



## Elder Visits – What to Expect

Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, And look well to thy herds.  
Proverbs 27:23

But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.  
1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.  
Hebrews 13:17

### What Is Family Visitation?

The elders at Christ Covenant Church (CCC) desire to keep with the long-standing Christian tradition of household visitation (Acts 5:42, 20:20). This is an opportunity for at least one of the elders to interact personally with your family (usually at your home) to assist your growth in the Lord and our ability to pray for you. By means of visitation, we who are entrusted with the care of souls, can check the spiritual pulse and welfare of the body. It is also a special opportunity for husbands and fathers to reflect on the condition of their marriage and children.

Our desire is to visit with your entire family, including briefly with the children if possible. Our goal is to take no more than an hour or so of your time. The first 15-20 minutes would be spent with the whole family, after which the children may be dismissed to allow for more intimate discussion (about your marriage, the children, etc.). Please do not feel obligated to provide refreshment but if you do, you may keep it light. We don't want to be a burden to you.

### How To Prepare

So that the elders can better know, understand, and encourage you and your family, we will likely discuss some of the following questions. Please review these questions with your spouse prior to the elder visit:

- What specific prayer requests do you have? Any recent joys or sorrows in your life?
- How consistent is your devotional life (prayer, Bible reading, psalm singing, meditation, etc.)?
- What does family worship look like in your home? Do you need any help with this?
- How is your marriage (communication, intimacy, etc.)? In what areas would each of you like to grow?
- Is there any unconfessed sin in your life that needs to be dealt with? Are you out of fellowship with anyone?
- What is the spiritual state of each child? How are they being educated and brought up in the Christian faith?
- Any parenting challenges you are facing?
- Have you noticed any new opportunities to serve or bless someone recently?
- Are there any specific areas where you would like advice or counsel from the elders?
- Any other questions for us?

We would encourage you to participate freely in the discussion and feel comfortable being open and honest. We are here to love and serve you. If there are other more serious concerns, please do not hesitate to schedule a meeting with Pastor Ventura (360-990-3196) or one of the other elders.

### Conclusion

We hope this document helps you understand our motivation for family visitation and prepares you for our visit. We truly want this to be profitable for you and your family. It is our great joy to minister unto you!

With Love,  
Aaron Ventura, Joe Stout, Luke Moerke, & Les Doyle