



River of Life House Churches

House Church Covenant

A House Church covenant is an agreement that members make with the other group members. Its purpose is to make the protocols of the house church clear. The goal is to make ROL House Churches a safe place for people who want to grow in their relationship with God and one another as they seek to reach out to their neighbors in Christ's Love.

At ROL we encourage all participants to understand and adhere to the following protocols:

- ___ **PRIORITY:** We will give our House Church community priority in our lives in order to grow together as disciples.
- ___ **RESPECT:** We will seek to honor the house rules as stated by the leaders and give support to those hosting House Church meetings. The House Church will agree on an ending time for meetings and that boundary needs to be respected.
- ___ **HONOR:** We want to create a culture of honor and respect toward one another realizing that people may be at different places in their spiritual journey than we might be. We respect each person's right to their own opinions, and questions are encouraged and welcomed. We encourage everyone to participate and no one dominates in discussion, prayer, etc.
- ___ **CONFIDENTIALITY:** We agree that anything that is said in confidentiality in the meeting is never repeated outside the meeting.
- ___ **DISCIPLESHIP:** We will regularly seek to grow as disciples and to make disciples of others. That means we will look for others outside the group to share our faith with and to help them become followers of Jesus. We will not push agendas or doctrines contrary to **ROL's Statement of Faith**.
- ___ **EMPTY CHAIR:** We agree that the group stays open to reaching new people at every meeting. We pray each week that God would lead us into divine appointments where we can share our faith. We will do everything in our power to raise up new leaders and new house churches.
- ___ **CARE & SUPPORT:** We agree to give permission to call upon each other at any time, especially in times of crisis. The group will provide care for every member. (Remember to respect boundaries – calls in the middle of the night are often not necessary ☺)
- ___ **LEADERSHIP:** We agree to honor the leadership of the group, those hosting the group, and the leadership of River of Life Community Church.
- ___ **MISSION:** We agree to seek the heart of God for our neighbors and the community in which we live. We will pursue God's heart and direction for reaching out to them in Christ's love.
- ___ **COVENANT COMMITMENT:** We agree to abide by the principles and vision of the ROL Core Values and Membership Covenant. If anyone has been found to be in breach of the principles of this covenant, they may be excluded from the House Church until I can meet with the ROL Staff and Elders to address re-entry to the group.