

Bylaws Of The Church At Rocky Peak (Current)

ARTICLE I. IDENTITY:

The name of the church is The Church At Rocky Peak (ROCKY PEAK). The offices, mailing address and ministry facilities are located at 22601 Santa Susana Pass Road, Chatsworth, California 91311.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE:

ROCKY PEAK exists to glorify God in all it does by fulfilling the following four (4) objectives: (*I Cor. 10:31*)

SECTION 1. TO MAGNIFY GOD (Worship) through worship in praise, prayer and teaching His Word. (*Matthew 4:10, Matt. 22:36-37, Acts 2:42, Romans 12:1-2, I Cor. 16:2, II Cor. 9-6-7, Ephesians 5:19-20, Heb. 13:15-16*)

SECTION 2. TO MATURE IN THE LORD (Growth and Walk with God) by providing tools for the development of spiritual maturity to each person. (*Matt. 18:15-17, John 8:31-32, John 14:7-8, Acts 17:11, Rom. 10:14, Rom. 12:10, Rom. 15:14, Gal. 6:2, Gal. 5:22-23, Eph.4:11-13, I Thes. 5:11, 1 John 4:10-11, Psalm 1:1-2 & 119:11& 99, Ezra 7:10*)

SECTION 3. TO MINISTER FOR CHRIST (Working for God and His Church) through ministry in the body using the gifts of the Spirit with the fruit of the Spirit and the individual talents of each person. (*Matt. 18:15-17, Romans 12:48, I Cor. 12:4-6, II Cor. 1:4*)

SECTION 4. TO MULTIPLY FOR THE LORD (Witnessing for God – Evangelization) through proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ locally and throughout the world, making disciples of all who respond. (*Matt. 9:36-38 Matt. 28:19-20, Acts 1:8, Acts 8:1-4, Rom. 10:13-15*)

ARTICLE III. BELIEFS:

The church's teaching and living is based upon the following foundational truths:

SECTION 1. The Bible is the Word of God; it is God-breathed and without error; it is the final authority for our faith and living. (*Psalm 19:7-8 Matt. 5:18, 2 Tim. 3: 16-17, Heb.4:12, 2 Pet. 1:20-21*)

SECTION 2. God exists eternally as three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (*Matt. 29:19, 1 Cor. 12:4-6, 2 Cor. 13:14, Heb. 9:14*)

SECTION 3. The Heavenly Father, the first person of the triune Godhead, in His great love for the world, sent His beloved only begotten Son into the world as the Savior of mankind to provide everlasting life and Fatherhood for each believer. (*John 3:16, Romans 8:14, 1 John 4:14*)

SECTION 4. Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God; was manifested in the flesh by virgin birth; was crucified as the only acceptable sacrifice for our sins; arose bodily from the grave; is preparing a place for us; and will return for us. (*Luke 1:35. John 1:1 & 14, John 14:1-6, Acts 1:9-11, 1 Cor. 15:3-19, 1 Pet. 2:24, 1 Pet. 3:18*)

SECTION 5. The Holy Spirit persuades us to confess Jesus as our Savior from our sins and Lord of our lives; indwells us to explain the Bible and empowers us to live godly lives. (*John. 16:7-14, Acts 5:3-4, Rom. 8:9, 1 Cor. 12:13, Eph. 5:17-21*)

SECTION 6. Every person is a sinner and separated from God until repenting of his sins and receiving God's gift of eternal life by trusting in Jesus Christ alone as Savior and Lord. (*Acts 4:12, Rom. 3:23, Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:8-9, 1 Pet. 1:18-21*)

SECTION 7. Believers are eternally safe and secure in Jesus and give evidence of genuine faith by a life of good works. (*John 3:16, John 10:27-29, Rom. 8:38-39, James 2:14-17*)

SECTION 8. The church is the living body of Christ on earth comprised of all believers in Jesus Christ and is manifested through local assemblies which are devoted to worshipping God, maturing believers and reaching unbelievers with the Gospel. (*Matt. 16:18, Matt. 28:19-20, 1 Cor. 12:27, Eph. 1:22-23, Eph. 4:11-13, Heb.10:25*)

SECTION 9. The future life of believers is a blessed eternity with God in heaven, but unbelievers face eternal suffering apart from God. (*Matt. 25:46, John. 3:16, 2 Cor. 5:8, 1 Thess. 4:13-18, Rev. 20:11-15*)

ARTICLE IV. AUTHORITY:

SECTION 1. JESUS CHRIST The head of the church is the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Eph. 1:22, Eph. 5:23, Col. 1:18*)

SECTION 2. GOD'S WORD The Bible, God's written, inspired Word, is the expressed will of the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Acts 17:11, 1 Tim. 4:13, 2 Tim. 3:16-17*)

SECTION 3. ELDERS The Elders are the men of God chosen by the Holy Spirit through the church to lovingly shepherd, oversee, and direct the church according to the will of the Lord as given in His Word. The elders, as servant-leaders, are the highest human authority over the church. (*Acts 20:17 & 28, 1 Tim. 5:17, Heb. 13:17, 1 Peter 5:2-3*)

SECTION 4. DEACONS and DEACONESSES

The Deacons and Deaconesses are the men and women of God chosen by the Holy Spirit through the church to serve and direct ministry in the church under the direction of the elders. (*1 Tim 3:8-13*)

SECTION 5. MEMBERS

Members of ROCKY PEAK are those believers in Jesus Christ who have been baptized after their conversion and joined the church as members responsible for approving the elders, deacons and deaconesses and committed to the biblical objectives of the church (*John. 3:16, Acts 2:41, Acts 6:1-7, Phil. 2:2, Heb. 10:25*)

SECTION 6. ASSOCIATION

This church is a part of the body of Christ world-wide and stands in the mainstream of evangelical churches.

