

BYLAWS OF (NAME OF CHURCH)

Preamble

Whereas we, being an incorporated body of people of like precious faith, believing in the Lord Jesus Christ individually for eternal life through His vicarious death and the power of His resurrection; believing the Bible to be God's Word and the revelation of His will to man and accepting it as our all-sufficient rule for faith and conduct; and believing that Christian fellowship, mutual edification and evangelical effort, in and through, the form and body of local churches is God's ordained order for His people and that those of each local church are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, and the work of the ministry; and for the exercising of those mutual gifts and offices provided for in the New Testament; and that the local church is charged by the Word of God to walk in the light of that Word by the Spirit in all godly fear and love; and believing that these things are essential to obtaining the Christian goal, "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father in heaven is perfect"; and further, believing that God has called us, anointing us to emphasize the fullness of the Gospel in and through the Baptism with the Holy Ghost (which is our distinctive testimony) according to the Scriptures (Acts 1:4&5; 2:4&39; 10:44-47; 19:2&6).

Therefore we have adopted the Bylaws which do herein appear. We shall seek, by the grace of God, to be governed by the Bylaws as are herein set forth and will also seek to teach and propagate the doctrines as are contained in the Statement of Fundamental Truth.

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of the one true God; to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, irrespective of social position or worldly possessions; for the propagation of the gospel of Jesus Christ both in home and foreign lands, this church shall be governed by the following Bylaws: KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT: That we, the undersigned have this day voluntarily associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a non-profit corporation under the Laws of the State of (Name of State), and we hereby certify:

Article I

Name of Corporation

As stated in the Articles of Incorporation, the name of the corporate church shall be (Name of Church).

Article II

Purposes and Powers

THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THIS CORPORATION IS FORMED ARE:

- 1) To establish a Biblical Christian Church with a Christian Education Department and with missionary, literature, educational and other departments it may deem useful to propagate and practice the full Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and for its service to the community.
- 2) To earnestly seek and promote the unity of God's people in the Scriptural manner of Godly love, respect and faithful voluntary cooperation with liberty. To that end it shall associate and cooperate freely with other churches and with church organizations.

3) To receive tithes and offerings, and to receive property by devise or bequest subject to the laws relating to the transfer of property by will.

4) To act as Trustee under any trust incidental to the principal objects of the corporation and to receive, hold, administer and expend funds and property subject to such trust.

5) To enter into, make, perform and carry out contracts of every kind for any lawful purpose without limit as to amount and with any person, firm, association or corporation; to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, issue and execute promissory notes, warrants and other negotiable or transferable interests.

6) To take, purchase or otherwise acquire, to own, hold, occupy, use and enjoy, manage, improve, develop and work; to grant, sell exchange, let, demise and otherwise dispose of real estate, buildings and improvements and every right, interest and estate therein without limit as to the amount thereof and wheresoever the same may be situated; to erect, construct, alter and repair buildings; to assume any and every kind of contract, agreement and obligation by or with any person, firm, corporation or association, or any Federal, state or other Government for the erection, construction, alteration, repair, renewal, equipment, improvement, development, use, enjoyment, leasing, management or control of any buildings, improvements or structures of any kind wherever the same may be situated.

7) To purchase or otherwise acquire, to own, hold, use and enjoy, to sell, assign and transfer, exchange or otherwise dispose of, deal in or deal with personal property of every kind and description without limit as to the amount thereof and wheresoever the same may be situated.

8) To borrow and to loan money and to give and to receive evidence of indebtedness and security thereof; to draw, make, accept, endorse, execute, and issue promissory notes, warrants, and other debentures of the corporation, or otherwise to make guarantees of every kind and secure any or all obligations of the corporation by mortgage, trust deed or otherwise.

9) To do all other acts necessary or expedient for the administration of the affairs and attainment of the purposes of the corporation and to have and exercise all the powers now or hereafter conferred by the Laws of the State of (Name of State), upon non-profit corporations.

Article III

A Non-Profit Corporation

This corporation is organized pursuant to the General Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of (Name of State); the property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes, and upon liquidation, dissolution, or abandonment, shall not inure to the benefit of any private person except a fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated for religious or charitable purposes and as designated in Article XII of these Bylaws.

Article IV

Membership

Section 1, Eligibility. Membership in (Name of Church) shall be eligible to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to the tenets of faith and agree to be governed by the Bylaws herein set forth, and who further agree to answer all questions by the Board of Elders.

