

Cowboy Church of Harrison County Constitution & By-Laws

Adopted August 6th, 2008
Amended 3/15/09 (Ref Section XII)

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PREAMBLE

Under the guidance and leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ, we the members of the Cowboy Church of Harrison County adopt the following constitution in order to declare and preserve the principles of our faith, the freedom of our church, and the rights and responsibilities of our individual members.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this church, located at 1858 Galilee Rd. Hallsville, TX 75650, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas is THE COWBOY CHURCH OF HARRISON COUNTY. Mailing address, P. O. Box 1073 Hallsville, TX, 75650.

The church location moved to Triple Creek Ranch, 2115 FM 450 S on October 8, 2008, as a temporary meeting place until the new church building is completed.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The church is organized and maintained to fulfill the following Mission Purpose Statement:

The mission of the Cowboy Church of Harrison County is to see the lost western heritage world saved, and to share the love of God with the un-churched and the lost people of the surrounding area in a way that they have the best opportunity to become fully developing followers of Christ.

The full developing follower of Christ...

Worships God: Honors God by worshipping Him corporately, in both large and small gatherings, and by maintaining private devotions.

Lives by God's Word: Understands the Bible as the ultimate authority for daily living and is involved in corporate, small group, and private Bible Study.

Contributes to God's Work: Uses their time, abilities, spiritual gifts, and finances for God's glory.

Connects With God's People: Pursues Christ honoring relationships at home, in the church, at work, and in the community.

Impacts God's World: Reaches out to the lost and un-churched by praying for them, witnessing to them, and inviting them to Cowboy Church events.

ARTICLE III. DOCTRINE

This church affirms the Holy Bible, the inspired word of God, as the authority in all matters of faith and practice. We further identify ourselves as a distinctive body of faith by affirming the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message.

ARTICLE IV. STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ is the head of the church, the true source of all that the church is and does, and His glory is to be the objective of every act, function, and motive of the body, both individually and corporately. It is before Him that all other leadership must bow. He communicates His will for the church through His word, the Bible. He gives additional guidance by means of the specific leading of the Holy Spirit who indwells in the heart of each believer. He calls forth leaders for the church to whom He gives responsibilities for the oversight of the church body and the shepherding of

ARTICLE IV. STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH (continued)

its members. The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose its membership and leadership. Persons meeting the membership requirements shall constitute the membership. All internal groups created and empowered by the church shall exist to further the purpose of the church. They will be accountable to the church.

As an autonomous local church, this church is not subject to the control of any ecclesiastical body. However, it relates to and cooperates with all other entities of like faith in sharing the gospel with the whole world.

ARTICLE V. ORDINANCES

SECTION I. BAPTISM

A church is understood to be a fellowship of baptized believers brought together to carry out the work of Jesus Christ. A baptized believer is one who has been scripturally immersed and understands baptism to be a symbol of the salvation which has already been accepted in their life by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

SECTION II. THE LORD'S SUPPER

The church will observe the Lord's Supper on a regular basis as led by the Point Riders. The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act whereby the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of Christ and anticipate His second coming. You must be a born again, baptized believer to partake of the Lord's Supper.

ARTICLE VI. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHING MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Cowboy Church of Harrison County is open to anyone who meets the following qualifications:

- A. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- B. Baptism by immersion after faith in Jesus Christ as a testimony of salvation.

Membership may be established in the following ways:

A. Letter

Candidates who are members in good standing of another church of like faith and structure may petition the Cowboy Church to acquire a letter of membership from their previous church.

B. Statement

Candidates who have previously been members of another church of like faith and structure, but are unable to obtain a letter of membership from said church, may join by affirming that they are baptized (immersed) believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, holding to the historic teachings of Christianity, and desiring membership in the Cowboy Church.

ARTICLE VI. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHING MEMBERSHIP (continued)

C. Baptism

Candidates accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior and requesting Christian baptism by immersion will be accepted as members upon baptism.

All candidates for membership shall give a verbal testimony of their conversion, baptism, and walk with Jesus Christ to a Point Rider.

