

# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION COURSE



## WELCOME TO THE HARVEST FAMILY

Harvest of Praise Ministry  
2603 S. Hampton Rd.  
Glenn Height, TX 75154  
Phone: 972-232-9071 (church)

“Drawing souls to Christ, people to the temple, and excitement to the studying of His Word”

Senior Pastor Kevin C. Taylor  
First Lady Co-Pastor Debra A. Taylor



**FROM THE DESK OF  
SENIOR PASTOR KEVIN C. TAYLOR & 1<sup>ST</sup> LADY/CO-PASTOR DEBRA A. TAYLOR**

Welcome to the Harvest of Praise Ministry Family! We are grateful that you have chosen the Harvest as your church home and we sincerely thank God for ordering your steps. Our hearts and hands are open to receive you and to assist you in your spiritual walk. We encourage you to be faithful and steadfast. Please know that we are available to you and your family as well; when needed. We are greatly anticipating working closely with you. Therefore, whatever your hands find to do, do it to the glory and honor of God as the word of God declares in Matthew 9:37, 38. "The Harvest is ripe, but the laborers are few." It is our prayer that God will continue to add laborers – such as you, to the body.

May the blessings of the Lord make you rich and add no sorrow.

In His Presence,

Senior Pastor Kevin C. Taylor  
First Lady/Co-Pastor Debra A. Taylor



## **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION – LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY**

---

### Executive Pastors

Senior Pastor Kevin C. Taylor & Lady Debra A. Taylor

### Executive Church Administrator

Pastor Alfrida Von McCoy

### Executive Board

Senior Pastor Kevin C. Taylor and Co-Pastor Debra Taylor

Morris Houston

J. T. Taylor III

Steve Shamlin

Alfrida Von McCoy

### Music Department

Marlon Anderson

### Praise & Worship

Erica Shamlin

### Health Ministry

Alfrida Von McCoy

Nicole Mays

### Outreach Ministry

Nicole Mays

### Mothers' Board

Lucinda Jackson

### HOPM Brotherhood

Morris Houston

### GLOW Youth Ministry

Tim & Nikki Mayes



## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION COURSE AGREEMENT

All candidates for membership with Harvest of Praise Ministry must complete each session before membership is established.

The purpose of New Member Orientation is to provide candidates with key information pertaining to Harvest of Praise Ministry; as well as our core beliefs of Christianity. Additionally, NMO provides you with a basic understanding of the requirements and responsibilities for leaders, pastors, ministers and administrator.

Membership Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of interest at HOPM: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Testimony: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NMO is not a yes or no to join but, to educate you about HOPM; who we are, what we believe, and our vision.**



## **NEW MEMBER CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS AND MISSION STATEMENT**

---

### **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

We, the members of Harvest of Praise Ministry, hold the Holy Scriptures as contained in the Old and New Testaments of our Bible as a rule of our faith and practice. We believe that Governments are God-given institutions for the benefit of mankind. We admonish and exhort our members to honor magistrates, civil authorities, to respect, and obey civil laws.

We hereby declare our loyalty to the President of the United States of America, and to the Constitution of the United States of America. We pledge allegiance and fidelity to the flag, and to the Republic for which it stands.

However, as God-fearing, peace – loving, and law – abiding people, we claim our heritage, and natural right to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Therefore, we abhor war, for we believe that the shedding of human blood or the taking of human life is contrary to the teaching of our Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ. Furthermore, as a body of Christian believers, we are adverse, to war in all its forms, and believe in the peaceful settlement of all international disputes.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Drawing souls to Christ, people to the temple, and excitement to the studying of His Word

### **VISION STATEMENT**

To build a ministry that will not be simply motivated by music, but by the transforming Word of God. To open a childcare center built on Christian values for our congregants and the surrounding community. To purchase additional property for a Christian academy, where all children can learn biblical principles. Additionally, to establish a food pantry, women's shelter, and transitional housing.



## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION COURSE

### Your Church

---

#### **YOUR CHURCH (What you make it)**

Your church is what you make it!

If it is a “growing church” it is because you come regularly with your family to learn from God’s Word.

If it is a “scriptural church” it is because you will settle for nothing less.

If it is a “friendly church”, it is because you are friendly and make it so.

If it is a “giving church”, it is because you give with a heart of love.

