

# Sample Church Bylaws

## Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be [Church Name], located in [City, State].

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## Article II – Purpose (Mission Statement)

This church exists to:

- Worship God
- Preach and teach the Word of God
- Make disciples of Jesus Christ
- Serve the community
- Promote spiritual growth among believers

(Support with a verse if desired, e.g., Matthew 28:19–20)

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## Article III – Statement of Faith

The church affirms the following beliefs:

- The Bible is the inspired Word of God
- There is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ
- Jesus Christ is the Son of God, crucified, resurrected, and returning again

*(You can expand this section depending on your doctrine.)*

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## Article IV – Membership

### Section 1: Qualifications

Membership is open to individuals who:

- Confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- Agree with the church's beliefs
- Commit to living a Christian lifestyle

### Section 2: Responsibilities

Members are expected to:

- Attend services regularly
- Support the church financially (tithes/offerings)
- Serve in ministry
- Live in unity with the church body

### Section 3: Termination of Membership

Membership may be ended by:

- Personal request
- Extended inactivity
- Conduct contrary to biblical principles (with leadership review)

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## **Article V – Leadership**

### Section 1: Pastor

- The Pastor is the spiritual leader of the church
- Responsible for preaching, teaching, and oversight
- Appointed by [board/majority vote/etc.]

### Section 2: Elders / Board

- Provide spiritual and administrative oversight
- Support the Pastor

- Ensure accountability

### Section 3: Deacons (Optional)

- Assist with practical needs of the church
  - Serve the congregation
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## **Article VI – Meetings**

### Section 1: Regular Meetings

- Weekly worship services
- Scheduled ministry gatherings

### Section 2: Business Meetings

- Held [monthly/quarterly/annually]
- Members vote on major decisions

### Section 3: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of [percentage or number] of active members.

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## **Article VII – Finances**

- The church shall operate on voluntary tithes and offerings
  - A budget shall be approved annually
  - Financial records shall be maintained with transparency
  - At least two authorized individuals shall oversee funds
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## **Article VIII – Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by:

- A [2/3 majority vote] of members present

- Prior notice given at least [number] days in advance
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## **Article IX – Dissolution**

In the event of dissolution:

- The church shall follow the disaffiliation process established by the *Defenders of the Christian Faith Movement, Inc.* Constitution and Bylaws in its entirety.
- Upon dissolution, all properties owned by the church shall be distributed to the *Defenders of the Christian Faith Movement, Inc.*, in accordance with its governing documents and applicable laws.
- Such distribution shall be carried out exclusively for religious and charitable purposes consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. No part of the church's properties shall be distributed to any private individual.