SECTION 2. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A person's membership in the Cowboy Church of Harrison County may be terminated in one of the following ways:

A. Death

B. Letter

A letter of dismissal for any member in good standing shall be granted to any church of like faith and structure upon request from said church.

C. Exclusion

If a member conducts himself in a manner which brings the name of Jesus Christ and the church into disrepute, it will be the responsibility of the Point Riders to attempt to restore the member in a spirit of love according to the guidelines set forth in Matthew 18:15-17.⁽¹⁾ If the member fails to respond positively to these attempts, exclusion will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the church membership present and voting at a called church conference.

D. Erasure

If a member requests erasure or offers proof of membership in a church of another denomination, his name will be removed from the roll.

SECTION 3. RIGHTS OF A MEMBER

Each member present, 16 years of age and older, shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter submitted for a vote at any called church conference. The right of a member to vote shall cease upon the termination of his membership in the church. Members have the right to vote on the following matters: the call of the pastor and other professional ministerial staff, election of Outriders, the annual church budget, indebtedness associated with land acquisition and/or building improvements, any expenditures above \$5,000 of budget spending, the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the church, the merger or dissolution of the church, and any other matter submitted by the Point Riders to the church for a vote.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION 1. PASTOR

A. Call

Upon the pastor's termination a church conference will be called and the church will elect a pastor search team. This team will consist of no fewer than four and not more than eight members. This team will seek out and evaluate prospective pastoral candidates until they achieve complete consensus on a single candidate. They will then report to the Point Riders the candidate for approval. The Point Riders will then set a time and date for the candidate to be received by the church. On that date, a church conference shall be called and after a foil discussion, a vote will be taken by secret ballot. A three-fourths (3/4) vote of the church members present and voting is required to extend a call. If a call is not extended by the church to the candidate, or if the candidate declines to accept, then the pastor search team will begin a new search and come before the church with a second recommendation. This method will proceed until a pastor is secured.

B. Duties

The pastor shall be the spiritual leader of the congregation. In that capacity, under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the leadership of the Holy Spirit, he shall preach and teach the word of God, lead the church in regular worship services, administer the ordinances of the church, serve as moderator at church conferences, provide leadership to the ministerial staff, serve as administrator of the church, and generally fulfill all his pastoral duties as set forth in Scripture.

C. Qualifications

Because Point Riders may be called on to handle the weightiest matters of the church, they should above all be men filled with wisdom, love, and the Holy Spirit. All Point Riders must meet Biblical qualifications set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7⁽²⁾ and Titus 1:6-9⁽³⁾. The senior pastor shall be a Point Rider. The pastor must have a connection to the cowboy culture.

D. Termination

The pastor's duties with the church may be terminated by resignation, death, or dismissal. Such dismissal will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a called business meeting. The moderator for such a meeting will be a disinterested third party appointed by the Point Riders.

SECTION 2. PROFESSIONAL MINISTERIAL STAFF

A. Call

Professional ministerial staff sufficient for fulfilling the church's mission will be employed by the church. Such ministerial staff will require two-thirds (2/3) vote of the congregation upon the recommendation of the search team.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION 2. PROFESSIONAL MINISTERIAL STAFF (continued)

B. Duties

Professional ministerial staff persons will have specific and written job descriptions as outlined by the pastor and the Personnel Team.

C. Qualifications

They should above all be men filled with wisdom, love, and the Holy Spirit. All ministerial staff must meet the biblical qualifications set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7⁽²⁾ and Titus 1:6-9⁽³⁾. Ministerial Staff must have connection to the cowboy culture.

D. Termination

The service of professional staff persons may be terminated by resignation, death, or a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a church conference called by the elders (Point Riders) for that purpose.

SECTION 3. OUTRIDERS (Lay Pastors)

A. Purpose and Function

Outriders shall serve as an extension of the ministry of the senior pastor and in that capacity may serve as ex-officio members of teams, assist with the ordinances of the church, assist in leading worship, and generally perform any other ministerial function of the senior pastor with his approval or at his request.