If it is a “praying church”, it is because you regularly and consistently pray for your church and its ministries.

If it is a “spiritual church”, it is because you walk daily in the Spirit and abide in Christ.

If it a “Bible-believing church”, it is because you “study to show yourself approved unto God...rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Remember your church will be exactly what you make it!

## **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF OUR CHURCH MEMBERS**

### **I. SALVATION**

1. We do not want just church members on our rolls, but according to the Bible, church members should have received the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by being born again. John 3:3-6, 1:12
2. We expect our members to know that they are saved, and how they are saved. 1 John 5:11-13
3. We expect our members to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ by sharing their faith with family members, friends, and/or anyone they have an opportunity to share salvation with. Acts 1:8

### **II. WORSHIP**

1. We expect our members to set aside and sanctify Sunday as the Lords' Day for worshipping God with the saints. Hebrews 10:24-25
2. We are to worship God together in our Sunday services
3. As we fellowship and worship with other churches, we ask our members to attend. Ephesians 4:15-16
4. We expect member to participate in Holy Communion every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

### **III. PRAYER**

1. We are to spend personal time with God in prayer daily. Acts 10:1-4; Job 1:4-5
2. We are to pray with our family. 2 Chronicles 20:12-13
3. We are to pray with our church family. Job 1:4-5

### **IV. BIBLE STUDY**

1. Without the Bible, there is no knowledge of Christ or salvation. We expect our members to grow in their love for God's Holy Scriptures.
2. We expect all members to read, study, meditate and memorize scriptures. 2 Timothy 2:15
3. All candidates for membership are expected to attend New Member Orientation and weekly services which includes Sunday Worship Service and Tuesday Evening Bible Study.

### **V. GIVING**

1. We expect our members, by faith and love, to give to God tithes and offerings Mal 3:8-12
2. We should be faithful supporting our pastor financially, with our prayers, and by giving encouragement
3. We are to unite with our church in support of missionaries: financially, and with our prayers
4. We are to give our time, talent, and tithe known as the three T's. One does not omit the other

## **VI. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER MEMBERS**

1. We are to try to get to know members we do not know Gal 6:10
2. We are to be united for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 3:8
3. We are to love and exhort other members. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
4. We are to share with others that are less fortunate. Hebrews 13:16
5. We should not be busybodies or gossipers. Proverbs 20:19

## **VII. SERVICE**

1. God has called all of us into His service as soldiers of Jesus Christ. God has given all of us natural and spiritual gifts to serve Him and His church.
2. We expect all our members to have a ministry and be involved in a church ministry.
3. We expect our church members to inform the Pastor/Co-Pastor if for any reason you are unable to maintain your membership or ministry commitment.

## **MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS**

Colossians 3:23 "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

1 John 4:7 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God: and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."

What are Ministry Administrators?

Ministry Administrators report directly to Pastor Taylor. They are responsible for coordinating their assigned ministry, keeping Pastor Taylor informed of progress and concerns (with suggested solutions) as well as ensuring approval prior to implementation of ministry agenda. Each Ministry Administrator is responsible for maintaining a cooperative not a competitive, relationship with all other ministries. All Ministry Administrators must have an exemplary life one of faithfulness, holy living, and supportive of the ministry.

Philippians 2:3-4 "Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

## **QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVANT/LEADERS**

Evidence of Salvation. John 3:16; 10:9

Good reputation – inside and outside of Church. Acts 6:1-7

Attend Sunday Service. Hebrews 10:25

Attend Bible Study/Foundation Classes. 2 Timothy 2:15

Have a prayer life – Matt 6:1-15

Humble/peacemaker/forgiving spirit – James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6; Matthew 18:15-17

Support church vision and mission. Habakkuk 2:2-3

Support Pastor/Co-Pastor. Jeremiah 3:15; Ephesians 4:11

Servant's Heart/Esteem Others. Luke 9:48; Philippians 2:3; Ephesians 4:15

Reliable, Dependable, Accountable – Acts 6:1-7

Financial Commitment, Tithes & Offerings Proverbs 3:9; Malachi 3:7-12 Luke 6:38;

2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Proverbs 11:24-25; Haggai 1



## **Questions to Ask Yourself**

What has God called you to do?

How often do you pray to God about what he wants you to do?

What is God saying about how you handle your ministry; your attitudes towards Him and others?

