



GRACE WORSHIP
CENTER CHURCH



GFI

We Welcome and Invite
You to Connect with
Grace Fellowship
International



Grace Fellowship International (GFI)

A Message from Our Founder and Visionary

Greetings in the Powerful Name of Jesus Christ!

Every natural son will not ultimately become a father; every natural daughter will not ultimately become a mother; but everyone (son or daughter) who is given length of days will become a man or woman. With this as a backdrop, I have discovered over my years in ministry and industry that there is a silent request in the hearts of leading men and women for hands that guide, arms that protect, lips that feed and encourage, and a heart that genuinely cares and understands.



These are the nurturing qualities that promote proper development and maturity for key leaders, particularly pastors of local churches and leaders of para-church organizations.

As a Senior Pastor and Bishop, I have come to know the importance of having a pastor/mentor/spiritual father in my life. For more than 16 years, I have had spiritual authority and covering as a pastor, and it has literally changed and enriched my life dimensionally. The Holy Spirit has reminded me to never forget and to provide for others that which has been provided for me.

As a spiritual father and overseer in the Body of Christ, it is my extended assignment to provide spiritual covering for pastors, churches, and para-church organizations to assist in the nurturing process of the 21st century churches' leadership.

As you peruse through the basic yet vitally important information that I have provided, be prayerful as the Holy Spirit guides you into your new covenant connection with us, the Grace Fellowship International family.

God Bless you and May Grace Be Unto You!

†*Bishop Steven Hodge*

Bishop Steven Hodge

Our Purpose and Operation:

Grace Fellowship International (GFI) is a non-denominational, multicultural partnership designed to provide a covering and fellowship to those senior pastors and ministries across denominational lines and cultures that seek and recognize the need for a fatherly or mentoring covenant relationship.

GFI does not require any senior pastor or 5-fold ministry gift to leave or resign from an existing covenant connection with a spiritual father or organization. Yet, GFI welcomes pastors and churches who are independent and without denominational affiliations to insure covering and community for credibility in the Body of Christ. We will provide mentorship, fellowship and wisdom to add and strengthen you in your purpose with a spiritual covering.

GFI does not and will not employ authoritative jurisdiction over its membership. Grace Fellowship International operates as an independent sustainable ministry that offers its members sound counsel, guidance, and oversight upon request. Our goal is to add value and further enrich your spiritual assignment. We believe that every senior pastor or 5-fold minister has direct oversight of the congregations they steward, and therefore GFI will provide a covenant fellowship for the purpose of nurturing you, as you nurture your congregation.

Our Senior Pastor is available to assist and offer direction for a church or ministry upon invitation of the Senior Pastor and official Governmental Board. Our visionary promotes and imparts leadership fitness for mental and emotional stability, for discipline, and for spiritual devotion. This serves to catapult your ministry with a spirit of readiness and momentum!

Our Mission:

To release a worshipful fragrance that will liberate and make known the person and presence of God in our churches and local communities. This introduction will cause the lost to embrace the light.

Our Vision:

To provide divine spiritual connection to pastors and leaders that will be a support network for fellowship and wisdom. To foster a non-threatening environment that will cultivate balanced growth within the pastor so that **faith**, **competence** and **confidence** will characterize the churches and ministries they lead.

Our Aim and Goal (Isaiah 54:2-5):

The aim/goal of Grace Fellowship International is to promote acceleration and spiritual growth through fellowship; to nurture an understanding of the importance of building a faith-filled legacy that will root out any hindrances to advancement, and that will overtake blessings and promises that will not only be evident to everyone --- but also perpetual.