Section 2, Charter Members. All those who meet the Scriptural standards of membership whose names appear on the original membership roll of (Name of Church) shall be known as Charter Members.

Section 3, Legal Membership. All Charter Members, along with those names which shall be added from time to time which constitute the legal voting membership of (Name of Church), provided they are sixteen years of age or over, that they are living consistent Christian lives and are in agreement with our distinctive testimony and are living faithfully to the standards as set forth in the membership application.

Section 4, Inactive Membership. Enrolled members who shall without good cause absent themselves from the services of (Name of Church) for a period of three consecutive months or more shall be placed upon the Inactive Membership roster. If a member ceases to contribute of their means to (Name of Church), if they shall be under charges of misconduct, or if they have fallen under condemnation through sinful or worldly practices, they shall be considered as Inactive Members immediately and shall lose their voting privileges until they are restored by the action of the Board of Directors and the Board of Elders.

Section 5, Associate Membership. All persons who regularly attend (Name of Church), who give testimony and evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who would like to be considered a definite part of the fellowship of (Name of Church) will be known as Associate Members. Associate Members will not have the power to cast a vote in the legal business meetings of (Name of Church), however, they shall be considered as an intimate part of the church's program.

Section 6, The Standard of Membership. The standard of membership of (Name of Church) shall be: (A) Evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (the new birth)(John 1:12&13; 3:3-8; I Peter 1:18-25). (B) Evidence of a consistent Christian life (Romans 6:4; 8:1-4; 13:13&14; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1,2&15; I John 1:6&7). (C) To fully subscribe to the tenets of faith as set forth in these Bylaws. (D) Willingness to contribute regularly to the support of the church according to his or her ability. Application form for legal members is hereto attached.

Section 7, Reception of Members. Persons desiring to become legal members of (Name of Church) shall make the fact known to the Pastor who shall examine the applicant according to the standard of membership.

The Pastor shall present the names of those who apply for membership with his recommendations to the Board of Elders who shall act upon said recommendation and render a final decision. All persons who shall meet the membership requirements and have been passed on favorably shall be received publicly at any of the regular services and their names shall be inscribed on the roster of (Name of Church).

Section 8, Discipline. Any member of (Name of Church) who shall willfully absent himself without good cause from the regular services for a period of three (3) consecutive months, or who shall be under charges, shall be temporarily suspended from active voting membership pending investigation and final decision in his case.

Unscriptural conduct or doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith held by (Name of Church) shall be considered sufficient grounds upon which any person may be disqualified as a member (Matthew 18:15-18; Romans 16:17&18; I Corinthians 5:11; Galatians 1:8&9; Titus 3:1-15). Any departure from the tenets of faith will be decided upon by the Pastor and the Board of Elders and their decision of the matter shall be absolute and final. The incumbent's only appeal shall be through (Name of a Fellowship or Organization this local church is in fellowship with).

Section 9, Withdrawal or Transfer. Members in good standing, who may wish to sever their relationship with (Name of Church), or who may desire to be transferred to some other congregation, may apply to the Secretary for a letter which shall be granted on the approval of the Pastor and Board of Elders, said letter to be signed by the Pastor and the Secretary of (Name of Church).

Section 10, Revision of Membership Roll. The Pastor and Board of Elders shall be authorized to revise the membership roll of (Name of Church) annually, and to remove from the list of active members all names of those who may have become deceased during the year together with the names of those who may have withdrawn from the fellowship, or who may have fallen into sin and whose lives may have become inconsistent with the standards and teachings of (Name of Church). If a name is removed for any cause, the one whose name is removed shall be notified of the action of the Pastor and the Board of Elders through the Secretary. Appeal can be made to a meeting of the Board of Directors and the Board of Elders and their decision shall be absolute and final. The incumbent's only appeal shall be through (Name of a Fellowship or Organization this local church is in fellowship with).

Article V Pastor and President

Section 1, Term of Office. The Pastor is the President of the Corporation. He is also an Elder. He shall hold this office until his death or until he resigns, or until removed by the Eldership of Calvary Ministries Inc, International for any just cause.

