**MOUNT CALVARY HOLY CHURCH**

**STANDARDS**

(Adapted from: Twelve Standards for Church Leaders by Rev. William D. Watley, Ph. D)

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**#1: Salvation**

Church members should understand what salvation is, and the process. They should also be persons who have made an open declaration and decision to receive Jesus Christ as their own personal Savior and Lord.

**#2: Church Membership**

It is possible to be in the church without ever having joined. We do not become members because of our family name or the length of time we have attended or even being born into the church. Just as we make a decision to receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, we should also make a personal decision and declaration to become active members of the church.

**#3: Prayer**

A church member must have his or her own devotional prayer life and participate in the prayer ministry and activities of the church. They must know how to intercede for the pastor, the membership, the vision, the needs, and the business affairs of the church. A church leader must be a person of prayer. Participation in prayer ministry is not an option.

**#4: Worship and Praise**

A church member should understand that worship and praise to God is the first priority of the church. Just being at the church does not constitute worship. Church leaders are expected to be in church on a regular (weekly) basis for worship, and participate in the worship. Absence from worship should be the exception not the rule.

**#5: Bible Study**

A church member should study and know the word of God. A leader should have his or her own daily devotional time that includes Bible study. Also, church leaders are expected to attend at least one weekly Bible study under the direction of the pastors or their designee. When work conflicts, family obligations and other personal situations do not allow a church leader to attend Bible study, then the leader should discuss with the pastor or his designee how he or she can receive appropriate training in the scriptures.

**#6: Tithing**

A church member and especially a church leader is expected to tithe. The tithe comes “off the top” and is computed on our gross income. The tithe also consists of 10 percent of our time and talent. That means that 2 hours and 24 minutes (basically 2 ½ hours) of each day belong to God. Sixteen hours and 48 minutes per week belong to God. This also means that each leader is expected to give some of their talents or gifts to the life of the church without expectation of monetary compensation some time.

Leadership means stepping up to the plate and giving one’s fair share, which is the tithe at minimum, and more as necessary. Leadership in giving is an integral part of a leader’s responsibility. Leaders should lead in living, as well as giving.

**#7: Support of the Pastor, the Vision and Administration**

Church members are expected to work along **with**, as well as, under the authority of a pastor, who is the biblically delegated and established spiritual and administrative head of the church. Church leaders are **to work in** support of the vision and administration of the pastor. Members should be, and Leaders are expected to be cheerleaders not complainers, advocates and not antagonists, rumor “squashers” instead of rumor spreaders.