

# **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WEST DANBY**

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To sign up for membership classes please contact

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- We encourage you to consider joining with us at West Danby. We hold membership classes every other month or whenever there is an expressed interest in joining. The class is a onetime, two hour class.
- Sign up today by contacting either email.

Here is a brief introduction to our membership class, “Stepping in the right direction”

## **STEPPING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION**

### **Step One**

#### **DEFINING MEMBERSHIP**

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WEST DANBY  
This is an introduction to our membership class

## **“Stepping in the Right Direction”**

### **1. DISCOVERING AND DEFINING** **MEMBERSHIP**

**At West Danby we feel membership is very important. It provides spiritual, emotional, and relational benefits. The church provides people with things they cannot find anywhere else. The Christian life involves more than just believing, it also includes belonging. We grow in Christ by being in relationship with other Christians. (Rom. 12:10 “*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love*”)**

#### **Membership: What is it?**

**The word membership is actually from Christian origin, however, it seems as though the world has taken it and emptied it of its original meaning. Membership into the church is more than what we have in mind.**

#### **The World’s View:**

**The world sees membership as paying dues, performing rituals, placing your name on some roll or membership card and receiving their benefits. At our church we want you to know and discounts. Some memberships can be helpful and beneficial, but the world seems to miss the very core of church membership.**

#### **God’s View: (Romans 12:5 “*So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and everyone members one of another.*”)**

**Jesus Christ has a very different view of membership. Membership in God’s family means you are a vital part of the body of Christ (church). It is a living body, functioning and thriving, made up of God’s people. Physically speaking we know that any organ separated from the body will soon shrivel and die, it has missed what it was created to be and designed to do. The same is true for Christians who have not committed themselves to any specific congregation (Body of believers; local church). They will be unable to function as God intended them to do. Any Christian that is not connected to a congregation will find it difficult to fully express their Christian faith.**