoming a people who collectively reflect Jesus Christ to the culture we live in. We value seeking and waiting on God's presence in all that we do.

The heartbeat of the Vineyard is our Small Groups where community is fostered and people grow in and practice the gifts of the spirit. Everyone should be a part of one!

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# What We Believe Statement

**We believe the Bible is the only infallible and authoritative inspired Word of God.**

(1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)

**We believe that there is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

(Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Ephesians 4:4-6)

**We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His divine conception and virgin birth, in His perfectly sinless life, in His signs wonders and miracles, in the atoning power of His death on the cross through shedding of His blood, in His bodily resurrection from death, in His ascension into heaven, in His position at the right hand of the Father, and in His glorious personal return to earth in power.**

(Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-4 & 1:29; Acts 1:11 & 2:22-24; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-4 & 4:15)

**We believe that all men and women are lost and face God's judgment, that Jesus Christ is the one and only way of salvation, and that for lost to be saved, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ will result in regeneration by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

(Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; Ephesians 1:7 & 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7)

**We believe in the presence and ministry of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within Christians and enables them to live a godly life.**

(John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8 & 4:31; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Galatians 5:16-18; Ephesians 6:12; Colossians 2:6-10)

**We believe both the lost and saved will be experience resurrection; the saved will be resurrected into eternal life and the lost into damnation and eternal punishment.**

(1 Corinthians 15:51-57; Revelation 20:11-15)

**We believe that all true believers are members of the body of Christ, the church, and that the church is spiritually unified in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

(1 Corinthians 12:12, 27; Ephesians 1:22-23)

**We believe that all followers of Jesus Christ carry a personal responsibility in the ministry of evangelism and discipleship.**

(Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:9-15; 1 Peter 3:15)

**We believe God’s plan for human sexuality is for it to be exclusively expressed within the context of marriage between husband and wife, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. This is the basis of our belief that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female.**  
(Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9)

**We believe that all believers are called to dedicate themselves to prayer, to serving our Lord, and to submitting to His authority over our lives.**  
(Matthew 9:35-38; 22:37-39 & 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:9-15 & 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10; Colossians 2:6- 10; 1 Peter 3:15)

**We believe that God calls and gifts leaders within the church as He chooses and that this is not limited by gender, age, ethnicity, economic status, or any other human distinction (1 Cor. 12:11; Gal. 3:28). The role of the church community is to discern God’s gifting and calling for leadership and also to discern the maturity and character required for leadership (1 Tim. 3:1-13). In the Jesus following community, leadership centers around serving the body of Christ in humility and self-sacrificial love (Matt. 20:25-28). In the Vineyard, every area of leadership is open to both men and women who have the desire for humble service to the community of believers and whose God-given gifting and calling for leadership has been recognized and affirmed by the church community.**

**We believe that all human life is sacred from the point of conception to its natural end; and that God calls us to have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellowmen.**  
(Psalm 139:13; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10)

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