

## **South Plains Bible Chapel Declaration of Fellowship**

I confess Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9,10); I believe that “Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3,4). Since becoming a Christian, I have testified of my faith in Christ through water baptism (Matthew 28:18-20). I recognize that this declaration of fellowship in the local church does not constitute membership in the universal church. The latter comes through baptism into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation (1 Corinthians 12:13).

I accept the biblical responsibilities of fellowship in the local church, knowing that the members of the body are mutually dependent (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). These responsibilities include:

1. Praying and worshiping together, seeking to participate weekly in remembering the Lord in the Breaking of Bread (Acts 1:13-14; 2:42; 20:7; I Corinthians 11:20-34).
2. Serving together in at least one ministry of the church (Romans 12:4-8; I Corinthians 12:4-27; Ephesians 4:12).
3. Giving together in a regular, proportional, systematic way (I Corinthians 16:1-2).
4. Submitting to the authority of the elders concerning what is taught in the church, the appointment of teachers, and the reception of people into the fellowship of the church (Act 20:17; 28-31; Titus 1:7-9; Hebrews 13:17).
5. Maintaining “always a blameless conscience both before God and before men” (Acts 24:16). I recognize that every Christian is a “letter of Christ” (2 Corinthians 3:3), “known and read by all men” (2 Corinthians 3:2). My conduct reflects on Him and His church. I recognize my responsibility to resolve conflicts through biblical methods (Matthew 5:23-24; Matthew 18:15-20). I understand that unrepented sin may subject me to church discipline (Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 5; 6:1-8). I acknowledge that voluntary withdrawal from fellowship may not alleviate the responsibility of the church to comply with these Scriptures.

I will continually devote myself to these things, trusting the Lord to help me to be faithful (Acts 2:42).