



# TRINITY GRACE CHURCH

## Membership Commitments

### Peacemaking, Conflict, Disputes, & Lawsuits

---

The church is populated by sinners who have received grace but continue to face challenges in working out their salvation,<sup>1</sup> especially in relationships. As the people of God, we commit to overcome our offenses in a biblically prescribed manner leading to resolution and peace. Bitterness, resentment, and broken relationships are not acceptable for the people of God. The church has adopted the principles taught in Scripture, as outlined by Ken Sande's book *The Peacemaker*.<sup>2</sup> as its practice the principles taught in Ken Sande's book, *The Peacemaker*, which provides wise biblical counsel for resolving disputes.

When two church members cannot resolve conflict privately, they should seek the help of other wise church members. The pastors desire to assist members in mediating disputes. If a dispute becomes long-standing without successful reconciliation, members should seek pastoral help.

According to 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, Christians should apply the wisdom and power of the gospel to address disputes among believers. They should recognize the help available through the mediation of the church through its pastors. If one or both parties refuse to turn from sin that produces the conflict, the pastors will seek to apply the steps of church discipline to restore peace and order in the church. Church members agree to refrain from filing lawsuits against other Christians and to seek reconciliation through the church, unless the pastoral team reviews their situation and agrees that litigation is biblically legitimate.

If a church member has a dispute with a pastor that he does not believe has been successfully resolved, he should seek the assistance of another pastor. If the dispute with the pastor continues and is unresolved, a church member may take other steps outlined in accordance with Sovereign Grace Church's *Book of Church Order*.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Philippians 2:12.

<sup>2</sup> Ken Sande, *The Peacemaker*.

<sup>3</sup> For your reference, the most current Book of Church Order can be accessed here: <https://www.sovereigngrace.com/governance>.