B. Qualifications

Since Outriders represent the ministry of the body of Jesus Christ, they must be men beyond reproach who are governed by the love of Jesus Christ and have a servant's heart. These men should stand firm on the doctrine of Matthew 18.⁽⁴⁾ Outriders shall have a connection to the cowboy culture.

C. Selection

1. On or about January 1st of each year, the church will be asked to submit in writing the names of men to serve as Outriders. These names will be screened by the Point Riders to ensure that the nominees meet the qualifications set forth above. If it is determined that a nominee is qualified, his name will be placed before the church as a candidate. However, if the Point Riders or the nominee determines that he is not qualified, then he will not be a candidate.

2. Once a list of qualified candidates has been assembled, an election will be held on or before January 31st of each year. The candidates names shall be placed on a secret ballot and those church members present and voting shall be asked to mark the number of names as determined by the Point Riders. The number of Outriders shall be deemed necessary to meet the ministry needs of the church. The candidates receiving the most votes will serve as Outriders until the next election unless precluded by death, resignation, or removal.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION 3. OUTRIDERS (Lay Pastors) (Continued)

D. Duties

Each Outrider will have specific responsibilities as assigned by the senior pastor.

E. Term of Office

Outriders will be elected to a one year term, but may be nominated to serve multiple terms by mutual consent of the church body and the Outrider involved. ⁽⁵⁾

F. Removal

An Outrider may be removed before their term of office expires by death, resignation, or consensus decision of the Point Riders.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION 4. POINT RIDERS (Elders)

A. Purpose and Function

Point Riders shall serve to provide spiritual leadership and accountability to the church in accordance with scripture. They will provide a brotherhood of support and accountability for the pastor, assist the ministry teams with difficult issues, serve as arbiters in matters of conflict or church discipline, and in general provide spiritual leadership, guidance, and assistance wherever and whenever appropriate. The Point Riders shall be made up of three appointed men plus the pastor, who is also a Point Rider.

B. Qualifications

Because Point Riders may be called on to handle the weightiest matters of the church, they should above all, be men filled with wisdom, love, and the Holy Spirit. All Point Riders must meet the Biblical qualifications set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7 ⁽²⁾ And Titus 1:6-9(3). The senior pastor shall be a Point Rider. Point Riders must have connection to the cowboy culture.

C. Selection and Term of Office

On or about January 1st of each year, the Point Riders will appoint a new Point Rider for a three year rotating term of service. The longest tenured Point Rider with the exception of the pastor will rotate off of the Point Rider body each year. ⁽⁵⁾

D. Removal

A minimum number of two (2) members of the church may bring a written scriptural reason for removal of a Point Rider. Point Riders may be removed from office by their own decision or by consensus decision of the other Point Riders. Removal shall be based upon being spiritually unqualified or the inability to serve.

E. Vacancies

Point Rider vacancies can occur by death, resignation, or removal. When a vacancy occurs, the existing Point Riders shall select a new Point Rider to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VIII. SUPPORT STAFF

The Pastor and Personnel Team will employ and terminate other employees as necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the church.

ARTICLE IX. MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION 1. GENERAL MINISTRY TEAMS

A. Purpose and Function

Ministry teams shall be organized to carry out the specialized ministries of the church. Each ministry team shall have specific functions and responsibilities as assigned or approved by the Point Riders.

B. Structure

Ministry teams will be made up of 4-10 voting members and other general members as needed to carry out a necessary ministry or function of the church. Voting and general team members will have individual functions and responsibilities as assigned by the team. A staff member or Outrider will be assigned to each team to offer assistance and serve as a liaison between the team and the Point Riders. One member of the team shall be designated by the Outrider or staff member to be team facilitator and will be responsible for ensuring that the team functions properly. Final decisions will be made by the voting members of each team. These decisions of voting members of each team will be reached by consensus, not majority vote. Voting members should consider input from the general team in casting their vote. This means that teams must arrive at decisions that can be supported by each member of the team. If consensus cannot be reached, the matter shall either be tabled, or placed before the leadership team for a decision.