How often do you pray with and for the people in your ministry?

When was the last time you thanked God for what He has called you to do?

What areas do you need to work on?

Are you available to do what God has called you to do?

Are you pleased with what you have done?

Do you have a ministry strategy?

If you are pleased with what you have done; how do you think God feels?

Is ministry a burden to you?

Do you walk in humility? God can't use us if we are not humble people?

Do you like being over people or thank God for the privilege?

Are you a peacemaker or instigator?

What is your vision for your life? What are your aspirations?

How do you feel about other ministries that seem to be doing better than yours?

Do you care how your ministry looks to God?

Are you willing to partner with your Pastor and Co-Pastor?

Why do you think God called you and saved you?

Are you willing to submit your personal ministry to the leadership of the church?

## **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF OUR MINISTRY ADMINISTRATORS, LEADERS AND MINISTRIES**

### **I. COMMITMENT**

1. We expect our leaders to be good church members (see "What is Expected of Our Church Members")
2. We expect our leaders to be faithful to the responsibility they have accepted
3. They are to be present in Sunday morning worship, and weekday bible study
4. They are to be models of giving tithes and offerings
5. They are to be soul winners (if not on an evangelical team, witnessing on their own)
6. To be loyal to the Pastor/Co-Pastor and their God-given vision and wisdom
7. To give our best efforts to our church ministry

### **II. ADMINISTRATION**

1. To be organized as a person and within your ministry
2. To have goals and objectives for your ministry.
3. To have written documentation of the responsibilities and duties of those serving with you.
4. To train a co-leader in the event you are not able to serve.
5. To see that records are kept current as meetings occur.
6. To have written agenda for your meetings.
7. To appoint a secretary to take minutes and keep records.
8. To plan (at least 3 months or more)

### **III. SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

1. The fruit of the Spirit should clearly be seen in the life of a leader (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)
2. We are not to give an offense by the way we live, that will hurt the ministry
3. We are to be an example of a spiritually mature Christian
4. We are not to be self-willed 2 Corinthians 1:9; Rom 7:18
5. We must not have an independent attitude Acts 4:32; Rom 14:19; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Phil 1:27; 3:16; 1 Pet 3:8
6. We are to be self-disciplined 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
7. We must love people
8. We must continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit

### **IV. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER CHURCH MINISTRIES**

1. Your ministry is not an island unto itself, but part of the greater church vision under the God-given authority of the Pastor/Co-Pastor.
2. You are to cooperate with other ministries.
3. Be willing and we must share the church calendar and facility
4. Your ministry is not in competition with any other ministry in the church, but we are all part of the team (cooperation)

### **V. LEADERSHIP GROWTH**

1. You should seek to grow and improve as a leader.
2. You should read Christian leadership books.
3. Read books related to learning how to perform your ministry better.
4. Attend seminars, conferences and workshops relating to your ministry.
5. ALL LEADERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CHURCH MEETINGS.



## NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION COURSE

### SPINE VS. RIB

---

#### Spine & Rib Issues

Harmony & Truth Purpose & Unity with the spirit

It seems like we can be in a setting where we are more diligently taught what **not** to believe than what **to** believe.

Debating with one another is not going to change a person's mind: we must go to the Word of God.

Now here is where the SPINE and RIB issues come in. How does the body of Christ come together and how do we work through this?

Let's discuss some SPINE issues, then talk about some things that come out of that SPINE and become RIB issues. There is a very big difference between the two.

Now **SPINE issues – our non-negotiables.**

In other words, if we don't see eye to eye on these issues, one of us may be saved and the other not saved. Because these things are absolutely pivotal to the system of our faith.

#### SPINE Issues –

- John 14 tells us Jesus is the way, truth, and the life and no man comes to the father except through Him.
- The tribune or oneness of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three in one.
- Jesus – we know according to the word of God that Jesus Christ walked on this earth for 33+ years as completely divine, fully God wrapped in human flesh. Christ bodily death and resurrection – that is critical for our understanding.

