



May 10, 2009 • Dr. David Platt

OPEN-HANDED COMMUNITY
Romans 12:1-21

As members of The Church at Brook Hills, we affirm this covenant with one another by God's grace, for our good, and ultimately for God's glory.

Having been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (Ac. 2:38; 16:31; 20:21; Rom. 10:9-10) and to surrender our lives to Him (Lk. 14:25-33), and having been baptized as Christians in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:19; Ac. 2:41; Rom. 6:1-4), we covenant together to glorify God (Is. 43:7; 1 Cor. 10:31) by making disciples (Mt. 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2) of all nations (Ps. 67:1-2; Rev. 7:9-10).

- Together, we will draw near to God in worship (Heb. 10:22; Rom. 12:1-2). We will delight in the glory of God (Ps. 16:11; 37:4; 63:1-11), depend on the presence of God (Ex. 33:14-18; Mt. 28:20; Jn. 15:5; Jas. 4:8), grow in the knowledge of God (Php. 3:10; Col. 1:9-12; 2 Pet. 3:17-18), and submit to the Word of God as the all-sufficient authority in our lives and in His church (2 Tim. 3:14-4:5; Ps. 19:7-11; 119:105-112).
- Together, we will hold fast to the hope we profess (Heb. 10:23). We will regularly participate in communion as we solemnly and joyfully remember the past work of Christ on the cross, celebrate the present work of Christ at the Father's right hand, and anticipate the future work of Christ in His return for His bride (Lk. 22:7-23; Ac. 2:42; 1 Cor. 11:23-32).
- Together, we will spur one another on to love and good deeds (Heb. 10:24). We will meet with one another consistently (Heb. 10:25), pray for one another regularly (Php. 1:3-6), and serve one another selflessly (Rom. 12:9-13). We will share each other's joys and bear each other's burdens (1 Cor. 12:26; 2 Cor. 2:3; Gal. 6:2). We will edify one another with our speech (Eph. 4:29-32) and encourage one another with our example (1 Cor. 10:31-11:1; Php. 4:9).

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The Mercy of God in the Community of Faith...

- We are mercy-driven **worshippers**.
 - ▶ We **experience** the mercy of God in worship.
 - ▶ We **express** the mercy of God in community.

- We are a mercy-molded **family**.
 - ▶ We **belong** to each other.
 - ▶ We are **gifted** for each other.
 - ▶ We **love** each other.
 - ▶ We **care** for each other.
 - ▶ We **honor** each other.
 - ▶ We **spur** on each other.
 - ▶ We **share** with each other.
 - ▶ We **rejoice** with each other.
 - ▶ We **weep** with each other.
 - ▶ We **accept** each other.

- We are on a mercy-giving **mission**.

- ▶ We trust in God's **justice**.
- ▶ We triumph with God's **love**.
- ▶ We follow the One who **died** for His enemies...

Why Open-Handed Community Is So Important...

The gladness of the **family** reflects the glory of the **Father**.

The Mercy of God in the Community of Faith...

- We are mercy-driven _____.
 - ▶ We _____ the mercy of God in worship.
 - ▶ We _____ the mercy of God in community.
- We are a mercy-molded _____.
 - ▶ We _____ to each other.
 - ▶ We are _____ for each other.
 - ▶ We _____ each other.
 - ▶ We _____ for each other.
 - ▶ We _____ each other.
 - ▶ We _____ on each other.
 - ▶ We _____ with each other.
 - ▶ We _____ with each other.
 - ▶ We _____ with each other.
 - ▶ We _____ each other.
- We are on a mercy-giving _____.
 - ▶ We trust in God's _____.
 - ▶ We triumph with God's _____.
 - ▶ We follow the One who _____ for His enemies...

Why Open-Handed Community Is So Important...

The gladness of the _____ reflects the glory of the _____.