Section 2, Vacancy of Pastorate. Upon the death, resignation or removal of the Pastor, the Board of Elders and Board of Deacons shall elect from among them a five-member Pulpit Committee. The Pulpit Committee shall designate a chairman from among them by secret ballot, and shall be responsible to present a pastoral candidate to the Church for approval, using the following procedure:

A) First, seek a pastoral candidate recommendation from (Name of a Fellowship or Organization this local church is in fellowship with). If such a qualified and acceptable candidate cannot be found, then seek a candidate who accepts the Statement of Beliefs in the Preamble of these Bylaws. No more than one candidate at a time is to be presented for approval.

B) The candidate shall receive a unanimous vote of the Pulpit Committee.

C) The candidate then must be submitted to a specially called church business meeting, and this Pastor shall be ratified by at least 75 percent of the legal members present at the specially called business meeting, provided that at least 75 percent vote of the legal members shall be present to constitute a quorum for pastoral selection.

D) The Pastor must obtain and maintain credentials with (Name of a Fellowship or Organization this local church is in fellowship with).

Section 3, Duties of Pastor. The Pastor shall be considered the spiritual overseer of the church and shall direct all the church activities. He shall preside at all business meetings of the church and shall be an ex-officio member of all boards, committees and departments.

Article VI Board of Directors

Section 1, Officers. The Officers of (Name of Church) shall consist of a President, a Vice-president, and a Secretary-Treasurer. These three officers shall be Elders of (Name of Church) and shall also serve as Directors. The Pastor shall be considered the President of the corporation. The Vice-president and Secretary-Treasurer will be selected by the Pastor and ratified in the annual meeting.

Section 2, Vice-President. The Vice-president of the Corporation shall also be an Elder. He shall assist the Pastor and President in all matters of the Church.

Section 3, Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Corporation shall also be an Elder. He shall provide for an accurate record of all annual and special business meetings of the Corporation. He shall have access to all Corporation records. When these records are approved and signed by the President and Secretary-Treasurer, they shall be considered the legal records of the Corporation. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also have access to all financial records for the Corporation and shall present a financial report at each annual business meeting.

Section 4, Membership. The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members. It shall be comprised of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and two additional members. The two additional Directors shall be selected at each annual business meeting from the Board of Deacons. The Church's Office Secretary will be an ex-officio member.

Section 5, Terms. Each member of the Board of Directors shall serve a term of one year beginning from the date of the Annual Business Meeting and serving until replacements are chosen at the next Annual Business Meeting. No Director shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms at a time. Any vacancy in the membership of the Board of Directors may be replaced by a majority vote of the remaining Board of Directors.

Section 6, Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly at the Church and at such other times and places as they deem necessary. Any two members or the Pastor may call a meeting of the Board of Directors. All members shall be notified of all meetings at least one week prior to any meeting.

Section 7, Duties. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for all the major business matters of the Church Corporation, including but not limited to, a) handling of financial matters, subject to agreements and limitations described herein, b) property transactions, c) setting salaries for the Pastor and other minister and employees of the Church Corporation, d) establishing a budget for regular church expenditures, e) such other business matters as may arise from time to time.

Section 8, Finances. The authority of the Board of Directors in any financial matter shall be limited in the following respects:

- a) All bills shall be paid by check, credit card or electronic transfer of funds.
- b) All offerings shall be verified by voucher signed by at least two persons.
- c) Deposits must be made by the Church Corporation weekly in a local bank.
- d) The President, Vice-president and Secretary-Treasurer shall have the authority to sign checks and to set up accounts at the bank and to supply signatures for the opening of said accounts.
- e) All funds needed for the budgeted expenses of the Church Corporation shall be provided by the voluntary contributions, tithes, and offerings of the members and friends of the

Corporation. Every member is expected to decide before God what he or she can and will give cheerfully to the support of the Lord's work at home and in the foreign field (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:1&2; Romans 12:8).

f) The Pastor shall be supported according to his needs, either by freewill offerings or by stated allowance as shall be decided upon by the Board of Directors in its regular business sessions.

Article VII Board of Elders

Section 1, Selection. Elders shall be selected by the Pastor subject to majority vote approval at the Annual Business Meeting. There shall be not less than three (3) and not more than nine (9). They shall serve as Elders as long as they are actively engaged in the Church's ministry and maintain membership of the Church and are not disciplined for removal as provided in these Bylaws.

Section 2, Duties. The Board of Elders shall assist the Pastor in the spiritual life of the Church. They are to be called upon to fill the pulpit, to pray for the sick, and to conduct services under the direction of and in subordination to the Pastor. They shall act in the examination of applications for membership and also in the administration in the discipline of the Church.