**But then there are RIB issues.**

**RIB issues –**

- Spiritual Gifts
  - There are different kinds of gifts but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. I Corinthians 12:4-5
  - Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms 1 Peter 4:10
  - Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. Romans 12:4-6a
- View of end time even (eschatology)
  - Pre-Tribulation: Happens before the church is taken away.
  - Mid-Tribulation: Happens during the church being taken away.
  - Post-Tribulation: Happens after the church is taken away.
- Views on spiritual warfare
  - Ephesians 6:2
- Predestination
  - Ephesians 1:4-6, 1:11-12 and Matthew 22:14 (For)
  - 2 Timothy 2:4, Matthew 7:7-8, John 3:18, Romans 1:20 and Romans 2:6-8 (Free Choice)

Class group participation on **SPINE vs. RIB** issues: We will discuss this in a final meeting at a later date

---

SPINE Issues:	RIB Issues:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Class suggestions & discussions.

---

---

---



## **NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION**

### **“WE BELIEVE”**

#### **The Lord Jesus Christ**

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God. We believe in His substitutionary death for all men, His resurrection.

#### **Salvation**

We believe all men are born with a sinful nature and that the work of the Cross was to redeem man from the power of sin. We believe that this salvation is available to all who will receive it John 3:16

#### **The Holy Spirit / Study of Acts**

We believe in the existence of the Holy Spirit as the third person of the Trinity and in His interaction with man. We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit as manifested by the fruit and the gifts of the Spirit.

#### **The Sacred Scripture**

We believe in the scripture as the inspired Word of God and that it is the complete revelation of God's will for mankind. We believe in the absolute authority of the scripture to govern the affairs of men 1 Timothy 3:16

#### **Stewardship**

We believe that every man is the steward of his life and resources which ultimately belong to God. We believe that tithing is a measure of obediences to the scriptural principles of stewardship.

#### **The Church**

We believe in the Church as the eternal and universal Body of Christ consisting of all those who have accepted the work of the atonement. We believe in the need for a local assembly of believers for the purpose of evangelism and edification

#### **Prayer and Praise**

We believe in the worship of the Lord through singing, clapping, and the lifting of hands. We believe in the authority of the believer to ask freely of the Lord for his needs

### **Body Ministry**

We believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit to the Church body through the anointing of oil by the elders of the church (Old Testament Symbolisms)

### **Evangelism / Study of the 5-Fold Ministry**

We believe that evangelism is the obligation of every follower of Jesus Christ. The Lord commands us to go out and make disciples of all the earth. We believe that each person is first responsible for evangelism in their own family as the Holy Spirit leads them and gives them the ability

### **Water Baptism**

We believe in the ordinance of water baptism by immersion in obedience to the Word of God. All those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal savior have the privilege to and should be baptized in water as a public profession of their faith in Christ and to experience what the Bible calls the "circumcision of the Spirit"

### **The Priesthood of the Believer**

We believe that every believer has a unique relationship to the Lord. As His children, every Christian has immediate access to the throne of Grace and the ability to manifest the power of the Lord Jesus Christ in ministry. **No one is good enough.** "There is no one righteous, not even one," – Rom 3:10

1. **You are a sinner** - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Rom 3:23
2. **God love us, even though we are sinners** – But God demonstrates His Love for us, in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" Rom 5:8
3. **The provision** – God's Gift – "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" Rom 6:23
4. **There must be repentance of sin (turning away from sin).** "Repent and believe the Good News! – Mark 1:15
5. **The required action** – Believe and Confess – "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, YOU WILL BE SAVED. For it is with your heart you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved" Rom 10:9-10
6. **The result – Salvation** – "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord WILL BE SAVED" – Rom 10:13 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" Acts 4:12



## **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

### **UNDERSTANDING PRAYER, PRAISE, & WORSHIP**

#### **What is Prayer**

Prayer is Talking to God, God hears you when you pray. In prayer you can talk to Him like having a conversation with a good personal friend, using your everyday language. It is not necessary to use any special words or vocabulary. God understands and cares about you, your feelings, and what is happening in your life. If He sees every sparrow that falls to the ground, how much more valuable are you?

God loves you and desires for you to talk to him. He hears you when you pray. God is interested in the intricate detail of your life. Even though God already knows what is happening in your life, it gives Him great pleasure when we choose to share our feelings, thoughts and problems. He not only wants to hear you, but He wants you to hear Him.

