

Responsibilities of Membership:

There are certain responsibilities and benefits of being a member at Crossbridge. The main responsibility, in a phrase, is to participate in the life of the church by simply following Jesus. We are to do as He would do, speak as He would speak, think as He would think – in other words, live as He would live. Another way to look at it would be to break it down into the following 3 areas:

Responsibility #1: Loving God

Our first responsibility is to love God like Jesus said, “...**with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.**” (Mark 12:30) And to avoid the risk of thinking love is this abstract feeling of warmth toward God, Jesus links love and obedience hand-in-hand in John 14:21, where it says, “**Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.**” Loving God means our affection is directed towards God, our lives are oriented around God, and our thoughts are focused on God. Jesus is saying that the most important commandment is a vertical love... one that’s directed straight towards God and that is why our number one responsibility is Loving God. We believe that the greatest gift we can bring to Crossbridge is our love for God as it is displayed in our lives.

Responsibility #2: Loving People

The second responsibility is to love one another. Right after Jesus tells His followers the greatest commandment is to love God, He says love for people comes second, “**The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no greater commandment than these.**” (Mark 12:31) It’s not just about the vertical love between us and God, it’s about the horizontal love too - us and people. It is out of our love for God that we are able to love people. We want Crossbridge to be a church that is filled with people who are loving: internally, actively, and intentionally. We pursue loving people in tangible ways by the things we do and also the things we don’t do. We love people by being a place where divorced families, fighting

families, single parents, families with special needs, and any other type of family or individual you can think about can come and know that when they walk through those doors, they are LOVED and not judged for where they are at in their life and relationship with Jesus. We love people by encouraging words, by handling conflict when it comes up in a biblically healthy manner, by being transparent in our relationships and by acts of service. We also love people by not gossiping about them, by not causing division, by forgiving others and showing mercy. The bottom line on this one is found in Romans 12:10. It reads, **“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.”**

Responsibility #3: Serving the World

The final responsibility is to Serve the World, beginning with Crossbridge and our local community, and extending to the ends of the earth. Serving the world is how we show Jesus’ love to a hurting world in tangible ways. We can participate in serving by: praying for Crossbridge and the global church; praying for the pastors & those in leadership roles; serving with your time & talents on a Sunday morning, in Small Groups, with CBlocal or globally through CBmissions; and by contributing financially through your tithes & offerings. We are part of a denomination (Christian & Missionary Alliance) that is passionate about spreading the message of Jesus to every place on earth. At Crossbridge, we won’t rest as a church until that is done.

Benefits of Membership:

By choosing to be a member at Crossbridge, you have committed yourself to a community that Loves God, Loves People, and Serves the World. As a church, we commit to be:

- Unashamedly Biblical -
 - Romans 1:16, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Timothy 3:16
- Holy Spirit Empowered
 - John 14:15-17
- Intentionally Relevant
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
- Relationally Transparent

- Family Focused

As a member, you become a part of our church family where we live out our faith together and encourage one another to take steps forward in our faith. Membership gives you an important voice in the management & ministries of Crossbridge, specifically being able to lead Small Groups, volunteer in CByouth, be elected to the Board and/or Elder team, and to approve those individuals who are elected to these leadership positions. Being a member means that you are committed to Crossbridge and are willing to help us in reaching our vision and mission. Being a member also means that you are committed to both being disciplined in your faith and subsequently disciplining others as we grow together and take steps of faith as a committed church family. Being a member also imparts a greater sense of belonging and ownership in our local church and gives our families a structure in which to grow and develop. These things do not happen easily without the commitment that membership brings.

