

# Free Methodist Church Membership Class Session 1

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# Why Membership?

The church is the “body of Christ” here on earth for the purpose of producing Christlikeness.

Joining the church in membership is a testimony to others of a person’s desire to follow Jesus Christ as Lord.

# What Does Membership Mean?

Membership means different things to different people.

Some memberships are casual.  
Other memberships require an oath,  
a promise, a covenant.

Membership in the Free Methodist Church is covenant membership.

# Covenant Membership

By definition,

a covenant is a solemn pledge,

a binding promise between two parties.

# Covenant Membership

God used covenants throughout history as reminders of His promises.

— Noah, Abraham, Moses, David

Jesus is the fulfillment of the New Covenant.

# Covenant Membership

The covenant of membership in the Free Methodist Church is a promise between the church and the member.

# Covenant Membership

The MEMBER promises  
to sustain a saving relationship with Jesus,  
to bring glory to God,  
to advance the cause of God on earth,  
to preserve the unity of the body of Christ,  
and to cherish the fellowship of the  
Free Methodist Church.

# Covenant Membership

The CHURCH promises  
to honor Christ,  
obey the written Word of God,  
offer the sacraments,  
give voice to the members,  
and work together with the members  
to bring glory to God in all things.



# Casual Membership

To what other organizations do you hold membership?

# What Would Jesus Do?

If Jesus were starting a new denomination,  
what requirements would He have?

# Membership

## The Biblical Requirements for Membership

- Repentance
- Faith
- Baptism

# The Four Requirements of Full Membership

1. The forgiveness of sins through faith in Christ, Christian baptism, and a willingness to say “yes” to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life.

# The Four Requirements of Full Membership

2. An acceptance of the Articles of Religion, the Membership Covenant, the specific Christian Journey goals and matters of church government as written in the *Book of Discipline*.

# The Four Requirements of Full Membership

3. A covenant to support the church, to live in fellowship with the members, to be an active participant in the ministry of the church and to seek God's glory in all things.

# The Four Requirements of Full Membership

4. Approval of membership by the local board of administration and public declaration of membership vows.

# Membership

- Specific Steps

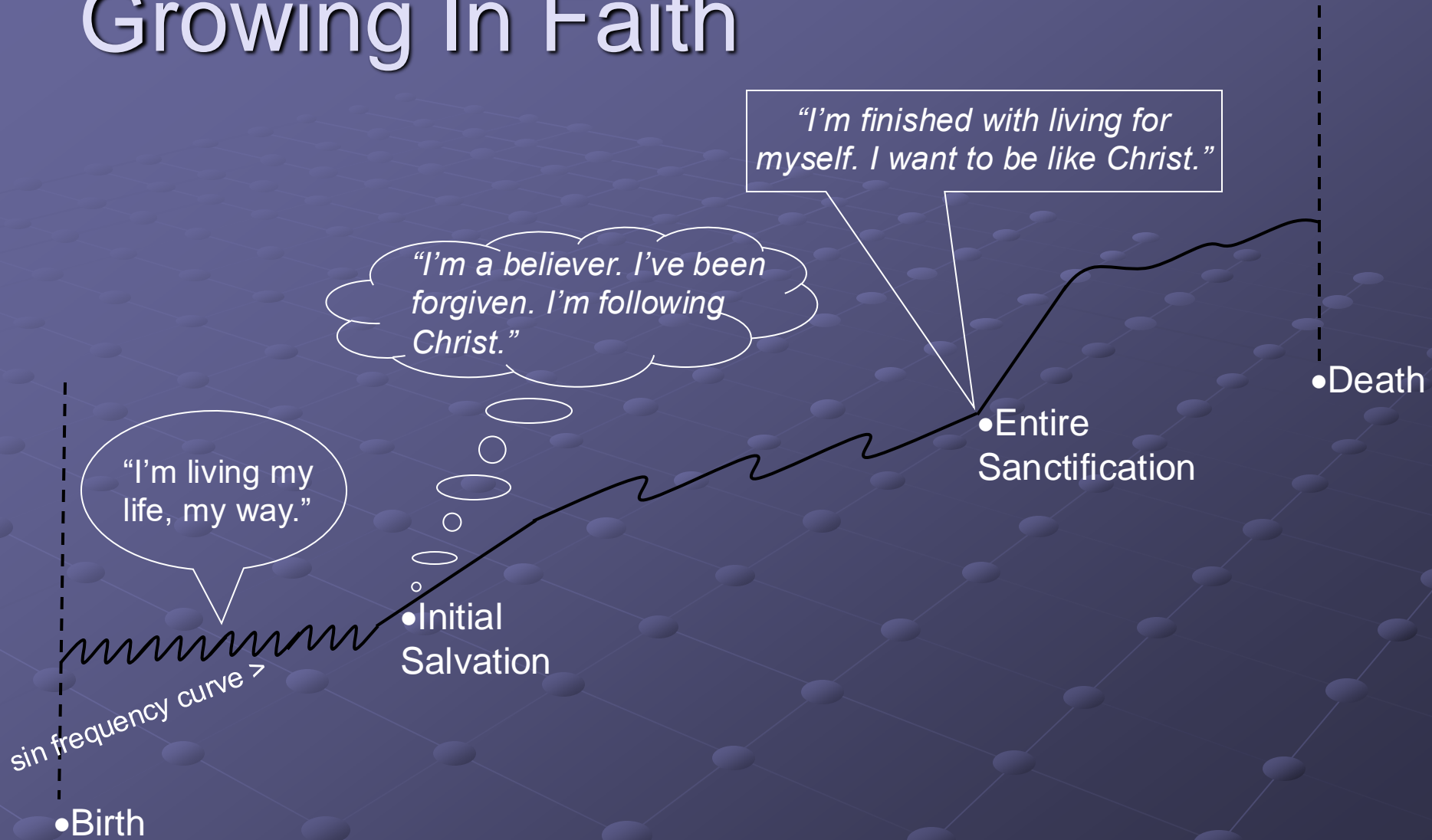
- ✓ Membership Instruction
- ✓ Approval by the local church board
- ✓ Public declaration of faith





# First Steps: Personal Faith

# Growing In Faith



# Growing In Grace

