

# **Graham Bible Church: Foundations Class**

# Foundations Class

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## **Graham Bible Church: Introduction**

### What is the “Foundations Class”?

Foundations is designed to be the first point of connection for those considering Graham Bible Church as their church home. It also serves as the biblical overview of the foundation from which our theology and community grows. The content of the class includes an overview of our church’s beliefs and core identities. It is important to know what your church home believes so you can decide whether to whole-heartedly commit to serving Christ there or look elsewhere for another Christ-exalting community.

### Why should I become a member of a church...or GBC?

*First*, let’s answer the question of why we believe someone should join a local church. As Christians, we are members of God’s household called to actively participate in God’s mission. Becoming a member of a local church provides an intentional support system to encourage each other in our walk with Christ and also to protect one another from stumbling into sin (Hebrews 3:12-14, 10:24-25). By covenanting together with other like-minded believers we can each do our part to ensure we are living in a way that honors our Lord.

*Second*, let’s address why someone would want to become a member of Graham Bible Church. As a member of GBC, you place yourself into the care of the elders who commit to pray for you and aid you in your spiritual growth. The elders are certainly dedicated to serve everyone, but those who are committed to our care through covenant will always be the focus of our ministry. As a member, you will be eligible to serve in leadership roles in the church and also invited to members meetings in which we will openly discuss the health, direction, and vision of the church.

We take membership seriously because we take Christ and His church seriously. As elders we believe it is our responsibility to shepherd each member in a way that honors God and that we will give an account for each soul entrusted to us (Heb 13:17). Membership is the best system for us to carry out this important mission.

### How do I become a member of Graham Bible Church?

1. Complete the Foundations Class<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> We require you to complete each of the sessions before membership will be permitted. If you must miss a class, we ask that you speak with one of the specified leaders to see how to make up the class. This

2. Share your testimony with one of the elders.<sup>2</sup>
3. Be baptized if you have not already been baptized as a believer.<sup>3</sup>
4. Commit to the Membership Covenant included at the back of this workbook.
5. Have a Member Interview with one of the church's elders.

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requirement is just as much for your sake as it is ours. We want you to know what you are committing to before making this important decision.

<sup>2</sup> This testimony can be either shared verbally with one of the elders during your member interview or you can write it out on the sheet provided at the end of the book.

<sup>3</sup> Baptism is an important public testimony that declares for all who witness that you have died to your old life and have been born again to live for God's glory. We do not require re-baptism if you were baptized as a believer.