

Hello,

I want to thank you for taking the time to attend The Edge Membership Class online! My goal for this class is to help you understand that The Edge church is more than a place to attend on Sunday nights. It is a faith community that is filled with people who are at all different places in their spiritual journey.

To be clear, there is nothing super amazing or epic about The Edge church. We are flawed and imperfect in many ways. It is this realization that causes us to recognize we need a spiritual family to help us grow and mature as followers of Jesus Christ. It's pretty tough doing it alone.

When The Edge started, the dream was to create a place for people to grow spiritually, serve actively, worship passionately, and love as Christ loved. The church has grown in these areas, as has our attendance, and we are still committed to the same strategy, style and purpose. Today there are many people partnering together in the mission of helping people find and follow Jesus Christ. That is why I never refer to The Edge as 'my church' ... because it's not; it is 'our church.'

As you watch online, I hope that you will be inspired to join The Edge on our journey of life change that started back in March of 2009. Thank you for taking the time to consider your role and involvement at The Edge!

Chuck Peterson  
Lead Pastor

## **Biblical Metaphors for the Church:**

- Body (1Corinthians 12:12)
- Bride (Ephesians 5:31-32)
- Flock (Acts 20:28)
- Household (1 Timothy 3:14-15)

Focus on ONE name given for the Church

**The church is a FAMILY**

**“So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God’s holy people. You are members of God’s family.” Ephesians 2:19 (NLT)**

## **As a Church Family, We MUST be United on the Following:**

1) Our \_\_\_\_\_

2) Our \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ we exist as a church (Our \_\_\_\_\_)

3) Our \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ we “do” church (Our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_)

4) Our \_\_\_\_\_

- The role of church leaders and church members

## Our Beliefs

We separate beliefs into two categories:

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

1) In Essential beliefs, We have \_\_\_\_\_

**“For there is one body and one Spirit...one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all” Ephesians 4:4-6 (NLT)**

2) In non-essential beliefs, we have \_\_\_\_\_

**“Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don’t argue with them about what they think is right or wrong.” Romans 14:1 (NLT)**

**“Those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don’t. And those who don’t eat certain foods must not condemn those who do, for God has accepted them.” Romans 14:3 (NLT)**

**“...each of us will give a personal account to God.” Romans 14:12 (NLT)**

**“But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.” 1 Peter 1:15 (NLT)**

3) In all beliefs, we show \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Definition of Love)**

**“If you love me, obey my commandments.” John 14:15 (NLT)**

**[The first video ends here]**

## The Purpose of the Church

**“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.<sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you...”**  
**Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)**

The Edge EXISTS to Make it Easy for everyone to \_\_\_\_\_ &  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ

## How We Do That?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ Methods

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) Emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_

5) Recognize that \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_

7) \_\_\_\_\_

## **Biblical Role of Church Leadership:**

As Pastors, Shepherds and Overseers of a local church, the leadership is entrusted with protecting, leading, equipping, and caring for the corporate church body and her individual members.

### **Here are some of the Biblical expectations:**

- To prayerfully seek God's will for The Edge and the community and to steward church resources in a way that lines up with Scripture.  
**(Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4)**
- To care for the church and ensure she is growing in grace, truth, and love!  
**(Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 4:15-16; Colossians 1:28; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1-4)**
- To provide teaching and counsel from the whole scripture.  
**(Acts 20:27-28; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 4:1-5; Titus 2:1)**
- To be on guard against false teachers and teachings.  
**(Matthew 7:15; Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 1 John 4:1)**
- To Lovingly exercise discipline when necessary, for the glory of God, the good of the one disciplined and the health of the church as a whole.  
**(Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1; James 5:19-20)**
- To Equip the members of the church for the work of ministry.  
**(Ephesians 4:11-16)**
- To set an example and join members in fulfilling the responsibilities of church membership as talked about in this class.  
**(Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7-8; 1 Peter 5:3)**

## **Biblical Role of Church Membership**

As those who have experienced the grace of God, we have the opportunity to reflect the character of Christ through the pursuit of certain attitudes and actions - and the rejection of others. The scripture refers to this reality as 'living in step with God's Spirit.' **(Romans 8)** The Biblical role of church membership is in no way intended to be an addition to the Biblical obligations of a Christ follower.

- To submit to the authority of Scriptures as the final mediator on all issues.  
**(Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-2)**
- To pursue spiritual growth and submission to God by obeying what He asks us to.  
**(John 4:24; James 4:17; John 14:15; Matthew 7:24-27)**
- To regularly participate in the life of The Edge by attending weekly services, engaging in community and serving those within and outside the church.  
**(Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; Titus 3:14)**
- To steward the resources God has given, including time, talents, spiritual gifts and finances.  
**(Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9)**
- To protect the unity of the church by working towards peace and unison with church leadership and other church members.  
**(Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5)**

## Personal Commitment:

There is one thing that separates a casual attender from someone who we consider a member at The Edge: \_\_\_\_\_

1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church Family

Be intentional about pursuing \_\_\_\_\_ community

**“They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity...” Acts 2:46 (NLT)**

2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Church Family

**“We have different abilities given to us by God” Romans 12:6-8**

**“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. <sup>12</sup> Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. <sup>13</sup> This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-13 (NLT)**

3) \_\_\_\_\_ the Church Family!!

**“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. ‘If you do,’ says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, ‘I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! Malachi 3:9-10 (NLT)**

**“Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.: 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NLT)**