Jesus taught his disciples how to pray. This is the prayer He taught them to pray;

(NLT) "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." Matt 6:9-13

Jesus did not intend for us to only use the exact words of this prayer, but He gave it to us as a guideline. This prayer includes many elements. It honors God, and shows reverence for His name. It expresses our desire that His will be done instead of ours. The prayer also asks for provision for our needs, and acknowledges we need forgiveness and in order to receive it we must forgive others. It recognizes the existence of evil, and asks for deliverance. It concludes with adoration and praise to God.

---



## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

### Prayer – Praise – Worship

---

#### **What is Praise**

#### **Psalm 100:4**

Acts 16:25-26 “And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. (26) And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one’s bands were loosed.”

**Webster:** Praise “to commend, to applaud or magnify. To Glorify God’s perfection”

For the Christian, praise to God is an expression of worship, lifting – up and glorifying the Lord. It is an expression of humbling ourselves and centering our attention upon the Lord with heart-felt expressions of love, adoration and thanksgiving. High praises bring our spirit into a pinnacle of fellowship and intimacy between ourselves and God – it magnifies our awareness of our spiritual union with the most-high God. Praise transports us into the realm of the supernatural and into the power of God. “Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance” Psalms 89:15

There are many actions involved with praise to God – But true praise is not “merely” going through motions. Jesus spoke about the hypocrisy of the pharisees, whose worship was only an outward show and not from the heart. “This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me” Matt 15:8. Genuine praise to God is a matter of humility and sincere devotion to the Lord from within.

True worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him” John 4:23



## **Praise Elevates us into God's Presence and Power**

Acts 16:23-26 Paul and Silas knew the secret of how to lift their hearts above their troubles and enter into God's presence and power. Through praise and worship their hearts were raised into the joyous presence and peace of God, and provided God a channel for his power to operate in their circumstances.

This corresponds with Jesus teaching, that His presence will inhabit the gathering of believers who congregate in His name: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" Matt 18:20. A "gathering in His name" means that Jesus must be the focus, the center of the assemblage. He must be the one preached about, sung about – the one praised and worshiped. "I will declare they name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee" Heb 2:12. Consequently, Christ's presence, along with His virtue and anointing, is manifested in this type of gathering.

---

### **Praise to God is a Lifestyle**

All too often praise to God is something that many people leave at church, and event that happens only when they come together with other Christians. However, praise should be a part of a believer's lifestyle, inter-mingled as a part of their daily prayer-life. At work, in the car, at home in bed, or anywhere; praise to the Lord brings the refreshing of the Lord's presence, along with His power and anointing. "... I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth" Psalms 34:1.

Praise is an expression of faith, and a declaration of victory! It declares that we believe God is with us and is in control of the outcome of all our circumstances Rom 8:28. Praise is a "sacrifice," something that we offer to God sacrificially, not just because we feel like it, but because we believe in Him and wish to please Him. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" Hebrews 13:15.

---

### **Praise Sends the Enemy Running**

Since praise manifests God's presence, we also realize that praise repels the presence of the enemy, Satan. An atmosphere which is filled with sincere worship and praise to God by humble and contrite hearts is disgusting to the Devil. He fears the power in the name of Jesus, and flees from the Lord's habitation in praise. "Whosoever offer praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God" Psalms 50:23.

When God's people begin to praise His name, it sends the enemy running! I challenge you to become a person of praise, and you will experience the release of the power of God!

### **Some Biblical Expressions of Praise**

Declaring of thanks Hebrews 13:15  
Clapping hands and shouting Psalms 47:1  
Musical instruments and dancing Psalms 150:4  
Singing praise songs Psalms 9:11  
Psalms, hymns, & spiritual songs Ephesians 5:19-20  
Making a joyful noise Psalm 98:4  
By lifting our hands Psalms 134:2  
By being still Psalms 4:3-5, 46:10  
By being loud Psalms 33:3, 95:1-6

---

### **What is Worship?**

Sabbath – Enter into our Sabbath (Worship)

Act of paying honor to a deity; religious reverence and homage. In primitive times men concerned of their gods as in some respects like themselves, with similar needs and appetites. The effects of this primitive conception are seen in the worship of ancient Israel, with its elaborate sacrificial systems. Gradually there developed the awareness of the importance of the inward spiritual attitude of the worshipper, and worship came to be conceived of as a spiritual service to God.

In ancient times, worship was offered wherever God was known to have appeared, resulting in numerous sacrifices throughout the land, many of which became corrupted through contact with local idolatry. 2 Kings 17:36 with the building of the temple, Jerusalem came to be regarded as the only legitimate place of worship.