C. Qualifications

Team members must be members of the church in good standing, love the Lord, and have a desire to see His kingdom grow, have credibility with other church members, have a passion and connection for the mission of the team, be determined to make the team a top priority in their lives (this means that they are willing to rearrange their daily schedules or do whatever it takes to participate in team meetings and activities) and desire to use their talents and abilities to accomplish the team's mission.

D. Formation of Teams

General Ministry teams may be formed as needed by the Point Riders or by the Leadership Team with approval of the Point Riders. Petition for a ministry team formation can be presented by any member of the church body to the Point Riders.

E. Selection and Term of Office of Voting Members

Voting members of general ministry teams may be appointed by the Point Riders, or enlisted by an Outrider or ministry team facilitator. Ordinarily members will be enlisted by the team facilitator or Outrider directly responsible for the team. The term of office for voting general ministry team members will be two years, but

ARTICLE IX. MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION 1. GENERAL MINISTRY TEAMS (continued)

voting members may serve multiple terms by mutual consent of the team facilitator, Outrider, and team member involved.

F. Removal of Voting and General Team Members

If a team member causes conflict, fails to carry out his or her responsibility to the team, or otherwise hampers the work of the team, every effort should be made by the team facilitator and assigned Outrider to rectify the issue in a positive redemptive manner. However, if the problem persists, a team member may be removed by the Point Riders, or by consensus decision of the other team members.

ARTICLE IX. MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION 2. STANDING MINISTRY TEAMS

A. Purpose & Function

Standing ministry teams shall provide oversight of the church's regular business affairs and assist in finding and providing the tangible resources necessary to effectively carry out the church's ministries.

B. Structure

Standing ministry teams shall be composed of six voting members serving three year terms with two members rotating off each year and general members as needed. An Outrider will be assigned to each team to offer assistance and serve as a liaison between the team and the Point Riders. Each year, one voting member of the team shall be designated by the Outrider to be team facilitator and will be responsible for ensuring that the team functions properly. Teams will function by consensus, not majority vote. This means that teams must arrive at decisions that can be supported by each member of the team. If consensus cannot be reached, the matter shall either be tabled or placed before the leadership team for a final decision. If a final decision cannot be reached by the leadership team, it will be placed before the Point Riders.

C. Qualifications

Qualifications for standing ministry team members will be the same as those of general ministry team members. (**Article IX**, Section 1.) *original said Article X*

D. Standing Teams

The standing teams of the church shall be:

1. Personnel Team

The Personnel Team will be responsible to ensure that the church has adequate support staff to effectively carry out its ministries. The will fill staff vacancies as

ARTICLE IX. MINISTRY TEAMS
SECTION 2. STANDING MINISTRY TEAMS

Personnel Team (Continued)

needed or as directed by the church, conduct periodic staff evaluations, make salary recommendations, and mediate church/staff disputes.

2. Facility Team

The Facility Team will be responsible to ensure that the church has adequate facilities to effectively carry out its ministries. They will oversee the care, maintenance, and use of all facilities and grounds except the arena.

3. Finance Team

The Finance Team will be responsible to ensure that the church has adequate financial resources to effectively carry out its ministries. They shall work cooperatively with the Point Riders, Outriders, professional staff, and team facilitators to find maximum resources for meeting each ministry need. They shall also be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget, for the oversight and accounting of all financial records, and for assisting the Point Riders with long term planning which will ensure that the church has financial resources to meet future ministry needs. Emergency needs up to \$5,000 above the budget if funds are available can be approved by the Finance Team. The Finance Team shall set up rules governing reimbursements, check requests, invoicing, and other financial matters affective the function of the church.

4. Arena Team

The Arena Team will be responsible for providing the tools, resources, and personnel necessary for the church to effectively carry out its arena ministry. They shall be responsible for the oversight, care, maintenance, and use of the arena. They will work with the Leadership Team as well as other ministry teams to develop strategies and plan events that will utilize the arena to effectively reach the cowboy/western culture for **Jesus** Christ.

