



CHURCH AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

With OPEN BIBLE CHURCHES

This affiliation agreement between individual churches and Open Bible Churches is a relational covenant. It is a bonding of hearts and an alignment of purpose and passion. The covenant is marked by a confirming witness from the Holy Spirit among pastor, church board, church membership, and regional and national leadership. It is entered into with the solemn recognition God birthed the relationship. For that reason, the relationship should be neither lightly undertaken nor lightly severed by the church or the Association. It is a partnership dedicated to more effectively impacting the harvest than can be accomplished alone.

This partnership is biblically illustrated in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT), "Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble. ...A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

We, the partners in covenant, confirm we have read and agree to abide by the provisions, procedures, and regulations in the Open Bible Manual. We affirm our individual contributions to this relationship with these commitments:

THE CHURCH AGREES TO:

- Make disciples in obedience to the Great Commission;
- Pray for Open Bible Churches and its ministries;
- Adopt and abide by bylaws and regulations consistent with the provisions, procedures, and regulations of the Open Bible Manual;
- Welcome representatives of Open Bible Churches to minister, share about ministries, and build relationship with members of the church;
- Require its pastors to enter into the pastoral covenant with Open Bible Churches prior to assuming leadership at the church;
- Participate in and support regional and national ministries and events; and
- Partner with the region in periodic, church-health assessments.

OPEN BIBLE CHURCHES AGREES TO:

- Provide a spiritual covering for the church;
- Challenge the church to make disciples in obedience to the Great Commission;
- Lovingly hold the church accountable to abide by its bylaws and regulations and the Open Bible Manual;
- Pray for the church and the fulfillment of its mission;
- Establish standards for obtaining and maintaining ministerial credentials;
- Encourage, supervise, train, and provide fellowship for the pastors of the church;
- Provide opportunities for participation in Open Bible ministries; and
- Provide periodic, church-health assessments.

(Continued on next page)



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Church's Name _____
2. Church's Address _____
City _____, St _____ Zip _____ - _____
Email _____ Webpage _____
Phone _____
3. Federal Employer Identification Number _____
4. Church's status prior to this application:
☐ Independent ☐ Affiliated with _____ ☐ Church Plant
5. How long has the church been in existence? _____
6. Pastor's Name _____
Pastor's Address _____
City _____, St _____ Zip _____ - _____
Pastor's email _____ Pastor's Phone _____
7. Pastor's Status: ☐ Credentialed with Open Bible ☐ Credentialed with _____
8. Does/Will the church have members? _____ Number of current members _____

AFFIRMATIONS

9. In order to fulfill church bylaw requirements for affiliated churches we choose to:
☐ Adopt church-bylaw model _____ (as prescribed in the Open Bible Manual);
or
☐ Adhering to provisions, procedures, and regulations prescribed in the Open Bible Manual, write and submit the enclosed church bylaws for approval.



10. The church chooses to:

☐ Adopt the Statement of Faith of Open Bible Churches as its own.

or

☐ Adopt its own Statement of Faith in harmony with and approved by the Association. If this choice is made, a copy of the Statement of Faith must be submitted for approval.

11. Does the church teach any doctrine contrary to or in addition to the Statement of Faith of Open Bible Churches? If so, please explain on an accompanying sheet of paper. ☐ Yes ☐ No

12. Will the church agree to cooperate wholeheartedly with the provisions, procedures, and regulations prescribed in the Open Bible Manual, fellowship regularly with other Open Bible Churches, and financially support Open Bible ministries through giving to MVP and the 5% plan. ☐ Yes ☐ No

RESOLUTION

After reading all section of the Open Bible Manual, giving opportunity for discussion, and praying sincerely, we have voted to become affiliated with Open Bible Churches by adopting the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the _____

Located in _____, County _____ State _____,

has in a duly called meeting held this _____ day of _____, 20 _____,

declared its intention to share in the privileges and embrace the responsibilities of affiliation with Open Bible Churches, and for the purpose of cooperating and fellowshiping with other Open Bible congregations in assuming the spiritual, physical, and financial responsibilities of such affiliation, the members whose names appear on the records as members in good standing do hereby make application to become an affiliated church of Open Bible Churches, and the _____ Region, _____ District in which this church is located.

In the spirit of partnership for the harvest and in witness the Holy Spirit has bonded our hearts in relationship and aligned our purpose and passion, we affirm this Church Affiliation Agreement as our commitment to one another.

Signature of Lead Pastor

Date

Signature of other Officer of the Church

Date

How many members were present at this meeting? _____ How many votes were cast for this resolution? _____ How many votes were cast against this resolution? _____

Signature of Officer of Open Bible Churches

Date