



Welcome to Our Journey Together!

Discovering what church God would have us in is a very important matter. There is certain, necessary information that a person should know prior to making the decision to join a particular church. We hope to serve you by providing such information which will span the following areas:

A. Our Doctrine

“What do we believe?” “What biblical values inform our practices as a church?” Nothing is more important in the Christian life than what one believes, and so this course will inform you as to our core beliefs and commitments as a church.

B. Our Church Life

“What does participation in Sovereign Grace Church look like?” “What avenues exist for worship, growth, and service?” Simply professing certain beliefs is not enough. Our beliefs must find expression in biblical practice. This course seeks to acquaint you with what life in this church looks like, and what your participation here would involve.

C. Our Organization

“How is Sovereign Grace Church structured?” “Who are the pastors of Sovereign Grace Church?” “How does membership function in this church?” Scripture is clear that God Himself joins people together in the body of Christ, and that God establishes leadership for the care and equipping of His people. Important issues concerning organization, pastoral ministry, and membership will also be covered in this course.

For those who desire to be part of this church, we hope that you will not only be informed, but also inspired as to the role that God would have you play. Participation in a local church is not merely an obligation of Christians, but is a joyful privilege in which we glorify God through fruitful service in the context of meaningful relationships with other believers.

In short, we want to provide you with all the information necessary for you to make an intelligent decision about membership here at Sovereign Grace Church. It is our desire and privilege to help you determine if God is leading you to become a part of this local church. Ultimately, we desire to do all we can to encourage you in your relationship with Jesus Christ, and critical to that relationship is finding your place of participation and service within His body, the church. We are excited to see what God will teach you and how He will lead you through this “journey.”

How will the course work?

Enrollment and Attendance: We have a “rolling membership” which means you can join the New Members Class any time. You must be present for at least six of the eight sessions outlined in the notebook to be eligible for membership. For example, if you’ve begun the class at week 5, then you should plan to attend weeks 6-8 in the *present class* and then attend at least two in the next class.

Who can enroll?: Minimum age for participation is 18.

Reading: We will not be able to cover all of the addenda and other printed materials during the class. We strongly encourage you to read everything included in the notebook or distributed in class.

Information: To help us guide you through the membership process, we will need you to fill out the appropriate forms as the class progresses. These include:

- Registration Form
- Membership Profile
- Pastoral Recommendation Form

What about missed classes?

You must complete all eight classes, but you may be absent from two classes and still complete the course by listening to CDs. These must be completed prior to your pastoral interview. If you miss a class, we will be glad to provide you with a CD of that session. CDs are available on Sundays through our Bookstore or you can listen online at our website. If you miss more than two classes, you must make them up during the next series of classes prior to becoming a member.

How do I become a member of Sovereign Grace Church?

While it does require a process, becoming a member of Sovereign Grace Church involves just a few straight forward requirements:

1. A clear testimony of personal faith in Jesus Christ
2. Successful completion of the class “Our Journey Together”
3. Support of the church’s Statement of Faith (see Appendix B)
4. Regular attendance of the Sunday morning meeting
5. Consistent participation in a Care Group
6. A meeting with a pastor to discuss church membership

Upon completion of these requirements, you will be welcomed into membership with other new members during one of our Sunday Morning Meetings.

Our Primary Desire

Again, thank you for your interest in exploring Sovereign Grace Church Community Church. We are truly honored that you would take the time to learn more about us as a church. Although we do hope that you will find in Sovereign Grace Church a church home where you can thrive, our primary concern is not that you become a part of this church, but that you become a part of some church. It is our desire that you develop a biblical, enthusiastic conviction about the importance of active involvement in the local church, and with this conviction find a church home where you can worship God, grow in your relationship with Him, and serve in ways that glorify Him. If that church home proves to be Sovereign Grace Church, then it will be our joy to serve with you. In any event, we count your presence here a privilege, and look forward to

serving you as you embark upon this journey.