E. Selection and Term of Office of Voting Members of Standing Teams

Voting members of standing ministry teams may be appointed by the Point Riders, or be enlisted by an Outrider or ministry team facilitator. Ordinarily voting members will be enlisted by the team facilitator or Outrider directly responsible for the team. The term of office for standing ministry team voting members will be three years with two members rotating off each year.

F. Removal

If a standing team member causes conflict, fails to carry out his or her responsibility to the team, or otherwise hampers the work of the team, every effort should be made by the team facilitator and assigned Outrider to rectify the issue in a positive redemptive manner. However, if the problem persists, a team member may be removed by the Point Riders, or by consensus decision of the other team members.

ARTICLE IX. MINISTRY TEAMS
SECTION 3. LEADERSHIP TEAM

A. Purpose and Function

The Leadership Team will serve to provide a forum in which the various ministry teams can brainstorm, coordinate activities and events, share resources, and generally work together to enhance the overall effectiveness of the church's ministries. It will be responsible for setting the church calendar.

B. Structure

The Leadership Team will consist of the team facilitators from each ministry team, the Point Riders, the Outriders, and staff. In addition, its meetings will generally be open to attendance of the entire church membership. Leadership team meetings shall be moderated by the senior pastor or a person whom the senior pastor will designate.

C. Meetings

The Leadership Team will meet as often as necessary to effectively plan and coordinate the activities and events of the church. All agenda items should be considered at the team level or approved by the Point Riders prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE X CORPORATE OFFICERS
SECTION 1. PRESIDENT

The senior pastor shall serve as the president of the corporation. He will serve as moderator at church conferences and be responsible for ensuring that the daily business affairs of the church are appropriately and effectively executed.

SECTION 2. TRUSTEES

A. Purpose & Function

Trustees shall sign the title to the church property; all legal documents involving the sale, mortgage, purchase, or rental of property; all notes and loan instruments; and such other legal documents as may require execution on behalf of the church. There shall be 3 trustees.

B. Selection and Term of Office

The three appointed Point Riders shall also serve as the trustees of the church. They shall remain trustees as long as they remain Point Riders. If they are removed as Point Rider, whether by death, resignation, rotation or termination, the Point Riders shall appoint a replacement.

SECTION 3. CLERK/SECRETARY

A. Purpose and Function

The Church Clerk shall serve as secretary of the corporation. The responsibilities of the clerk will be to keep the minutes of all church conferences,

ARTICLE X CORPORATE OFFICERS

SECTION 3. CLERK/SECRETARY (continued)

insure that a proper file of all members is maintained, and prepare an annual report to be given to the Church body.

B. Selection and Term of Office

The Church Secretary shall service as Church Clerk.

SECTION 4. VACANCIES

In the event a vacancy occurs in any corporate office, the Point Riders shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.

ARTICLE XI. CHURCH BUSINESS

SECTION 1. FINANCES

A. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the church will be on a calendar year basis beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31 of each year.

B. Accounting Procedures

A system of accounting that will adequately provide for the handling of all funds shall be responsibility of the Finance Team.

C. Budget

The Finance Team, in consultation with the pastor and ministry team facilitators, shall prepare and submit a budget for congregational approval prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.

D. Checks, Drafts, Etc.

All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the church shall be signed by at least two people who have been designated by the Finance Team for that purpose.

E. Deposits

All funds of the church shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the church in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as determined by the Finance Team.

SECTION 2. CHURCH CONFERENCES

A. Church Conferences

Church conferences may be called by the Point Riders or by written petition of 25% of the active resident members presented to the Point Riders. An active resident member is one who lives in or around the Harrison County area and has

ARTICLE XI. CHURCH BUSINESS

SECTION 2. CHURCH CONFERENCES (continued)

attended the church's regular worship services at least 6 times in the 90 days preceding the circulation of the petition.

B. Notices

Notices of the time and place of all church conferences shall be given no later than the Sunday prior to such meetings by publication in the church newsletter or worship bulletin, or by public announcement at a regular Sunday morning worship service.

C. Place of Church Conferences

All church conferences shall be held on the premises of the church.

D. Quorum

The church members present at any duly called church conference shall constitute a quorum.

