



King's Cross The Membership Interview

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of King's Cross Church. This document was prepared by the elders of our church to prepare you for what to expect at your interview. If you haven't already, you can visit the [membership page](#) on our website for more information.

A. The purpose of the interview

The membership interview is focused entirely on personal testimony of faith in the good news of Jesus. It's about the good news of Jesus, and your trust in this good news.

Technically speaking, if you are joining from another church, the membership interview is really a time to hear your testimony of Christian experience. For a person who has never been a member of a church before, the purpose of the interview is to discern a profession of faith in Jesus.

Many people are members of King's Cross but do not agree with every doctrine of our denomination ([Presbyterian Church in America](#)) or of the Reformed tradition. The elders and deacons of King's Cross promise to submit to the seventeenth century *Westminster Confession of Faith*, but this is not required for members. The membership interview is about the good news of Jesus.

At the end of the interview, you will be reminded that membership does not become official until the next meeting of the elders. The two or three elders conducting your interview will communicate their impression of the interview at the next monthly meeting (usually the third Wednesday of the month), and you will be notified immediately.

Married couples are always interviewed together. Whether or not parents accompany the interview of children or youth is left to the discretion of parents. Since baptism is required for membership, the elders will ask when and where you were baptized and, if not baptized, they will begin that conversation.

B. A helpful structure

For centuries theologians have assessed Christian faith using the division between **knowledge**, **assent**, and **trust**. You can find a simple presentation of this in the article by Guy Richard, "[What Faith Is and Is Not](#)."

- Do you have a basic **knowledge** (*noticia*) of the various elements that are a part of the good news?
- Do you **assent** (*assensus*) to the objective truthfulness of this news, that it is historically real and factual?
- Do you personally place your **trust** (*fiducia*) in this good news?

C. The interview outline

We always begin with prayer, asking God not only to give you clarity of thought and speech, but also that we would have fine-tuned ears to listen well.

1. "How did you discover King's Cross?"
2. "The gospel is *news*. What are some details of the news?"

It is a strange exercise, but if the good news is *news*, like you find in a newspaper, what is the content or raw data contained in the newspaper article? Imagine the chronological framework of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Consummation and the raw data stands out.

Creation and Fall

God created all things. He had a purpose in mind

Adam and Eve were real people.

God had demands for Adam and Eve.

Adam and Eve sinned. They were banished from the garden.

Redemption

God did not leave Adam.

God made promises to Noah. And Abraham.

The Exodus was a real event.

God taught the people about animal sacrifice.

God made promises to King David.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem, by the Holy Spirit.

He lived a perfect life.

His death on the cross served a purpose.

He was resurrected and ascended into heaven.

He reigns from heaven.

Consummation

Jesus will return again, physically.

He will judge the world.

Heaven is real. Hell is real.

3. **“How does this news involve you personally?”**

4. **“How would your ordinary life be different *without* this news?”**

D. The membership vows

Our denomination summarizes commitment to church membership with the following membership vows. We ask every new member of King’s Cross to assent to these vows publicly during a Sunday morning service.

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and utterly without hope were it not for His sovereign mercy?

A paraphrase for children: Do you know that you have sin in your heart? Do you know that this is why you do things that displease God? Because of this sin, you know that you cannot be God’s child unless he forgives you, right?

2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Son of God and only Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest on Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

A paraphrase for children: Do you believe that Jesus is the only one who can rescue people from their sin? Do you believe that He’s the only one who can rescue you? Do you trust Him and trust that He has saved you from your sin?

3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

A paraphrase for children: Do you promise to trust the Holy Spirit to help you follow Jesus and obey Him? Do you promise to listen to the Holy Spirit when He tells you to confess your sins?

4. Do you promise to support the Church in her worship and work to the best of your ability?

A paraphrase for children: Do you promise that you will worship Jesus with His other followers at King’s Cross? Do you promise to love and care for God’s family as best as you can?

5. Do you submit yourselves to her government and discipline, and promise to study her purity and peace?

A paraphrase for children: *Will you let the elders and teachers of King's Cross help you to follow Jesus? Will you listen to them? Will you help others in the church follow Jesus, worship Him, and follow Him?*

E. Baptism

At King's Cross, everyone who is received into membership is baptized. If you have not been baptized, our pastor will reach out to you to discuss and schedule the baptism to happen at the service in which they are publicly received.

F. Basic information we will need to know at your interview

- Name: _____
first middle last, maiden name
- Date of birth: _____
- Approx. age at baptism: _____
infant, youth, adult
- Current church membership: _____
- Contact info for this church: _____

Our Serve Team would like to learn about your interests and possible ways that you might like to serve the church family of King's Cross.
