



NEW MEMBER APPLICATION



International Baptist Church of Zurich
Membership Application Packet

Membership Application Form



Print Name: _____ Date : _____

Address: _____ Telephone : _____

_____ Email Address: _____

1. Have you committed your life to Jesus Christ and trusted him for salvation?

___ Yes. When? Where?

___ Not yet. I'd like to talk with someone about becoming a Christian.

2. Have you been baptized under water (immersion) after you committed your life to Christ?

___ Yes. When? Where?

___ Not yet. I want to be baptized by immersion at IBCZ.

___ No. I've been baptized by another means and I'm applying for "Covenant Membership."

3. Are you in essential agreement with the purpose, faith and covenant statements of IBCZ?

(A summary of these statements is found below.)

___ Yes.

Please, indicate the membership affiliation that you prefer:

___ Regular Member: baptism underwater after believing in Jesus Christ

___ Covenant Member: believing in Jesus Christ and baptized anyway at anytime

(Regular and covenant membership share similar responsibilities with one exception:
covenant members cannot vote on any changes to IBCZ's constitution and bylaws.)

Signature: _____



PURPOSE

The purpose of the IBCZ shall be to establish and maintain for the English-speaking community a Christian fellowship which provides opportunities for the worship of God and Christian education. The Church shall seek further to invite and encourage others to profess their faith in Jesus Christ. The worship and activities of IBCZ shall be conducted in the English language in order to make its ministries available to the international community of the area. IBCZ shall further endeavour to maintain fellowship and a spirit of cooperation with other churches and bodies of Christians both in its area and throughout the world.



FAITH STATEMENT

What IBCZ Believes

About God

- God is One and exists in three distinct persons--the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit—co-equal in essence, power, and glory.
- God has revealed Himself to be perfect in love, holiness, and righteousness.
- God is Creator and Ruler of the universe who upholds and governs all.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 12:25-27; 28:19; John 1:1, 2; 10:30; 14:26; 15:26; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2

About the Father

- God the Father is an infinite personal Spirit, perfect in wisdom, power, and love.
- God concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of humankind through His providence and His power.
- God hears and answers prayer and is able to recreate all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Genesis 1:1; Psalm 19:1; 102:25-27; Matthew 7:11; Ephesians 1:3-6

About Jesus Christ

- Jesus Christ, God's one and only Son, is co-equal with God both true God and true human.
- Jesus lived a sinless life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross.
- Jesus rose from the dead, ascended to heaven where He continually intercedes for His people awaiting his personal, visible return to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:22, 23; 5:17-18; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 1:3, 4; 1 Corinthians 15:1-17; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 2:4; 4:15; 7:25; 10:19-20; Titus 2:13

About the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit, also called the Spirit of God or the Spirit of Christ, is coequal with the Father and with the Son.
- He is present in the world to make humans aware of their need for Jesus Christ.
- The Holy Spirit lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation providing the Christian with the power for living, understanding for spiritual truth, guidance in doing what is right, and a spiritual gift for service in God's Kingdom.

Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:22, 23; 5:17-18; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 1:3, 4; 1 Corinthians 15:1-17; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 2:4



About the Bible

- The Bible has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error, for its matter.
- The Bible was written by human beings divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to humankind.
- The Bible is a perfect treasure of divine instruction and is the supreme standard by which all human conduct and beliefs should be evaluated.
- The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ.

About Human Beings

- People are the supreme object of God's creation, made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character.
- Although every person has tremendous potential for good, each person is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin."
- This attitude separates people from God, themselves, and from others and causes many problems in life.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 2:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

About Salvation

- Salvation is God's free gift to save human beings from their state of rebellious sin. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works.
- Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from the consequences of sin.
- When we admit our rebellion against God, turn from our self-ruled life, and turn to Jesus in faith, God saves us.
- Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into their life by faith.

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6; 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1

About Discipleship

- All who have been baptized into Jesus Christ by water and Spirit are enabled by the Holy Spirit to obey God's Word.
- Each believer is Spirit-guided through faith, prayer, and spiritual giftedness to progress towards spiritual maturity in Christ and obligated to pursue a life of obedience and holiness.
- Believers are to confess and repent when they sin. Those who persist in sin should be warned and, if merited, disciplined.

Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Romans 6:5-11; 1 John 3:4-10



About Eternal Security

- Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity.
- Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not the self-effort of the Christian.
- Since the grace and keeping power of God is the source of the believer's security, true believers endure to the end.

John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5

About the Church

- The New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of Jesus Christ.
- The local church is the primary instrument of God for the extension of His Kingdom in the world today.
- Jesus Christ committed two ordinances to the church—baptism and the Lord's Supper. Though we practice believer's baptism by immersion, we recognize the variation of practice and affirm the unity of the Body.
- The New Testament also speaks of the church as the living, spiritual Body of Christ of which Christ is the head and all believers of all ages are members.

Matthew 16:15-19; Acts 2:41-42, 47; 5:11-14; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; Ephesians 1:22-23; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18

About Eternity

- People were created to live forever and will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation.
- To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is Heaven.
- Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; John 2:25; John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; Matthew 1:8; Matthew 2:44-46



COVENANT

We joyfully confess our faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ. We affirm our belief that through this Church we can express our commitment to Him in an effective way.

As members of this Church we will: worship together; seek to know more about God and about how to live as followers of Jesus Christ; encourage others to become Christians; nurture relationships with fellow believers; minister to the needs of one another and to the needs of those outside our fellowship; support this Church by our personal involvement, attendance, prayer, and financial contributions.

Relying on the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, we seal this covenant with one another and with God as we pray: "Almighty God, Creator of all life, grant us Your presence and strength as we engage in fulfilling this commitment, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen."