

# 7 EXPECTATIONS OF OBC MEMBERS

## FROM THE PASTOR & DEACONS OF OLNEY BAPTIST CHURCH

*To become a member of Olney Baptist Church, you must first make a decision (or have done so at some point in your life) to repent of your sins and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-9). Those who are “born again” or saved must then submit to baptism by immersion (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38-40). Once you are saved and baptized, you may present yourself to Olney Baptist Church for membership. Upon successful completion of an orientation interview with the pastor and/or deacon and vote of the church body, you will become a member of Olney Baptist Church.*

*Those who are a part of Olney Baptist Church as well as those wishing to unite with OBC are expected to live, to the very best of their ability, according to these seven habits and principles:*

1. **Pray every day.** Prayer is fundamental to your growth as a Christian and to your being a positive influence in our church fellowship. (I Thessalonians 5:17)
2. **Read, study, and obey the Bible.** Make Bible reading a daily habit and Bible study a regular practice. And make sure how you live, pray, worship, work, talk, vote, handle your money, think, and behave conforms to God’s Word. (II Timothy 2:15; 3:16; James 1:22)
3. **Attend church faithfully.** Church attendance is critical (Hebrews 10:25), and you should make attendance at OBC church services (Sunday school, Sunday morning worship, Wednesday night Bible study or AWANA) a priority.
4. **Be a giver.** The world is full of consumers and takers. God expects more from His people, and wants those in His church to be givers and producers. As a believer in Christ, YOU are part of His church. And when it comes to your time, talents, and finances, you should give willingly and cheerfully to the Lord and His kingdom (Matthew 25:14-28; Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:10; Ephesians 4:11-16; II Corinthians 9:7).
5. **Encourage and support others in the church.** God’s people are expected to love one another, encourage one another, and bear one another’s burdens. Be loving, kind, gracious, patient, generous, and encouraging to everyone in the church through your words and actions (Psalm 19:14; Psalm 37:30; Galatians 6:1-10; Ephesians 4:32; I Thessalonians 5:11).
6. **Do not grumble, complain, or sidetrack the church.** Keep the main goals in mind (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:42). Be a positive person (Psalm 19:14; Ephesians 4:29-32). Don’t be a complainer (Philippians 2:14; James 3:5-6). Do not gossip about or slander anyone (Leviticus 19:16; James 4:11).
7. **Commit yourself to the Great Commission!** Share Christ with others. Invite people to church. And support the church’s efforts to reach out to the community. It’s all about serving and expanding the Kingdom of God (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8).