



# Ministry Partner

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**What is a Ministry Partner?**

**Why Should I Become A  
Ministry Partner?**

**How Do I Become A  
Ministry Partner?**

**Why Don't I Automatically  
Become A Ministry Partner?**

## **Every Christian is a member of God's Church!**

We are parts of the body of Christ and he is our head.

*(Ephesians 1:22-23)*

Every person who has accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, and is a part of Ettalong Baptist Church, is a member of the church.

*(Acts 16:31, John 14:6, Ephesians 2:19-22, Revelation 21)*

## **Who Is A Ministry Partner?**

Ministry Partners are active in the implementation and fulfilment of the church's vision, purpose and values, and provide a place of accountability and support in ministry oversight.

Within the Scriptures there are many metaphors used to describe the church. Images such as: 'the body'; 'living stones'; and 'royal priesthood'. Ministry Partners recognise that ministry is to be engaged in by all believers, not just 'the paid professionals'.

The redemptive potential of Ettalong Baptist Church will never reach fulfilment unless we all capture vision, carry out the purpose and are committed to the church's values.

# Why Should I Be A Ministry Partner?

There are 3 parts of the Christian life:

1. **Believe** -

*"BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" Acts 16:31*

2. **Belong** -

*You are a member of God's very own family...and you BELONG in God's household with every other Christian!" Ephesians 2:19*

3. **Become** -

*From the very beginning God decided that those who come into Him...should BECOME like his Son..." Romans 8:29*

We will not get the most of what God offers us unless we encompass all three parts in our walk with Him.

If we want to fully experience a sense of BELONGING in the Church, God's household, and continue to grow to BECOME more like him, then we need to commit to partnering together for Him. It is not enough just to have a personal faith and treat the church as a kind of club for our souls.

## What Are The Benefits Of Being A Ministry Partner?

1. It identifies me as a member of God's people, a genuine believer. *Eph. 2:19, Rom. 12:5*
2. It provides me a spiritual family to support and encourage me. *Gal. 6:1-2, Heb. 10:24-25*
3. It gives me a place to discover and use my gifts in ministry. *1 Cor. 12:4-27*
4. It places me under the spiritual protection of godly leaders and fellow members. *Heb. 13:17, Acts 20:28-29*
5. It gives me accountability I need to grow. *Eph. 5:21*

## What Are My Responsibilities As A Ministry Partner?

When I am a Ministry Partner I have a responsibility to hold fast to the following objects found in the constitution of the church:

1. To assemble regularly for the public worship of God.
2. To maintain in ourselves and inspire in others an active spiritual growth.
3. To do my part in proclaiming the truths of the Bible by which people experience salvation, and lead those who believe, into membership of the Church, and to become fully committed Ministry Partners themselves.
4. To do my part in promoting Christian love to all people.
5. To do my part in proclaiming the gospel and Lordship of Jesus Christ to all.
6. To do my part in financially supporting the church using the biblical precedent of the tithe as a goal to reach or exceed.
7. To do my part in assisting all people who are in need.

**Being a Ministry Partner gives me an opportunity to publicly demonstrate my commitment to God.**

Our Church Constitution sets out in detail what Ministry Partners shall engage in, and what type of person we should aim to be as ministry Partners. We call this our SHAPE<sup>1</sup>. Ask for your copy, or find it on our website.

<sup>1</sup>SHAPE is an acronym for Spiritual Gifts, Heart (or passion), Abilities, Personality, Experience.

## Why Don't I Automatically Become A Ministry Partner?

At Ettalong Baptist Church we believe being a Ministry Partner needs to be taken very seriously. We believe that it is only right for a person who is 100% committed to God and his church to be a Ministry Partner. Therefore I can only become a Ministry Partner when:

1. I demonstrate in my life that I am walking everyday with Christ Jesus as my Lord.
2. I have made a public pronouncement of my faith through Baptism as a believer.
3. I hold to the doctrines agreed upon by the Church.
4. I take the initiative to ask the Church that I may become a Ministry Partner.

## How Do I Become A Ministry Partner?

- Speak to a Pastor, a member of the Welcome Team or the Church Secretary and tell them that you would be interested in being a Ministry Partner.
- Two current Ministry Partners will visit you. They will explain to you the Church's Constitution, and explain the responsibilities of being a Ministry Partner (as has been briefly set out in this pamphlet).
- Your request to be a Ministry Partner will then be considered by the elders and affirmed by a vote at a church congregational meeting.

## **What We Believe;**

Ettalong Baptist Church holds to the statement of beliefs held by the Baptist Association of NSW and ACT. These beliefs include:

- (a) The sinfulness of man.
- (b) The deity of Jesus Christ.
- (c) His atonement for the sin of man.
- (d) The need of the Holy Spirit for conversion.
- (e) The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures.
- (f) The resurrection of the dead.
- (g) Rewards and punishment in a future state.
- (h) The Baptism of believers only, by immersion.

Our statement of what we believe is listed more fully in the pamphlet “What We Believe” and in our constitution.

*Ettalong Baptist Church  
8 Barrenjoey Road  
Ettalong Beach NSW 2257*

*[www.ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](http://www.ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au)  
email: [ebc@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:ebc@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au)  
phone: (02) 4343 1237*

*This sheet is an explanation of our more detailed document on  
Ministry Partners included in the Church Constitution.*