

# **COMMITMENT OF BELONGING 2010**

My relationship with God and the body called *River of Life Friends*

River of Life Friends is a Bible believing fellowship - a safe place for those seeking spiritual truth grounded in Jesus Christ and in God's WORD. We don't have a formal membership process, but each year we ask all active attendees to read and consider signing our annual ***Commitment of Belonging***. - This commitment is built on the foundation of River of Life Friends' ***MISSION*** and a commitment to living it out in heartfelt, visible ways.

**River of Life Friends' mission:**

**A Bible believing church whose mission is loving God,  
reaching the lost, and teaching the saved to serve.**

Here are some of the ways we live out our commitment to our ***MISSION***:

## **1. BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST BY LOVING GOD ...**

- We focus on the life, ministry, words and character of Jesus Christ. We are transformed as we take on His thoughts, words, and actions as we grow into the will of God with *discernment, obedience, and courage*.
- We live by faith, firmly relying on and trusting God as we live in authentic fellowship with Him.
- We worship God when gathered together as a body. Each follower of Christ has an active role in worship by using their God-given gifts.
- We remain attentive to God by remaining attentive to the Word of God,  
knowing that God desires to speak to us and transform us through the  
*knowledge, understanding, and wisdom* of His Words. This happens as we submit in obedience to the Words of God.

- The result of choosing to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength is the ability to love others and ourselves *rightly* and *completely*.

## **2. BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST BY *REACHING THE LOST***

- We draw others to Christ by living authentic, godly lives that are empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- We love people because God loves people. We follow Jesus Christ's example of loving and engaging all people.
- We pursue relationships, *inside* and *outside* the body, that are marked by *vulnerability, honesty, surrender, forgiveness, loving-kindness, and servanthood*.
- We value *doubt, questioning, and seeking* because they keep our faith-walk with God and one another alive and moving.
- We encourage and support with our resources and prayers those called by God to spread the gospel.

## **3. BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST BY *TEACHING THE SAVED TO SERVE***

- The result of choosing to love God and other people rightly and completely is a growing desire to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of God's Holy Spirit.
- We joyfully surrender to the twin truths that “apart from Jesus Christ we

can do nothing" (**JOHN 15:5**) and that "through Jesus Christ we can do all things." (**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**)

- We willingly partner with God in areas of serving - even when this partnership requires the pruning of our desires and the reimaging of our priorities and goals.
  - We prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up, as each part does its work. To each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (**1 CORINTHIANS 12:7**)
  - We seek to follow the example of Jesus Christ in all things. He came into our world as a *servant*, and so, as His followers we choose to go into our world as *servants*.
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By signing this annual ***Commitment of Belonging***, I am stating that ...

- I am a follower of Jesus Christ and love Him by obeying the Word of God and allowing Him to transform my entire being.
- I agree with the ***River of Life Friends' MISSION***.
- I commit to actively participate in the **MISSION** of River of Life Friends Church by my attendance, and by seeking and finding places to serve.
- I commit to financially support River of Life Friends Church.

The first two pages of this document are for you to keep, ponder, pray over, and use to evaluate your living out of this commitment.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_