This body is an independent, local church and is not subordinate to or associated with any denominational group. (*John 17:11-23, 1 Cor. 1:11-17, 2 Cor. 6:14-17, Phil.1:18*)

SECTION 7. GOVERNMENT

The church is incorporated and chartered under the laws of the State of California. The commands of God's word supersede all human government. (*Acts 5:29, Rom. 13:1-7*)

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP:

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS

1. One who has confessed Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord (*Rom. 10:9-10*)
2. One who has been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit after conversion (*Matt. 28:19-20, Acts 2:41*)
3. One who personally has chosen this church as the local body in which to minister in accordance with its purpose and beliefs (*Heb. 10:25*)
4. One who has been accepted into membership by ROCKY PEAK.

SECTION 2. RESPONSIBILITIES

Members shall:

1. Voluntarily commit time for ministry and financial support toward fulfilling the church's objectives (*Rom. 12:1-2, 2 Cor. 9:6-7, Eph. 5:16*)
2. Approve the elders, the deacons and the deaconesses and submit to their directives (*Acts 6:1-7, Heb. 13:17*)
3. Initiate removal of elders, deacons and deaconesses if they fail to live up to the biblical qualifications (*Acts 6:1-7, Acts 20:28-30, 1 Tim. 3:1-13, 1 Tim. 5:19-20*)

SECTION 3. REMOVAL

1. Continued lack of interest in the church for an extended period of time, departure from the faith by advocating divisive teachings or those contrary to the Bible as defined in the Statement of Faith, or continuous unrepented sin damaging to the testimony of the church is just cause for removal of a member from the membership by action of elders after attempted restoration of the wayward member by spiritual Christians. (*Matt. 18:15-17, 1 Cor. 5:1-13, Gal. 6:1, Tit. 3:10-11, Heb. 10:25, 2 John 70-77*)
2. Request by a member for removal of his membership from the church for any reason shall be granted by the elders. (*Eph. 4:3-5*)

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS:

SECTION 1. ELDERS

1. Qualifications
 - (1) One who meets the biblical qualifications of an elder. (*1 Tim. 3:1-7, Tit. 1:6-9, 1 Pet. 5:1-3*)
 - (2) One selected by the elders and approved by the members of the church. (*Acts 6:1-7, Acts 14:23*)
2. Responsibilities
 - (1) The elders shall have complete oversight and direction of all matters of church teaching, church policymaking and goal setting. (*1 Tim 5:17*)
 - (2) The elders shall approve church staff and oversee all church organizations. (*Acts 20:28, 1 Tim 3:4-5*)
 - (3) The elders shall lovingly lead as examples, not lording over the body. (*1 Pet. 5:1-3*)
3. Removal

Any elder who no longer fulfills the biblical qualifications of an elder shall be removed by action of the elders which action shall be communicated to the church membership. (*Acts 20:28-30, 1 Tim. 3:1-7, 1 Tim. 5:19-20*)

SECTION 2. DEACONS and DEACONESSES

1. Qualifications
 - (1) One who meets the biblical standards for a deacon or deaconess. (*1 Tim. 3:8-13*)
 - (2) One selected by the elders and approved by the members of the church. (*Acts 6:1-7*)
2. Responsibilities

The deacons and the deaconesses are godly servants responsible for carrying out the ministry of the church under the direction of the elders. (*1 Tim. 3:8-13*)
3. Removal

Any deacon or deaconess who no longer fulfills the biblical qualifications for a deacon or deaconess shall be removed by action of the elders in consultation with the deacons and deaconesses. (*Matt. 18:15-17, 1 Tim. 3:8-13*)

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS:

SECTION 1. CHURCH SERVICES - The elders shall determine the number, time, place, order and length of each church service, giving preference to Sunday, the day of Jesus' resurrection. (*Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:2*)

SECTION 2. CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETINGS – The elders shall call congregational business meetings for the purpose of selecting or appointing elders, deacons and deaconesses and/or any other reason deemed worthy of such a meeting. (*Acts 6:1-7, Acts 15:6 & 22*)

ARTICLE VIII PROPERTY:

SECTION 1. USE - All meetings, gatherings, events and activities conducted in the facilities of the church shall be consistent with the objectives of this church and in harmony with the "Statement of Faith." (*Acts 6:1-7, Acts 15:6 & 22*)

SECTION 2. SALE and PURCHASE - The church property and facilities shall be sold and purchased by the directors of the corporation, the elders. (*Acts 4:34-37, Acts 14:23, 1 Cor. 16:3*) Consistent with government requirements, upon the liquidation, dissolution or abandonment of the corporation, the property, facilities and funds will not inure to the benefit of any private individual, but rather to a fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated for like charitable purposes. (*Rom. 13:7*)

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS:

The bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the church present at any church business meeting. (*Acts 15:22*)