

GCMF Affiliation?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTION: Is Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship a denomination?

ANSWER: We avoid the rules and regulations, lists of do's and don'ts denominations are known for, but in a legal sense it is. We are registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a central organization of ministers and churches which issues affiliation, licensing and ordination credentials, in both the United States and Canada.

Each church retains its own name. It may or may not have the Gospel Crusade name somewhere on its sign or printed material, by choice. This is different than identifying denominational churches.

All financial contributions are given to and accounted for by the local church, and do not become assets of Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship.

The church may make payments to various special funds of Gospel Crusade on a voluntary basis. There are no other assignments or pro-rated assessments as have some denominations.

QUESTION: Does affiliation with Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship affect the ownership of local church property or restrict the options for building, mortgaging, selling, etc.?

ANSWER: No effect. Each church owns its own property and governs its' own affairs. Only if it went out of business or ceased to exist would Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship become involved with what remained. This is an I.R.S. requirement.

QUESTION: Is the day of "Independent Churches" over?

ANSWER: For a lot of people it is. There have been enough extremes, heresies, uncorrectable legalism, wounded members and distraught pastors to cause most believers today to gravitate toward churches which have some spiritual and administrative covering. There is a need for outside help and influence at times to maintain local church order and help solve problems. Independent churches normally have no one to turn to who has that church's success at heart.

QUESTION: Why should a local church affiliate with Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship?

ANSWER: There are many reasons why an independent church should not be totally alone in the Body of Christ. Years of Church history reveals that very few independent churches survive into the second or third generation. They usually last as long as the founder is still in a position of leadership.

Being a part of GCMF guarantees an orderly succession in pastoral changes and help in locating a qualified pastor and other ministerial leadership.

The connectional relationship with GCMF assures accountability for a pastor from among his peers and the spiritual oversight of plural presbytery of counselors.

Pastors, elders, deacons and other church leaders have fellowship with other leaders of other churches of like faith through sharing guest speakers, attending seminars, conferences and special events as well as the annual convocation at Gospel Crusade headquarters, Bradenton, Florida.

Being a part of the Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship lets a local church have a window on the world by participating in the international evangelization effort of GCMF missionaries in over 25 foreign countries.