Article VIII Board of Deacons

Section 1, Selection. Deacons shall be selected by the Pastor subject to majority vote approval by the Church at the Annual Business Meeting. There shall never be less than four (4) members on the Board of Deacons. They shall serve for a period of one year. No Deacon can succeed himself more than two (2) consecutive years.

Section 2, Duties. The Board of Deacons shall be elected to act in conjunction with and to aid the Pastor in all temporal matters of the Church Corporation in its spiritual life, ministry and ordinances. They shall see that the Church is always in order for service and assist the Pastor in every way possible during the process of meetings. They shall assist the Board of Directors in maintenance of the Church property.

Section 3, Requirements. A Deacon must be a Spirit-filled man. A Deacon must be a member of (Name of Church) for at least one full year before his election to office.

Article IX Vacancy of Offices

Section 1, Church Offices. The Pastor and President of the Corporation shall have the authority to declare any office vacant. Grounds for such action shall be:

- 1) Failure to cooperate with the Church's program and ministry;
- 2) Unscriptural conduct;
- 3) Doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith;
- 4) Incompetency in office;
- 5) For any good and sufficient cause.

Any incumbent under charges shall have opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing before the joint meeting of the Board of Elders and Board of Deacons. The action of these combined Boards shall be considered final. The incumbent's only appeal shall be through Calvary Ministries Inc, International.

Section 2, Pastor. The Board of Directors shall seek the assistance of Calvary Ministries Inc, International concerning any action to be taken against the Pastor. Grounds for such action shall be:

- 1) Failure to cooperate with the Church's program and ministry;
- 2) Unscriptural conduct;
- 3) Doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith;
- 4) Incompetency in office;
- 5) For any good and sufficient cause.

Article X Meetings

Section 1, Meetings for Worship. Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the Pastor.

Section 2, Annual Business Meeting. There shall be an Annual Business Meeting of (Name of Church). This business meeting shall be held in July of each year and shall be conducted in the auditorium of (Name of Church). Officers shall be installed and reports shall be read at the Annual Business Meeting.

Section 3, Special Business Meetings. Special business meetings of the legal members may be called by the Pastor or by the Pastoral Search Committee or by written petition of three-fourths (3/4) of the legal membership.

Section 4, Notice of Business Meetings. Written notice of the date and place of the Annual Business Meeting and of any special business meetings shall be sent by regular mail to all active members at least (10) days and not more than (30) days prior to such meetings. In addition, the Pastor shall announce such meeting at the worship services of (Name of Church) at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting.

Section 5, Quorum. No record of any special or regular business meetings of the Church Corporation shall be made unless one-third (1/3) or more legal members are present to constitute a quorum.

Section 6, Order of Business. The regular order of business for the Annual Business Meeting of (Name of Church) shall be as follows:

- 1) Devotional
- 2) Reading of the previous minutes by the Secretary
- 3) Report of Treasurer
- 4) Report of Committees
- 5) Unfinished business
- 6) Installation of Officers
- 7) New business
- 8) Adjournment

This order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The usual parliamentary rules as laid down in "Roberts' Rules of Order" shall govern all debates when not in conflict with these Bylaws.

Article XI
Departments and Committees

The Church shall provide for the establishment of a Christian Education Department, young people's work, relief committees, home and foreign missionary committees, and any other departments or committees as the needs of the work may require. These committees and departments shall be subordinate to the Church and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the whole. They shall be under the general supervision of the Board of Elders. The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, boards and departments and shall determine when the need for such committees and departments must be organized.

Article XII
Property

Section 1, Authorization. The Board of Directors of (Name of Church) shall have power to carry out all of the purposes and powers set forth in Article II. The President and the Secretary-Treasurer's signature shall be sufficient certificate for negotiating any and all of the provided powers in said Articles.

Section 2, Name. All property of the Church shall be deeded to the Church and held in the name (Name of Church).

Article XIII
Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended or changed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Church present at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided the proposed amendment has been included as a part of the notice when announced at all services on at least two Sundays preceding the time of such meeting

RATIFICATION BY THE CHURCH CORPORATION

The above 1981 Adopted Bylaws of (Name of Church) were adopted in a duly called and conducted business meeting of the Church Corporation on the (Date).

X _____
President of Board of Directors

X _____
Secretary of Board of Directors

ATTESTED BY:

Vice-President