

# Plant Membership Application Form



We welcome anyone to our church meetings no matter what you believe or how firmly you believe it. However, like most churches, The Plant network has a membership system.

This is a simple, convenient way for Christians who come to a Plant church to express our unity in Jesus Christ and our commitment to our church. This unity is expressed in four areas:

**Commitment; Accountability; Service; and Support.** The expectations of and benefits to Plant Members are outlined below:

## Commitment

### *Expectations*

- To attend one main church meeting on a frequent and regular basis
- To make every effort to get to know, and to foster a genuine, loving concern for others at The Plant, particularly those who go to the same main meeting

### *Benefits*

- Other Plant Members have made the same commitment to you too

## Accountability

### *Expectations*

- To assent to our doctrinal basis (see below)
- To submit to The Plant's leadership under Christ. (If a Plant Member is sinning unrepentantly the leadership may take sanctions. As a last resort membership may be revoked.)
- To help other Plant members to keep growing as Christians, including gently rebuking them in love if appropriate

### *Benefits*

- Fellow members are looking out to help you to keep following Jesus
- Some major decisions may be put to the Plant Membership

## Service

### *Expectations*

- To attend Plant meetings with a view to serving others
- Where possible, to take an active part in The Plant's practical running (e.g. catering, PA)
- Where appropriate, to be prepared to use gifts of word ministry (e.g. leading discussions, Bible study, up-front Bible teaching)
- Eligibility to become one of the deacons who help the elders lead our churches

### *Benefits*

- Opportunities to use gifts and be trained in them

## Support

### *Expectations*

- To pray regularly for the members of The Plant, its leaders and its work
- To make every effort to give financially to The Plant on a regular basis, however small an amount (The Plant depends on its members' financial support)

### *Benefits*

- We will email regular prayer information to you (weekly and monthly)
- Access to the members-only areas on [www.theplant.net](http://www.theplant.net)
- Your own @theplant.net forwarding email address to help us keep in touch with each other

## How to become a Plant Member

If you have been coming along to a Plant church and intend to make it your church, we would be delighted if you would like to sign up as a Plant Member. Please complete the following form and then speak to the relevant elder who will go through it with you. Please be aware that if you have recently been involved with another church in the area, we may want to liaise with its leaders. This simple courtesy is to help us discern God's will together and avoid misunderstandings.

Also, unless requested otherwise, we will assume that Plant Members are happy to:

- 1) have their details (including photographs) held on a secure website
- 2) have photographs published on theplant.net website from which they may be recognised

# Plant Membership Application Form

**Section 1** [please complete on a hard copy and bring to relevant elder]

Name: ..... Address: .....  
 Mobile: .....  
 Phone: .....  
 Email\*: .....  
 [\* Your current email address to which your @theplant.net address will forward] Postcode: .....

I am **NOT** happy for my contact details to be made available to other Plant Members:

Plant church I am joining is... [please tick one]: *Grace Church Manchester*  *The Plant Church Salford*  *Monday@7*

I would like to join a *Minigroup* to read the Bible and pray regularly with a few other people:

Please tick any of the boxes below that apply. You're not committing yourself to anything (neither is are we!), and we'll provide training where necessary. Some jobs are only really applicable to certain meetings, but please do tick them anyway!

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>I can play a <b>musical</b> instrument and/or sing: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>.....</p> <p>I can <b>drive</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br/>I have a car <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have a <b>dishwasher</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have a <b>First Aid</b> qualification <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>I'd like to do <b>street work</b> (e.g. questionnaires) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I'd like to do some <b>drama</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I'd like to operate the <b>PA</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I'd like to have a go at <b>leading</b> a meeting <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I'd like to have a go at giving a <b>talk</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I'd like to help with <b>Kids' Club</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
|--|--|

What other gifts, skills, areas of interest or expertise do you have that might be helpful or relevant to The Plant (e.g. languages, artistic gifts, technical skills, qualifications etc.)?	
Have you been baptized? If so, where and when?	
Have you recently been a regular attendee or member of another church? If so, please provide contact details for a referee:	
Is there anything you'd really like to see happening at The Plant that we don't already do?	

**Section 2** [please read carefully, but **do not complete** until your conversation with an elder]

All Plant Members are required to assent to the following statement of Christian belief (the doctrinal basis of the *International Federation of Evangelical Students*) as this is the essence of the gospel proclaimed at The Plant churches:

*We rejoice in the central truths of Christianity as revealed in Scripture, including:*

- *The unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the Godhead.*
- *The sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgement.*
- *The divine inspiration and entire trustworthiness of Holy Scripture, as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.*
- *The universal sinfulness and guilt of all men since the fall, rendering them subject to God's wrath and condemnation.*
- *Redemption from the guilt, penalty, dominion and pollution of sin, solely through the sacrificial death (as our representative and substitute) of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God.*
- *The bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead and his ascension to the right hand of God the Father.*
- *The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.*
- *The justification of the sinner by the grace of God through faith alone.*
- *The indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit in the believer.*
- *The one holy universal Church, which is the body of Christ and to which all true believers belong.*
- *The expectation of the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Complete after conversation with elder**

I have read and understood this doctrinal basis, and declare that I agree with it. I will seek to express my unity in Christ with others at The Plant through commitment, accountability, service and support as outlined above.

Signed: ..... [Plant Member] Date: .....

Witnessed and membership approved: Signed:..... [Plant elder] Date: .....