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# STUDY GUIDE



# Introduction

The two-week 'Together' membership series will look at how God wants us to be fully committed to Christ's mission and to each other.

We will explore what it means to live our Christian life as part of a Christian community – supporting and encouraging one another, working together to achieve God's purposes of reaching our society and the world with the gospel of Jesus.

The purpose is for all of us to be passionately committed to each other and Christ's mission through His local body here at CrossCulture. Our Membership Covenant expresses the practicalities of the commitment we make to one another. At the end of the series there will be an opportunity for us to express our renewal of our commitment to the covenant, and for those who are not yet members to say "Count me in too!"

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## **TOGETHER: A SERIES ON MEMBERSHIP**

### **24th July 2016**

Study 1 Committed to each other Hebrews 10:19-25

### **31st July 2016**

Study 2 Committed to Christ's Mission Philippians 1:1-11

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# Study 1: Committed to each other

*Hebrews 10:19-25*

1. What do you think it means to be a member of a church?
2. What is the basis of our belonging to God and His people? V19-21  
(See also V11-18)
3. How is it that we can draw near to a holy and righteous God? V22
4. What does it mean to stir one another up to love and good works? V24  
Make a list of ways that we can do this practically. Think of ways in which you would like others to do this for/to you.
5. Why is it not good to neglect meeting together? V25

6. The purpose given here for meeting together is to encourage one another. Discuss the ways we can do that. List the group's top 5 practical ideas.
  
7. CrossCulture's membership structure is aimed at helping us to fulfil God's purpose in encouraging and building one another up. This is expressed in the Membership Covenant attached. Read this through and discuss it. What parts do you need prayer for God's help to fulfil?
  
8. Pray for one another in pairs.

## Study 2: Committed to Christ's Mission

### *Philippians 1:1-11*

1. What would a present-day "servant" look like? V1. Do others consider you a servant? How do you presently serve those who are closest to you?
2. How can we (as an individual, as a life group, and as a church) do a better job of including and welcoming new people into our church? V3-5.
3. In what ways did Paul love the members of the Philippi church? V3-8. How can we better show this kind of love for members of our church?
4. How does the concept of the "priesthood of all believers" affect the way we relate to one another? V7. What is one specific thing you could do to help another Christian grow?

5. In what ways were Paul and the Philippi church committed together for Christ's mission? V3-8. What is Christ's mission?
  
6. What is the difference between being committed to Christ's mission on my own and being committed to Christ's mission together, with a Christian community? V3-8.
  
7. How did Paul pray for the Philippi church? V9-11. How should we pray for people at our church? Who should we pray for and how can we do it more effectively?
  
8. Have you been baptised? Are you a member of CrossCulture? If not, what is stopping you from becoming a member? Read through the Membership Covenant. What parts are difficult for you to do? What help do you need to be more faithful in keeping this covenant?
  
9. In pairs, pray through each point of the Membership Covenant.

# Membership Covenant / *CrossCulture Church of Christ*

**Introduction:** This membership covenant expresses our commitment to this local body of believers and our desire to follow the Lord Jesus Christ together. It clarifies the biblical obligations of members to one another and to the whole body of Christ at CrossCulture.

Our hope is that it serves as a tool for reflection and growth towards holiness together. This covenant shows our love for the church body and its individual members, whom we hope will experience the fullness of joy which is found in the presence of the Lord.

**Covenant:** Having have been brought to salvation in Jesus and to being His disciples, professing our faith and being baptised in Him, relying on God's grace, we joyfully make this covenant with one another:

- We will work and pray to preserve and grow our unity together in Christ.
- We will walk together in love, caring for one another and being faithful to remind and encourage one another to flee from sin.
- We will commit ourselves to regularly meet together to pray, listen to God's Word, and build one another up.
- We will proclaim the gospel of Christ in word and deed, so that others will also find salvation in Jesus.
- We will rejoice and celebrate together in times of joy and share one another's burdens and griefs in times of sorrow.
- With God's help, we will seek to live in the world by God's high standards of purity and holiness. Having died to the world we will live a new and holy life in Christ.
- We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to support the ministry of the church, to assist the poor, and to spread the gospel to all the nations.
- If we move from CrossCulture, we will, as soon as possible, join another bible-believing church, and continue to follow the Lord.

**This is my commitment to CrossCulture Church of Christ**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_