E. Proxies

Voting by proxy at any church conference shall not be allowed or recognized.

F. Will Of The Church

All Ministry Teams, officers, and organizations of the church shall carry out the will of the church on any given matter, duly expressed by its vote.

G. Rules of Procedure

The order of proceedings at church conferences shall be determined by the rules of practice contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised. (<http://www.robertsrules.com>)

H. Conduct of Church Business

All business of the church shall be conducted in a manner that honors Christ and respects others. The church shall strive to seek the will of God by prayerful deliberations and common consensus.

SECTION 3. CONTRACTS

The Trustee's shall execute and deliver any contract or instrument in the name of the church which may be authorized by the church to be so executed and delivered. In this connection, the church body as a whole shall be the ultimate authority for all actions taken by the church and no other person, organization or corporate officer shall have any authority to contract or otherwise bind the church without express authorization from the church body.

ARTICLE XI. CHURCH BUSINESS (continued)

SECTION 4. BOOKS AND RECORDS

The church shall keep and maintain a complete and accurate record of all financial accounts, membership lists, and church conference minutes at its principle office. All books and records of the church may be inspected by any member, or his agent or attorney, for any purpose at any reasonable time.

SECTION 5. PROHIBITION AGAINST SHARING IN CORPORATE EARNINGS

No member, officer, or person connected with the corporation, or any other private individual shall receive at any time any of the net earnings of pecuniary profit from the operations of the corporation, provided that this shall not prevent the payment to any such person of a reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the corporation in effecting any of its purposes as shall be fixed by the church; and no such person or persons shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets upon the dissolution of the corporation. All members of the church shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that upon such dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of the corporation, after all debts have been satisfied, then remaining in the hands of the officers of the church shall be distributed, transferred, conveyed, delivered, and paid over, in such amounts as the church may determine or as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction upon application of the church, exclusively to charitable, religious, or educational organizations which would then qualify under the provisions of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations as they now exist or they may hereafter be amended.

SECTION 6. EXEMPT ACTIVITIES

Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, no member, officer, or representative of the corporation shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of the corporation not permitted to be taken or carried on by any organization exempt under of Section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations as they now exist or they may hereafter be amended, or by any organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (C)(2) of such code and regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by the Point Riders or by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members present at a church conference called for that purpose. Amendments may be proposed by the Point Riders or by written petition of 25% of the resident membership presented to the Point Riders. Proposed amendments for church consideration shall be in written form and mailed two weeks prior to the church conference to the last known address of all members eligible to vote. Amendments will be numbered, dated, and attached to the original instrument.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS (continued)

The following amendments were added & approved by the Point Riders 3/15/09:

- Document id, page numbers, table of contents
- General punctuation & grammar corrections
- Scripture references were written out (as requested by the church body upon adoption of the By-Laws on 8/6/08.)
- Documentation to reference terms & offices of elected officials is now referenced.
- Flowchart showing the organization of the Cowboy Church of Harrison County was added

Amendments

Scripture References

(1) Matthew 18:15-17 (KJV)

¹⁵Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. ¹⁶But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. ¹⁷And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

(2) 1 Timothy 3:1-7 (KJV)

¹This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. ²A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach; ³Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; ⁴One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; ⁵(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) ⁶Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

(3) Titus 1:6-9 (KJV)

⁶If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. ⁷For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; ⁸But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; ⁹Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Scripture References (continued)

(4) Matthew 18 (KJV)

¹At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? ²And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, ³And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. ⁶But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! ⁸Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. ⁹And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire. ¹⁰Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. ¹²How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? ¹³And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. ¹⁴Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. ¹⁶But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. ¹⁷And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. ¹⁸Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. ²¹Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? ²²Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. ²³Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. ²⁴And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. ²⁷Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. ²⁹And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. ³⁰And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. ³¹So when his fellowservants saw what

Scripture References (continued)

was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

³²Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: ³³Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? ³⁴And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. ³⁵So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Other Amendments

(5) Reference document "Elected Positions & Terms of Office" (cchc.elect.terms.1)