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BRANDYWINE TOGETHER

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The image features a dark, textured background with horizontal, wavy brushstrokes in shades of dark green and black. Centered on this background is the text "BRANDYWINE TOGETHER" in a white, hand-drawn, slightly irregular sans-serif font. Above and below the text are two horizontal white lines. Each line is flanked by a stylized sunburst or starburst graphic, composed of numerous thin, white, radiating lines that form a central cross-like shape.





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# BRANDYWINE TOGETHER

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The background of the entire image is a dark, textured surface with horizontal, wavy brushstrokes in shades of dark green, black, and brown, resembling weathered wood or a rough-painted wall.

GOD'S PLAN A...THERE IS NO PLAN B





The Church is a group of followers of Jesus in a location who commit together to: 1) Regularly meet together for worship 2) Help each other grow in faith and love 3) Prayerfully partner together to advance the gospel.



A stylized sunburst or starburst graphic composed of numerous thin, white, radiating lines. It is positioned above a horizontal white line.

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A stylized sunburst or starburst graphic, identical to the one above, composed of numerous thin, white, radiating lines. It is positioned below a horizontal white line.

A CASE FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP





# Is Membership in the Bible?





Why do we practice  
membership if it is not in  
the Bible?





## Membership:

An official recognition by a church that an individual is committing themselves to the church to fulfill God's purposes and commands.





# 1 Corinthians 12





1 Corinthians 12:27

*Now you are the body of  
Christ and individually  
MEMBERS of it.*





Oneness  
Mutual responsibility  
Commitment  
Interdependence





Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.





# Acts 6:1-6



## Acts 6:1-6

*In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.*



## Acts 6:1-6

*<sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables."*



## Acts 6:1-6

*<sup>3</sup>Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup>and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.*



## Acts 6:1-6

*<sup>5</sup>This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup>They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.*





# The vision of local church membership





# Why do we require Baptism for Membership?



# BACK TO THE FUTURE







According to Scripture,  
Baptism is the first step of  
following Christ!





# Baptism Class After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Service in Nate's Office





Objection:

“I don’t know if I want to  
officially associate with  
these people.”





Galatians 3:28

*There is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither slave nor free, nor is there  
male and female, for you are all  
one in Christ Jesus.*





Nothing else is going to  
hold us together but the  
transforming grace of  
Jesus Christ.





# Objection

“I don’t want to join the church because the church may disappoint me.”





The church does not operate  
like a contractual  
obligation...it is a covenantal  
relationship.



A stylized sunburst or starburst graphic composed of numerous thin, white, radiating lines, centered above the main title.

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