Early Christian worship consisted mainly in preaching and teaching, prayers, and the Eucharist, in Lord's Supper Acts 2:42, 46. The preaching and teaching consisted of instruction concerning the life of Jesus, exposition of scripture, and instruction in ethical matters; it is doubtful the missionary sermons of the early evangelists were delivered in the context of the worship of the Christian community. The primary even of meetings for Christian worship seems to have been the celebration of the Lord's supper, which sometimes took place in the setting of an actual meal. Other elements of early Christian worship were singing. Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:15.

Giving 1 Corinthians 16:2, prophecy, 1 Corinthians 14:26,26,32 and speaking in and interpretation of tongues 1 Corinthians 14 The aim of Christian worship was to praise God and to strengthen and develop the body of Christ in the community.

**Old Testament reference to worship:** 1 Chronicles 5:13, Psalms 29:2, Psalms 100: 1-5, Psalms 122:1, Isaiah 1:11-15

**New Testament reference of worship:** Luke 4:8, John4:23, 24, Acts 2:42, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16

Worshiping God in any way we may choose is still not legitimate. God must be worshiped where He chooses to make His name abide and must be worshiped in spirit and in truth. Although the style of Christian worship may vary from congregation to congregation, Christians can be confident that worship centered around Christ will glorify and please God. Luke 19:28-38; Ephesians 1:6, Psalms 95:6 Romans 1:25



## **NEW MEMBERS OFFICIATING SERVICE**

---

### **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

We the members of the Harvest of Praise Ministry hold the Holy Scriptures as contained in the Old and New Testaments of our Bible as a rule of our Faith and Practice. We believe that Governments are God-given Institutions for the Benefit of humankind. We admonish and exhort our members to honor magistrates, civil authorities, to respect and obey civil laws.

We hereby declare our loyalty to the President of the United States of America, and to the Constitution of the United States of America. We pledge allegiance and fidelity to the flag, and to the Republic for which it stands.

However, as God-fearing peace-loving and law-abiding people we claim our heritage, and natural right to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Therefore, we abhor war, for we believe that the shedding of human blood or the taking of human life is contrary to the teaching of our Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ. As a body of Christian believers, we are ad-verse to war in all of its forms and believe in the peaceful settlement of all international disputes.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Drawing souls to Christ, people to the temple, and excitement to the studying of His Word

### **MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT**

As a candidate for membership you, herby request membership here at Harvest of Praise Ministry?

**NEW MEMBER SAYS: I DO**

As a candidate for membership of Harvest of Praise Ministry do you understand the Church Constitution, By-Laws, and Mission Statement?

**NEW MEMBER SAYS: I DO**

As a member of Harvest of Praise Ministry, and the Body of Christ, are you willing to be obedient to the Word of God, and to the leadership of Harvest of Praise Ministry?

**NEW MEMBER SAYS: I DO**

For a question was ask in the book of Malachi.3:8 will a man rob God? Yea you have robbed me in offering, and tithing. Are you willing to support the church physically and financially according to the word of God?

**NEW MEMBER SAYS: I DO**

**TAKING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:**

1 Corinthians.11:23-26 "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread. And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, Take, eat; after the same manner, also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying this cup is the New Testament of my blood: this do ye as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he comes.

**PASTOR FINAL WORD**

Upon your request to become a member of Harvest of Praise Ministry, as Senior Pastor of Harvest of Praise Ministry, and Overseer of Total Man Ministry, and all that are witness here today, I hereby give you the right hand of fellowship. You are hereby joined to this Body of Believer's, whatsoever your hands find to do - do it as unto the Lord.

*Upon completing NMO a day will be set by Pastor Kevin Taylor for a special new members' ceremony, the final part of becoming a member of HOPM. This service will be held during our Sunday morning service; feel free to invite family and friends. Your membership will be announced to the church as an official member of HOPM. Please be advised that Pastor Taylor will wash your feet during this ceremony, so please wear shoes you can slip out of easily. Communion will be instituted, followed by issuing your new members certificate. As a member of the HOPM, you have all rights to work in any department you feel God has called you to. If there is not a ministry and you feel God is calling you to start one, feel free to do so. However, it must be documented and approved by Pastor Taylor before doing so.*

*Welcome to the family!*