Our Tenets of Faith (What We Believe):

The Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. (*II Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:2-3*)

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. (*Genesis 1:26 AMP, II Corinthians 1:2; 13:14*)

In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and conformable death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father and His personal return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. (*Matthew 16:13-16, Revelation 20:4, Philippians 3:10*)

In the blessed hope, which is the rapture of the church at Christ's coming. (*Titus 2:13, I Thessalonians 4:16-17*)

The only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. (*I Peter 1:18-19*)

Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. (*John 3:3-5*)

The redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. (*I Peter 2:24*)

The baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. (*Acts 2:39*)

In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by who's indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. (*Galatians 5:16*)

In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation. (*John 5:28-29*)



The Benefits of Entering into Covenant with Grace Fellowship International:

1. A fatherly and/or Pastoral covenant covering
2. Apostolic insight and impartation
3. Corporate anointing
4. Strengthening of one's self and ministry
5. Sharing of wisdom, insight and knowledge as a powerful tool in enhancing your spiritual gifts, thereby being an asset to the Body of Christ
6. Networking and peer association among pastors and ministers
7. Credibility through association
8. Exclusive teleconferencing with Dr. Steven Hodge
9. Mentorship
10. Access to resources for empowerment
11. Leadership Training
12. The Shepherd's Mantle (Pastoral Administration & Ethics Training)

Covenant Membership Expectations:

1. Model a lifestyle of faith, integrity, and separated holiness unto God and His Ordinances
2. Your attendance at events held specifically for Fellowship members
3. Adherence to set guidelines, policies and standards of operation as it pertains to the Fellowship
4. Willingness to pray without ceasing for the Fellowship, the vision, and the visionary
5. Support and agree with the vision as it has been imparted by the visionary **NOTE: *Your level of commitment to the vision is determined (predicated on) by the level of your understanding of the vision!***
6. Embrace the heart of a true son/daughter seeking a fatherly covering and covenant
7. Embody a yearning for discipleship with a teachable spirit
8. Encompass a disposition of acceptance when correction from the leader is needed **and** employ the necessary changes
9. Possess an **insatiable hunger and thirst** for spiritual growth, development, insight, and enlightenment **(Matthew 16:24)**
10. Membership fee annually of \$100.00
11. Accountability for maximum growth personally and in ministry

Licensing, Ordination and Consecration:

GFI will provide for those of the 5 - Fold Ministry, official services that will announce public Ecclesiastical orders, offices and appointments upon sufficient biblical qualification in ministry. There is an examination process that will reveal full proof of your ministry that will bring credibility to your elevation.

Our Policy:

1. Demonstrated self-discipline as outlined in Colossians 3
2. Recognition of the importance of operating in the ministry of excellence
3. Must promote the vision of the visionary to the fullest extent
4. Must make a public acknowledgement of your affiliation with the Fellowship
5. Must respect, honor, and follow guidelines as set by the visionary/leader
6. Must exhibit an exemplary life of dedication and commitment to Christ
7. Must embrace a general belief in the tenets of our faith
8. Must have a definitive call to the ministry in at least one of the fivefold components/offices
9. Must remain above reproach
10. Must recognize that the fellowship reserves the right at any time to disengage your membership with cause.

Fellowship Connection Process:

- Complete Application provided and submit
- Letter of Intent (why you desire a connection with the Fellowship); please include your ministry's vision and goals
- Submit at least two letters of references/recommendations from two credentialed senior pastors
- **Do not** submit the \$100.00 membership fee until after you receive notification of connection approval.
- Upon notification of connection approval, there will be an annual Fellowship administrative fee which allows us to fulfill and maintain our mission of promoting quality services and materials to each member.
- A formal commencement ceremony will ensue whereby you will officially receive your Fellowship membership identification card.

Grace Fellowship International Approval Process:

- All components of the Membership requirements must be received by the Grace Worship Center Church office prior to the Fellowship Committee review
- Allow 4-6 weeks for the process of review to be completed
- We will notify you and your ministry promptly with the Fellowship Committee’s decision thereafter.
- If accepted and inducted into the fellowship, a formal ceremony will commence
- Grace Fellowship International screening process is non-discriminatory as it pertains to race, ethnicity, and/or denominational background.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION:

We Want To Know You – Tell Us About You:

Applicant's Title: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Applicant’s Birthdate: _____

Spouse Birthdate: _____

Wedding Anniversary: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Mail: Grace Worship Center Church, 750 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114

Fax: (860) 270-0331

Email: contact@mygwcc.org