

# How to Become a Church Member

## **Important Note**

The reason for church membership is not as clear today as it used to be. The primary reason for formally joining a church is so that we experience church life the way God wants us to.

In the Bible, two reasons related to formal church membership emerge:

1. The church is a local body of Christ doing Jesus' ministry in the world.
2. Every Christian has a special role to play in the local body of Christ.

Essentially, a Christian is designed by God to be a special part of the local body of Christ. Formally joining a church is how a disciple of Christ commits himself or herself to God and His work in the world. We must remember that God is the One who instituted local churches - it is His good plan for the well-being of Christians.

## **How to Join Berkeley Baptist Church**

To be a member of our church, you must be a Christian or be willing to become one. And after you were saved, you must have been baptized with the method of immersion (dunking under the water) or express your desire to be baptized in this way.

You may communicate your desire to join our church by talking to the pastor and/or walking the aisle during the invitation time of a worship service. At that time, you can tell the pastor that you want to become a member in one of the following ways:

1. BY BAPTISM - By stating that you want to become "saved" and a disciple of Jesus and that you want to be baptized; OR  
- By stating that you already prayed to become "saved" and would like to be baptized.
2. BY STATEMENT OF FAITH - By stating that you are already "saved" and that you were baptized (by immersion) after you became a Christian.
3. BY TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP - By stating that you want to move your membership to our church from a church that has similar beliefs and membership requirements.